



## Essex Region Conservation Authority

### Board of Directors

### Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, June 17, 2021

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location and Details:** via Zoom Web Conferencing

### Attendance

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**Members Present:** Tania Jobin (Chair) Kieran McKenzie (Vice-Chair)  
Marolyn Morrison Chris Vander Doelen  
Morley Bowman Laura Lucier  
Larry Patterson Tracey Bailey  
Len Janisse Mark Carrick  
Sue Desjarlais Trevor Jones  
Larry Verbeke Joe Bachetti  
Jeewen Gill Ed Sleiman  
Jim Morrison

**Regrets:** Peter Courtney Dayne Malloch

**Staff Present:** Tim Byrne, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer  
Nicole Kupnicki, Corporate Services, Human Resources Manager/EA  
Shelley McMullen, Interim CFO/Director Corporate Services  
Kevin Money, Director Conservation Services  
Danielle Stuebing, Director Community and Outreach Services  
James Bryant, Director Watershed Management Services  
Claire Sanders, Climate Change Specialist  
Sydney Clackett, Regulations Technician

**Others:** Lindsey Iatonna, Hicks, McPherson, Iatonna & Driedger, LLP

### 1. Call to Order

Good evening and welcome to the June 17, 2021 meeting of the ERCA Board of Directors.

I will call the meeting to order and confirm that all members attending from the in-camera meeting of the ERCA Board preceding this meeting are still with us this evening. Thank you all.

## 2. Land Acknowledgement

I'd like to begin by acknowledging that this land is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomie Peoples.

We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island - North America who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

At this time, I would ask that we observe a moment of silence in memory of the children who continue to be discovered in unmarked graves at the sites of former residential schools across Canada, and reflect on the lasting devastation caused by this institutional system, and on our collective responsibilities to pursue the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

## 3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

## 4. Approval of Agenda

**Resolution 46/21** Moved by Trevor Jones  
Seconded by Ed Sleiman  
That the agenda for the June 17, 2021 Regular Meeting of the ERCA Board of Directors be approved. **Carried**

## 5. Hearings

None

## 6. Adoption of Minutes

### A. ERCA Board of Directors

**Resolution 47/21** Moved by Morley Bowman  
Seconded by Laura Lucier  
That the minutes for the April 8, 2021 Regular Meeting of the ERCA Board of Directors be approved as distributed. **Carried**

### B. ERCA Executive Committee

**Resolution 48/21** Moved by Larry Patterson  
Seconded by Jim Morrison

That the minutes for the May 12, 2021 Regular Meeting of the ERCA Executive Committee and the recommendations therein be approved as distributed. **Carried**

### **C. John R. Park Homestead Advisory Board**

**Resolution 49/21** Moved by Sue Desjarlais  
Seconded by Len Janisse  
THAT the minutes for the May 17, 2021 Regular Meeting of the John R. Park Homestead Advisory Board and the recommendations therein be approved as distributed; and further,

THAT the Board confirm the following appointments to the John R. Park Homestead Advisory Board: Ms. Darlene Marshall, Mr. Jonathan Quint, Mrs. Karen Sleiman and Ms. Michelle Scott as an alternate Community Member. **Carried**

### **D. Finance and Audit Advisory Board**

**Resolution 50/21** Moved by Marolyn Morrison  
Seconded by Ed Sleiman  
That the minutes for the June 9, 2021 Regular Meeting of the ERCA Finance and Audit Advisory Board and the recommendations therein be approved as distributed. **Carried**

## **7. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes**

None

## **8. Announcements**

Good evening, and welcome to everyone tuning in from home tonight.

Staff remain engaged in a number of initiatives to further coordinate streamlined development approvals with member municipalities. At the same time and through the second year of COVID-related shutdowns, staff continue to issue a record number of permits as development pressures continue to rise.

I'm pleased to report that staff planted and distributed more than 125,000 trees to 113 landowners this spring, and created 10.5 acres of prairie habitat.

Guests continue to visit Conservation Areas and trails in unprecedented numbers, and we were very pleased to reopen the swimming beach at Holiday Beach Conservation Area last weekend.

I would also like to remind members that on Thursday, July 15, 2021 the Foundation will host its 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Golf Tournament. Funds raised through this tournament help to support local conservation projects. If you have not yet registered, please contact Danielle directly to let her know if you plan to participate.

## 9. Delegations

None

## 10. Presentations

### A. MECP, Conservation Authorities Act Phase 1 Regulatory Proposals

**Resolution 51/21** Moved by Kieran McKenzie

Seconded by Sue Desjarlais

THAT the presentation and verbal report MECP, Conservation Authorities Act Phase 1 Regulatory Proposals be received for Members Information; and,

THAT Administration be directed to finalize and submit comments through Conservation Ontario to the Environmental Registry; and further,

THAT Administration continue to work towards implementing the eight (8) required recommendations. **Carried**

## 11. Reports for Approval

### A. BD 11/21 Conservation Ontario: Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative

**Resolution 52/21** Moved by Larry Verbeke

Seconded by Ed Sleiman

WHEREAS the provincial government has passed legislative amendments related to the governance of Conservation Authorities;

AND WHEREAS Conservation Authorities remain committed to fulfilling accountable and transparent governance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Essex Region Conservation Authority endorse the three key actions developed by the Conservation

Ontario Steering Committee to update Conservation Authority Administrative By-laws, to report proactively on priorities and to promote/demonstrate results; and,

THAT Administration be directed to work with Conservation Ontario to implement these actions and to identify additional improvements and best management practices **Carried**

**B. BD 12/2021 2020 Draft Audited Financial Statements, Financial Sustainability and Condition**

**Resolution 53/21** Moved by Tracey Bailey  
Seconded by Trevor Jones  
THAT the draft audited Financial Statements of the Essex Region Conservation Authority, for the year ended December 31, 2020, be approved and released as final audited Financial Statements. **Carried**

**Resolution 54/21** Moved by Laura Lucier  
Seconded by Morley Bowman  
THAT Administration, with support and recommendation of the Finance and Audit Advisory Board, be directed to transfer \$50,000 of the unrestricted operating surplus to the infrastructure reserve, in order to address short term funding pressures, as related to multi-year donor pledges, for the construction of the new conservation centre at the John R Park Homestead conservation area **Carried**

**C. BD 13/21 Designation of Sydney Clackett, Regulations Analyst, as Provincial Offences Officer**

**Resolution 55/21** Moved by Jeewen Gill  
Seconded by Joe Bachetti  
THAT the Essex Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors designate Ms. Sydney Clackett, Regulations Analyst, as a Provincial Offences Officer under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 158/06. **Carried**

**D. BD 14/21 City of Windsor Council Request CR99/2021 dated April 6, 2021**

**Resolution 56/21** Moved by Kieran McKenzie  
Seconded by Sue Desjarlais  
THAT the ERCA Board deny the request of the City of Windsor as it relates to the Auditor General; and further,

THAT Administration communicate those results to the City of Windsor through formal correspondence. **Carried**

**E. BD 15/21 John R. Park Homestead Heritage Centre**

**Resolution 57/21** Moved by Morley Bowman  
Seconded by Trevor Jones  
THAT BD15/21 be received for Member's information; and further

THAT the Board Authorize a further contribution from the Infrastructure Reserve Fund of \$10,000, for a required funding contribution of \$210,000 from the Infrastructure Reserve Fund. **Carried**

**12. Reports for Information**

**A. BD 16/21 Unaudited Statement of Financial Operating Activities for the four months ended April 30, 2021**

**Resolution 58/21** Moved by Larry Verbeke  
Seconded by Marolyn Morrison  
THAT Report BD 16/21 be received for Member's information.  
**Carried**

**B. BD 17/21 Terrestrial and Aquatic Habitat Restoration in the Detroit River and its Watershed**

**Resolution 59/21** Moved by Sue Desjarlais  
Seconded by Larry Patterson  
THAT Report BD 17/21 be received for Member's information.  
**Carried**

**C. BD 18/21 Data Driven Decision-Making for a Changing Climate in Essex Region – RBC Grant Update**

**Resolution 60/21** Moved by Tracey Bailey  
Seconded by Laura Lucier  
THAT Report BD 18/21 be received for Member's information.  
**Carried**

**D. BD 19/21 Essex County Regional Energy Plan**

**Resolution 61/21** Moved by Trevor Jones  
Seconded by Jeewen Gill

THAT report BD 19/21 be received for Member's information **Carried**

**E. BD 20/21 Watershed Management Services Activities Report for April and May 2021**

**Resolution 62/21** Moved by Sue Desjarlais  
Seconded by Morley Bowman  
THAT the review of Regulations and Planning Applications, as presented in Report BD20/21 be received for Members' information. **Carried**

**F. Environmental Registry Reports**

- i. Conservation Ontario comments on the "Consultation on Growing the Size of the Greenbelt to Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (ERO#19-3136)
- ii. Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Proposed changes to certain land division provisions in the Planning Act" (ERO #019-3495)

**Resolution 63/21** Moved by Len Janisse  
Seconded by Joe Bachetti  
THAT Conservation Ontario comments to the Environmental Registry of Ontario regarding the Consultation on Growing the Size of the Greenbelt (ERO#019-3136) and Proposed changes to certain land division provisions in the Planning Act (ERO #019-3495) be received for information.  
**Carried**

**G. Correspondence**

- i. Email from Kim Gavine to CAOs re Ontario Now Accepting Public Feedback to Strengthen Municipal Codes of Conduct, dated April 14, 2021
- ii. Email from John Dungavell, Manager Water Resources Section, MNR to all Conservation Authority GM/CAOs re Amendments to Public Lands Act O. Reg. 239/13, dated April 20, 2021
- iii. Letter from Sam Lyon, Manager, Conservation Authority Office, Conservation and Source Protection Branch MECP to Tim Byrne confirming receipt of correspondence regarding Municipally Appointment Members to the ERCA Board of Directors, dated April 21, 2021
- iv. Letter from The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario regarding Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation dated April 27, 2021

- v. Letter from Municipality of Port Colborne to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario regarding Resolution – Source Water Protection Legislation dated May 21, 2021
- vi. Letter from Kim Gavine, Conservation Ontario to Rob Keen, CEO, Forests Ontario regarding Growing Canada’s Forests Request for Information dated May 25, 2021
- vii. Letter from the Township of South Frontenac to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario and the Honourable Jeff Yurek, MECP regarding Province Investigating and Updating Source Water Protection Legislation dated June 7, 2021

**Resolution 64/21** Moved by Mark Carrick  
Seconded by Jim Morrison  
That Correspondence items, number **i** through **vii** be received as members information. **Carried**

### **13. Committee of the Whole**

#### **A. Endorse Actions of the Committee of the Whole**

**Resolution 65/21** Moved by Morley Bowman  
Seconded by Jeewen Gill  
That the actions of the Committee of the Whole be endorsed.  
**Carried**

### **14. New Business**

#### **i. ERCA Hunting Program**

Deputy Mayor Verbeke inquired about the ERCA Hunting program. The draw will be done in an online format this year allowing participants to register online with the draw taking place virtually. Details of the Hunting program for Cedar Creek, Hillman Marsh, Big Creek and Deer hunting program will be available on our website shortly. The Hunting Program at Holiday Beach typically take place later in the summer.

#### **ii. Request for Report**

Councillor Larry Paterson requested an update on ERCA’s staffing needs.

#### **iii. Kingsville Accessibility Committee**



Councillor Larry Patterson: The members of the Kingsville Accessibility Committee were very pleased to see ERCA's participation in allowing comments and input regarding accessibility on the trails and wish to extend their thanks to the ERCA staff and Board for their efforts.

## 15. Other Business

### A. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the ERCA Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, September 9, 2021 starting at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom web conferencing

## 16. Adjournment

**Resolution 66/21** Moved by Larry Patterson  
Seconded by Jim Morrison  
That the June 17, 2021 Meeting of the Essex Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors be adjourned. **Carried**



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**Tania Jobin**  
Chair



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**Tim Byrne**  
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer