

**RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
**Box 599, 3889 Rideau Valley Drive**  
**Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A5**  
**(613) 692-3571, 1-800-267-3504**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**Board of Directors** **December 12, 2013** **9/13**

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**Present:**

Jim Anderton	Lee Armstrong
Pat Barr	Jim Boldt
Vince Carroll	David Chernushenko
Barclay Cormack	Steve Curtis
Tom Dewey	Rob Dunfield
Ken Graham	Ed Hand
Andy Jozefowicz	Magda Kubasiewicz
John H. Miller	Scott Moffatt
Sharon Mousseau	Lyle Pederson
Ray Scissons	

**Guests:** Alan Arbuckle Tom Scott

**Staff:**

Ferdous Ahmed	Sommer Casgrain-Robertson
Rudy Dyck	Don Maciver
Shelley Macpherson	Michelle Paton
Bruce Reid	Brian Stratton

**Regrets:** Gerry Boyce Tom Dewey  
Sharon Mousseau Bradley Wing

Ken Graham welcomed Alan Arbuckle and Tom Scott to the meeting.

Mr. Graham, on behalf of the Board, presented Mr. Arbuckle with a gift of appreciation for his 12 plus years of service which included five years as Chair.

Mr. Graham announced that the City of Ottawa has appointed Richard Henderson as a citizen representative for a one-year term.

1. **Declaration of Interest** None.

2. **Consent Agenda**

<b>Motion 1</b>	<b>Moved by:</b>	Andy Jozefowicz
	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Vince Carroll

That Agenda items 4, 5, 9, 10, and 11 be approved by mutual consent.

**Motion Carried**

**3. Approval of Minutes, October 24, 2013**

Scott Moffatt identified an error on Page 3, Item 7. The minutes should have read “*Mr. Moffatt explained that there are more than 2,900 country estate lots currently before the City in either approved or pending development applications at this time.*”

Jim Anderton noted an error on Page 2, Item 5. The heading and the text do not match. Michelle Paton clarified that the heading was correct.

<b>Motion 2</b>	<b>Moved by:</b>	Steve Curtis
	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Tom Dewey

That the Minutes of October 24, 2013 be approved as amended.

**Motion Carried**

**4. Business Arising from Minutes**                      None

**5. Accounts Paid, October 1 – 31, 2013**

The Accounts Paid, October 1 – 31, 2013 were approved by consent.

**6. Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network Historic Groundwater Level Data Correction Project Completion**

In response to a question from a Board Member, Bruce Reid explained that two types of correction needed to be performed:

- i. The recording device in the well is a water pressure sensor – and the pressure it senses is affected by the depth of water above the sensor as well as atmospheric pressure, which are both variable in time. The raw data from the recording device need to be corrected for atmospheric (barometric) pressure variation in order to provide a true record of water fluctuation. Selected wells are equipped with atmospheric pressure sensors (barologgers) to provide the necessary data on local barometric pressures with which to perform the correction.
- ii. During periodic visits to the monitoring wells, the technician checks the water level determined by sensor against a manual water level measurement and re-calibrates the sensing device. The water level readings that had accumulated by the sensing device between site visits, are then adjusted based on the manual water level measurements, to correct for any perceived “drift” in the sensing unit’s calibration.

Brian Stratton confirmed that the data had not been used to develop the water budgets for the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Region's Assessment Report.

Members discussed the cost of the program over the past 10 years and future plans for analysis and dissemination of the data.

**Motion 3**                      **Moved by:**                      Jim Anderton  
**Seconded by:**                      Magda Kubasiewicz

That the Board of Directors receive this report for information purposes.

**Motion Carried**

**7. Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans / Conservation Authority Partnership**

Bruce Reid confirmed that the decision to render the existing agreements between the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and Conservation Authorities in Ontario null and void was made by Fisheries and Oceans. DFO and Conservation Ontario are working to develop a new Memorandum of Understanding but it is not expected that there will be any tangible action toward such an arrangement before the spring of 2014.

**Motion 4**                      **Moved by:**                      John Miller  
**Seconded by:**                      Sharon Mousseau

That the Board of Directors receive this report for information.

**Motion Carried**

**8. Britannia Village**

Bruce Reid provided historical background on the Britannia Village Flood Control Project. Approximately 80 residential properties were identified as being within or abutting the area that would be affected by flooding during a regulatory (1:100 year) flood on the Ottawa River. Several factors, including the absence of a clear consensus within the benefitting community on the need for the project, higher than anticipated cost estimates, and uncertainties regarding the legal status of filled waterfront land, prevented the project from moving forward.

Mr. Reid explained that many of the impediments that had prevented the project from moving forward in 2010 have now been resolved and construction could begin in the summer of 2014. Mr. Reid added that he is now seeking approval in principle for RVCA's continued involvement in the project.

Mr. Reid confirmed that while there is no benefit to anyone other than the 80 residents, this remedial flood control project does satisfy the Conservation Authority's mandate. Mr. Reid advised that he believes any associated risks are manageable and added that the Conservation Authority is covered by E&O liability insurance. Further the proposed amendments to the RVCA-Ottawa Memorandum of Agreement call for Ottawa to reimburse RVCA for 100 percent of the costs incurred to operate and maintain the Britannia Village flood control system. Mr. Reid confirmed that the current estimate of costs is \$880,000. The proposed amendments should also recommend the establishment of a major maintenance and replacement fund. This special reserve account, to be held by RVCA, would be used exclusively for necessary major maintenance and refurbishment of the Britannia Village Flood Control works. It would also enable the works to be operated beyond the initial expected 25 year service life.

**Motion 5**                      **Moved by:**                      Lyle Pederson  
   **Seconded by:**                  Ray Scissons

That the RVCA Board of Directors receive this report and further,

That the RVCA Board of Directors approve in principle the RVCA's continuing involvement in the Britannia Village Flood Control Project, provided that all costs incurred by the RVCA in carrying out its responsibilities with respect to the planning, design, construction and future operation and maintenance of the project shall be fully reimbursed by the City of Ottawa as the designated benefitting municipality, and further,

That the RVCA Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute an updated Memorandum of Agreement between RVCA and the City of Ottawa that incorporates the suggested amendments as described herein.

**Motion Carried**

**9. External Salary Review**

The following motion was approved by consent:

*"That the Board of Directors accept this report on the findings of a labour market survey."*

**10. RVCA Water Control Infrastructure Projects Status as of December 2013**

The following motion was approved by consent:

*"That the Board of Directors receive this report for information purposes."*

**11. Expenditures and Revenues at September 30, 2013**

The following motion was approved by consent:

*“That the Expenditure and Revenue Summary at September 31, 2013 be approved.”*

**12. 2014 Draft Budget**

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson advised that the 2014 draft budget contained some updated information in the 2013 columns.

Staff hope to circulate the draft budget and levy apportionment sheet, along with a cover letter and 2014 work plan to the member municipalities shortly for their review and consideration prior to the RVCA Annual General Meeting on February 27, 2014. Ms. Casgrain-Robertson explained that the cover letter would outline proposed changes to the 2015 budget preparation process. The work plan would include an overview of programs and services and feature key messages explaining the benefit to municipalities and constituents.

<b>Motion 6</b>	<b>Moved by:</b>	Jim Boldt
	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Sharon Mousseau

That the attached draft budget and levy apportionment sheet, along with a cover letter and 2014 work plan prepared by staff, be circulated to member municipalities for their review and consideration prior to the RVCA's Annual General Meeting on February 27, 2014.

**Motion Carried**

**13. Activity Reports**

Members expressed their appreciation of the innovative work being carried out by Conservation Areas staff.

<b>Motion 7</b>	<b>Moved by:</b>	Jim Anderton
	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Ed Hand

That the Board of Directors receive this report for information purposes.

**Motion Carried**

**14 Meetings**

a) RVC Foundation Board Meeting: November 18, 2013

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson reported that Katherine Thomas has joined the Board of the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson stated that 2013 was another great year for the Foundation. She explained that the Foundation's revenues are comprised of fee-for-service activities (70 percent) and donations (30 percent). The main fee-for-service activities include the Carbon Neutral Program, Memorial Tree Program, and the Species at Risk Compensation Program. These programs provide revenues from non-traditional sources and offset many RVCA program costs in Forestry and Conservation Areas.

b) A.D. Latornell Symposium, November 20-22, 2013

Members who attended the Symposium spoke highly of the event and encouraged others to attend the 2014 conference. Ken Graham noted that RVCA staff were highly visible as Shelley Macpherson served on the Organizing Committee and Ferdous Ahmed gave two presentations.

c) Conservation Ontario Meeting: Monday, December 9, 2013

Ken Graham reported on the following issues that were discussed at the Conservation Ontario meeting:

- the DFO agreement
- Conservation Ontario's organizational review
- the retirement of Tom Prout of Ausable-Bayfield Conservation
- a Conservation Halton shoreline development legal issue currently before the Ontario Court of Appeal

**Upcoming**

d) RVC Foundation Board Meeting: February 24, 2014 (Noon RVCA)

e) RVCA Board of Directors Annual General Meeting: February 27, 2014 (7 pm, RVCA)

**15. Member Inquiries**

Steve Curtis provided an update on his recent trip to the Amazon River.

Ed Hand asked about the work on Nicolls Island. Don Maciver confirmed that a permit for the work at the outlet had been issued in November.

**16. New Business**

Members discussed the need for an RVCA Strategic Plan to provide direction for programs and services and to assist employees and managers to work within an agreed-to framework. The Board acknowledged its responsibility to identify program and service priorities that would make the best use of Conservation Authority resources. The need to seek out non-traditional funding sources for new endeavours was also addressed.

**Motion 8**

**Moved by:**

Lyle Pederson

**Seconded by:**

Steve Curtis

That the Board of Directors work with RVCA management and its partners / municipalities to develop a four-to-five year set of priorities and issues, to be completed in 2014, for consideration during the 2015 budget planning process.

**Motion Carried**

**17. In-Camera Session**

The In-Camera Session was deferred to February 2014.

**18. Adjournment**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m. This was moved by Andy Jozefowicz and seconded by Magda Kubasiewicz.

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**Ken Graham**  
**Chair**

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**Michelle Paton**  
**Recording Secretary**