

Minutes
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Virtual Meeting Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

The UTRCA Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:32am.

Members Present:

M.Blosh	A.Murray
A.Dale – Chair	B.Petrie
T.Jackson	J.Reffle
M.Lupton	J.Salter
N.Manning	M.Schadenberg
H.McDermid	A.Westman
P.Mitchell	

Regrets: S.Levin and A.Hopkins

Solicitor: G. Inglis

Staff:

J.Allain
T.Annett
T.Hollingsworth - recorder
J.Howley
J.Welker

1. Approval of Agenda

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: P.Mitchell

Secunder: A.Murray

THAT the Board of Directors approve the agenda as posted.

Carried.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair inquired whether the members had any conflicts of interest to declare relating to the agenda. There were none.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – August 24, 2021

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: B.Petrie

Seconder: J.Reffle

THAT that the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Board of Directors' minutes dated August 24, 2021, including any closed session minutes, as posted on the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority web-site.

Carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

6. Business for Approval

6.1. 2022 Budget Concepts

(Report attached)

The Board discussed the report and raised concerns on the effects of the global vehicle shortage, the use of reserves for flood forecasting and warning, as described in number twelve in the report, rising insurance prices, and potential continued increases in inflation, on the budget

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: J.Salter

Seconder: M.Schadenberg

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendations as presented in the report.

Carried.

7. Business for Information

7.1. Administration and Enforcement - Section 28 Status Report – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation (O.Reg157/06)

(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Staff noted the table attachment to the report that was circulated as part of the agenda package was incorrect. The correct report was presented on the screen during the meeting and will be circulated to the Board members.

Mover: A.Westman

Secunder: M.Blosh

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

7.2. Conservation Authorities Act and Transition Plans

(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Staff noted there may be a need for a December Board meeting depending on the timing of the release of regulations from the Province and the timelines prescribed.

Mover: T.Jackson

Secunder: M.Lupton

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

7.3. Team for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity

(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: N.Manning

Secunder: H.McDermid

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

8. September 2021 For Your Information Report

The September For Your Information report was presented for the member's information.

9. Other Business (Including Chair and General Manager's Concluding Remarks)

9.1. Vaccination Policy

Staff gave an overview of the current practices, policies and procedures in place to protect staff and confirmed Board meetings would continue in the current format. Staff indicated a vaccination policy is being developed using the template provided by the Middlesex London Health Unit and guidance from the Authority's solicitor.

9.2. Proposed Conservation Authorities Act Regulations Updates

The Chair and General Manager shared updates from the most recent meeting of Conservation Ontario and praised the working group for their continued efforts. There have been no recent updates regarding the timing of when the new regulations will be released.

In the closing remarks, the Chair and Board members thanked staff for their hard work and dedication during the heavy rains and flooding that happened last week. A Board member suggested including an article with a list of critical actions taken by staff and the organization during the recent flood event in the October For Your Information report.

Staff confirmed there have been some communications with the Town of St. Marys and the golf course but further communication and meetings specifically addressing the consultation directions from the Ministry will be set up soon.

10. Closed Session – In Camera In Accordance with Section C.13 of the UTRCA Administrative By-Law – none (at this time)

11. Adjournment

The Chair confirmed the mover was willing to let their name stand. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32am on a motion by P.Mitchell.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tracy Annett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tracy Annett, General Manager
Att.