

GANARASKA REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 20, 2022 (via Zoom)

GRCA 05/22

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Call to Order

The Chair called the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Lovshin, Chair - Township of Hamilton
Jeff Lees, Vice-Chair - Municipality of Port Hope
Nicole Beatty - Town of Cobourg
Tm Belch - Township of Cavan Monaghan
Greg Booth - Township of Alnwick/Haldimand
Bruce Buttar - Agricultural Sector
Brian Darling - Town of Cobourg
Joe Neal - Municipality of Clarington
Vicki Mink - Municipality of Port Hope
Tracy Richardson - City of Kawartha Lakes
Margaret Zwart - Municipality of Clarington

ALSO PRESENT: Linda Laliberte, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
Cory Harris, Watershed Services Coordinator
Ken Thajer, Planning and Regulations Coordinator
Pam Lancaster, Conservation Lands Coordinator
Gus Saurer, Forester
Ed Van Osch, Forest Recreation Technician
Members of the Public

**ABSENT WITH
REGRETS:**

ALSO ABSENT:

Land Acknowledgement

The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority respectfully acknowledges that the land on which we gather is situated within the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississauga's and Chippewa's of the Anishinabek, known today as the Williams Treaties First Nations. Our work on these lands acknowledges their resilience and their longstanding contribution to the area. We are thankful for the opportunity to live, learn and share with mutual respect and appreciation.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

GRCA 37/22

MOVED BY: Vicki Mink

SECONDED BY: Jeff Lees

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority approve the minutes of the September 15, 2022 meeting.

CARRIED.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

GRCA 38/22

MOVED BY: Greg Booth

SECONDED BY: Tracy Richardson

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority adopt the agenda.

CARRIED.

5. Delegations

a) Delegation – Judith Blakely and Dave Millier

Judith Blakely and David Millier addressed the Board of Directors on behalf of the Ganaraska Members Action Group. Their presentation spoke to the concerns of the group regarding the management and reopening of the Ganaraska Forest. The presentation also made reference to a petition that has been circulating.

b) Delegation – Peter Swinton

Peter Swinton addressed the Board of Directors speaking to the September 30th partial reopening of the forest, and the extension of memberships.

Board members asked for confirmation of bylaws and provincial regulations.

GRCA 39/22

MOVED BY: Brian Darling

SECONDED BY: Tim Belch

THAT the Board of Directors receive the delegations for information and refer the information from the presentation to staff.

CARRIED.

6. Presentations

a) Ganaraska Forest Update

Pam Lancaster, Conservation Lands Coordinator, Gus Saurer, Forester and Ed Van Osch, Forest Recreation Technician, provided the Board members with an update on the storm damage, clean up and reopening of the Forest following a derecho storm of May 21, 2022. Staff also spoke to the Ganaraska Forest Operational Recovery Plan for

Recreational Trails and the use of volunteers in recovery efforts. Staff addressed storm recovery efforts of other affected areas (ie. Calabogie) and how they differ from the Ganaraska Forest. The extension of existing memberships and available refund offers were discussed. Staff explained the reason, process and benefits the salvage operations. The impacts on the recreation program such as cross-country ski trails and snowshoeing were also addressed. An update on the partnership agreements was also provided.

Nicole Beatty entered the meeting.

Discussion followed with board members in regards to the use of volunteers. Clarification was provided on volunteers that came from other Conservation Authorities as well as Northumberland County and the snowmobile club.

Board members asked about the engagement of forest members. Staff explained the goals are the same for all and to ensure the forest is there for future generations. Staff will reach out to the neighbouring municipalities to understand the right of ways. Staff used previous consultation experiences to help move forward with operations and volunteers in a safe manner. There was also a discussion in regards to the logger's interests compared to the interests of the forest members. Staff explained that logging activities important to the regeneration of the forest and is good for the health of the forest.

GRCA 40/22

MOVED BY: Tim Belch
SECONDED BY: Brian Darling

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority receive the Ganaraska Forest Update presentation for information.

CARRIED.

7. Business Arising from Minutes

a) 2023 Preliminary Budget and Municipal Levy

The CAO/Secretary-Treasurer presented the 2023 Preliminary Budget and Municipal Levy staff report.

GRCA 41/22

MOVED BY: Tim Belch
SECONDED BY: Greg Booth

THAT the Board of Directors receive the 2023 Preliminary Budget for information and,

FURTHER THAT the budget be forwarded to the watershed municipalities, indicating in the cover letter, that the vote to approve the 2023 levy will be taken at the December 2022 Board of Directors meeting.

CARRIED.

8. Correspondence

None.

9. Applications under Ontario Regulation 168/06:

Permits approved by Executive:

GRCA 42/22

MOVED BY: Margaret Zwart

SECONDED BY: Brian Darling

THAT the Board of Directors receive the permits for information.

CARRIED.

Permit Application requiring Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors discussion:

None.

10. Committee Reports:

None.

11. New Business:

a) Electronic Monitoring Policy

GRCA 43/22

MOVED BY: Greg Booth

SECONDED BY: Tim Belch

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Electronic Monitoring Policy and it be added to the Employment Policy as section 9.11.

CARRIED.

12. Other Business

None.

13. In Camera:

a) Personal Matter – Identifiable Person(s)

GRCA 44/22

MOVED BY: Vicki Mink

SECONDED BY: Tim Belch

THAT the Board of Directors go in camera.

CARRIED.

GRCA 45/22

MOVED BY: Tim Belch

SECONDED BY: Brian Darling

THAT the Board of Directors go out of camera.
CARRIED.

GRCA 46/22

MOVED BY: Brian Darling
SECONDED BY: Vicki Mink

THAT the Board of Directors of the Ganasaska Region Conservation Authority acknowledges that the staff has a difficult job and recognize that staff are professionals in their fields and that staff have the full support of the Board of Directors, and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Directors of the Ganasaska Region Conservation Authority will not tolerate harassment and/or bullying towards staff as they carry out their responsibilities.

CARRIED.

14. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

GRCA 47/22

MOVED BY: Brian Darling
SECONDED BY: Vicki Mink

THAT the Board of Directors adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED.

CHAIR

CAO/SECRETARY-TREASURER