

**GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES**

**Full Authority Board of Directors
Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.**

The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) Board of Directors' meeting was held in a hybrid format of in-person at the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Administrative Office and virtually via the meeting application, WebEx.

1. Call to Order

Chair Robert Uhrig called the meeting to order at 1:42 p.m., welcomed all those present in person and virtually and asked Vice Chair Nadia Dubyk provide a land acknowledgment declaration.

Directors Present In-Person: Chair Robert Uhrig, Vice Chair Nadia Dubyk, Scott Mackey, Tobin Day, Scott Greig, Tony Bell, Jennifer Shaw, Alex Maxwell

Directors Present Virtually: Jon Farmer

Regrets: Sue Carleton, Kathy Durst

Staff Present: CAO, Tim Lanthier; Administrative Assistant, Valerie Coleman; Manager of Information Services, Gloria Dangerfield; Manager of Financial and Human Resource Services, Alison Armstrong; Manager of Environmental Planning, MacLean Plewes; Water Coordinator, John Bittorf

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

The Directors were reminded to disclose any pecuniary interest that may arise during the course of the meeting. No disclosures of pecuniary interest were expressed at the time.

3. Call for Additional Agenda Items

Nothing at this time.

4. Adoption of Agenda

Motion No.:
FA-24-034

Moved By: Tony Bell
Seconded By: Scott Greig

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the agenda of April 24, 2024.

Carried

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion No.:
FA-24-035

Moved By: Scott Mackey
Seconded By: Jennifer Shaw

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of March 27, 2024.

Carried

6. Business Out of Minutes

Nothing at this time.

7. Consent Agenda

Motion No.:
FA-24-036

Moved By: Nadia Dubyk
Seconded By: Tobin Day

THAT in consideration of the Consent Agenda Items listed on the April 24, 2024, agenda, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receives the following items: (i) Environmental Planning – Section 28 Permits – March 2024; (ii)a. Administration – Receipts & Expenses – March 2024; (ii)b. Q1 TD Portfolio Update (vi) Media

Carried

8. Business Items

i. Administration

a. Q1 – Workplan Update

CAO, Tim Lanthier, spoke with respect to the annual workplan. It was noted that it is still early in the year; however, there were a few changes to discuss. The environmental planning agreements would be delayed. The recent changes to legislation has resulted in a greater than expected workload for staff. The regulation mapping update is being completed ahead of schedule to take into consideration the new regulation changes. GSCA's annual tree sale is being held in April as opposed to May, Members were encouraged to attend. The Personnel Policy is delayed to allow staff time to review prior to seeking Board input and approval. The Strategic Plan is behind schedule to allow more time to consult with the public, partners and stakeholders. Staff circulated invitations to CAOs and Clerks of all member municipalities and counties for distribution to councils and staff. Members were asked to spread the word and encourage staff and councillors to join one of the four events.

Motion No.:
FA-24-037

Moved By: Jennifer Shaw
Seconded By: Scott Greig

WHEREAS via Motion FA-24-019, the Board of Directors approved the 2024 Priority Workplan for the GSCA,

THAT the GSCA Board of Directors receive Report 012-2024 – Q1 Report Back on the 2024 Priority Workplan status as information.

Carried

b. Q1 – GSCA Budget Update

Manager of Finance and Human Resources Services, Alison Armstrong, spoke to the budget update for Q1. It was noted that, in general, departments are on track so far.

Motion No.: FA-24-038	Moved By: Seconded By:	Tony Bell Nadia Dubyk
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WHEREAS the Board of Directors approved the GSCA 2024 Operating and Capital Budget on December 19, 2023, by motion FA-23-122,

THAT, the Board of Directors receive the 2024 Q1 Budget Report Back as information.

Carried

ii. Water Management

Nothing at this time.

iii. Environmental Planning

a. ERO Posting – Minister’s Permit and Review Powers

Manager of Environmentally Planning, MacLean Plewes spoke with regard the proposed Minister’s Powers Regulation released on April 5th. It was noted that staff have until May 6th to provide comment. Mr. Plewes detailed the existing requirements under Section 28.1.1. with respect to permits issued by the Minister and stressed that the Minister’s decision to issue an order is discretionary. The proposed additional requirements set out in the regulation further specify the types of development or class of permits the Minister may block, issue, or review, and what is required by the proponent who wishes to petition the Minister to intervene.

There was general discussion around what types of situations this regulation would come into play, how it will function, and what impacts, if any, there will be on the Grey Sauble watershed.

Motion No.: FA-24-039	Moved By: Seconded By:	Scott Mackey Tobin Day
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WHEREAS on April 5, 2024, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry posted ERO Posting #019-8320 which includes details regarding a new regulation for the Minister’s powers related Conservation Authority permitting;

THAT THE GSCA Board of Directors receive the staff report related to ERO Posting #019-8320 as information.

Carried

iv. Operations

Nothing at this time.

v. Conservation Lands

a. Hepworth Management Area Mountain Biking Proposal

CAO, Tim Lanthier spoke to a proposed mountain biking partnership at the Hepworth Management Area that hosts cross country skiing in the winter. This partnership would see the Peninsula Adventure Sports Association (PASA) having a land lease to utilize the property to operate mountain biking activities in the snow free months, generally six months.

Staff have consulted with both the ski club and bike club to discuss options, potential challenges, and compatibility. There were little to no concerns from the ski club.

Staff recommend a five-year lease agreement that would be similar in nature to the one GSCA has with the ski club. There are no expected costs and revenues are expected to be minimal to start.

A Member asked with regard to insurance. Mr. Lanthier responded that GSCA requires a five-million-dollar policy in which GSCA is an additional insured.

A Member asked with regard to other users. Mr. Lanthier responded that there are other users of the property and staff have discussed multi-user compatibility with the bike club. There will be additional discussions with users and signage will be developed to assist with and limit any potential conflicts. It was noted that staff may hear complaints from users with dogs off leash. However, it was stressed that dogs must always be on leash while on GSCA lands.

A Member asked with regard to bathroom facilities. Mr. Lanthier responded that the bike club will be responsible to provide portable toilets.

Motion No.:
FA-24-040

Moved By: Jennifer Shaw
Seconded By: Scott Greig

WHEREAS, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) is the owner of the lands known to us as the Hepworth Management Area, (herein, the Site) in the Municipality of Georgian Bluffs;

AND WHEREAS, under Section 21(n) of the Conservation Authorities Act, GSCA has the ability to collaborate and enter into agreements with ministries and agencies of government, municipal councils and local boards and other organizations and individuals;

AND WHEREAS under Sub-section (d) of Section 21 of the Conservation Authorities Act, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority may lease for a term of five years or less land acquired by the authority;

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors directs staff to negotiate and execute an agreement with the PASA Mountain Bike Club for their use of the Hepworth Management Area.

Carried

vi. Forestry

Nothing at this time.

vii. Communications/Public Relations

Nothing at this time.

viii. Education

Nothing at this time.

ix. GIS/IT

a. Regulation Mapping Update

Manager of Information Services, Gloria Dangerfield spoke to the updated regulation mapping. In response to the newly proclaimed regulation 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits, staff have updated the regulation mapping for the Grey Sauble watershed. It was noted that the changes to the regulation, in relation to mapping, include a reduced regulated allowance for provincially significant wetlands, updated definition of watercourses, and that the mapping must be available through web mapping.

A Member asked with regard the definition of watercourses and the specification of water flow. Staff noted that the regulation focuses more on the banks or sides then the flow of water and that the regulation states water flows regularly or continuously, not necessarily both.

Ms. Dangerfield noted that staff have been continuously improving the mapping and presenting the updates to the Board annually.

Ms. Dangerfield outlined some of the different types of features and how the setbacks are measured and mapped.

A Member asked with regard to online availability of mapping and how is it provided to the public. Ms. Dangerfield responded that the mapping is available through the GSCA’s website, as well as on Bruce County’s and Grey County’s websites.

Motion No.:
FA-24-041

Moved By: Jon Farmer
Seconded By: Scott Greig

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive Staff Report 016-2024 for information.

Carried

x. DWSP

Nothing at this time.

9. New Business

Nothing at this time.

10. CAO’s Report

The CAO, Tim Lanthier, gave a brief report on activities since the March Board of Directors meeting.

On March 28th, Mr. Lanthier attended the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Cities Initiative meeting in the Town of the Blue Mountains. It was noted that the meeting was well attended by local councillors and representatives from both local First Nations communities and that it looks to be a great opportunity for collaboration.

On April 5th the Indigenous Relationships Committee met, there were no action items to report.

On April 15th, Mr. Lanthier and Vice Chair Nadia Dubyk attended the Conservation Ontario Council Meeting and AGM. The new CO Board of Directors is as follows:

- Chair Chris White (GRCA)
- 1st Vice Chair Pat Warren (KLCA)
- 2nd Vice Chair Jonaton Scott (NVCA)
- Director Rob Baldwin (LSRCA)
- Director Chandra Sharma (NRCA)

April 25th and 29th GSCA will be hosting strategic planning sessions for partners and stakeholders, and the general public. Additionally, staff will have a table at the Owen Sound Home and Cottage Expo and at the GSCA Annual Tree Sale.

April 27th will be the GSCA Annual Tree sale. Members are encouraged to attend to shop or lend a hand.

May 16th will be the GSC Foundation's annual Earth Film Festival. There will be an evening showing at the Roxy Theatre at 7:00 pm. There is also a dinner and show option. Tickets can be purchased through the Roxy Theatre box office. Members are encouraged to attend and spread the word, it will be an excellent show with some talented speakers, and a silent auction. Mr. Lanthier is hoping to have a Strat Plan table there as well.

11. Chair's Report

Chair Uhrig thanked Vice Chair Dubyk for attending the Conservation Ontario AGM in his stead.

Teeny Tiny Summit Event in Holstein, Ontario on Tuesday, May 28th from 9:00 to 4:00.

12. Other Business

Nothing at this time.

13. Resolution to Move into Closed Session – Nothing at this time.

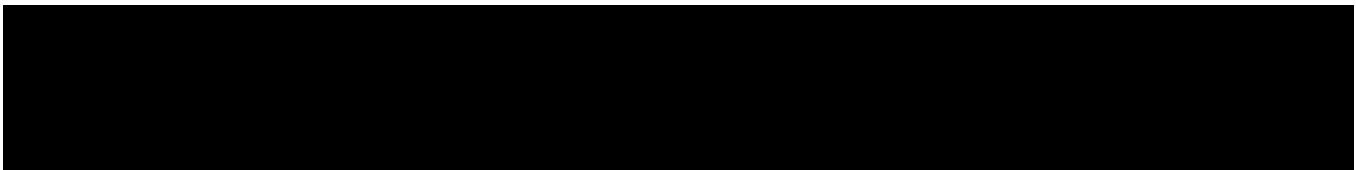
14. Resolution Approving the Closed Session Minutes – Nothing at this time.

15. Next Full Authority Meeting

Wednesday May 22, 2024

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.



Robert Uhrig, Chair

Valerie Coleman
Administrative Assistant