



Full Authority Minutes

February 19, 2020

The Year 2019 Annual Meeting of the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 9:37 a.m. at the St. Thomas Public Library.

Members Present:

Dennis Crevits	Central Elgin
Dominique Giguère	Township of Malahide
Stephen Harvey	Middlesex Centre
Bill Mackie	City of London
Elizabeth Peloza	City of London
Joe Preston	City of St. Thomas
Alison Warwick	Thames Centre
Ralph Winfield	City of London

Members Absent:

Grant Jones	Southwold Township
Linda Stevenson	City of St. Thomas

Staff Present:

Jennifer Dow	Water Conservation Supervisor
Michael Buis	LWCA Coordinator
Tim Chapman	Lead Hand
Jessica Kirschner	Resource Assistant
Marianne Levogiannis	Public Relations Supervisor
Betsy McClure	Stewardship Program Supervisor
Scott Pinnell	Maintenance Coordinator
Jeff Lawrence	Forestry and Soils Supervisor
Rob Lindsay	DWCA Coordinator
Aaron Root	Forest and Lands Technician
Kathleen Sebestyen-Scott	Financial Services Supervisor
Elizabeth VanHooren	General Manager/Secretary Treasurer

Ms. VanHooren noted that the election of officers had occurred at the First Full Authority Meeting of the year. Mr. Stephen Harvey was elected as Chair and Mr. Grant Jones as Vice Chair. She then turned the meeting over to Mr. Harvey, who called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

Audio/Video Record Notice

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and read the following statement:

Board members, staff, guests and members of the public are advised that the Full Authority Board/Committee meeting is being video/audio recorded, and will be posted to the Authority's web site along with the official written minutes. As such, comments and opinions expressed may be published and any comments expressed by individual Board members, guests and the general public are their own, and do not represent the opinions or comments of the Full Authority and/or the KCCA Board of Directors.

The recorded video of the Full Authority meeting is not considered the official record of that meeting. The official record of the Full Authority meeting shall consist solely of the Minutes approved by the Full Authority.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Chair's Remarks

The Chair introduced 2020 Board Members and warmly welcomed partners and supporters. The Chair spoke of the various challenges faced in 2019, specifically around water. However, he also spoke to conservation authorities' resiliency and various projects undertaken by KCCA in 2019 including the implementation of rain gauges with funding from the RBC Foundation and wetland creation projects with funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada's EcoAction Program.

The full text of the Chair's remarks is attached.

General Business

a) Presentation of 2019 Financial Statements

Mr. Scott Trevors presented a brief explanation of the Financial Statements.

AM1/2020

Moved by: Dennis Crevits

Seconded: Elizabeth Peloza

That the Year 2019 Financial Statements be adopted as presented.

Carried

b) Presentation of the 2019 Annual Report

Ms. VanHooren presented the 2019 Annual Report. Ms. VanHooren noted various projects that were included in the report including the restoration of two decommissioned lagoons at the Port Stanley Sewage Lagoons into wetland habitat, projects undertaken by the Environmental Youth Corps and the creation of an invasive plant management program to mitigate and control the spread of invasive species on Authority lands.

AM2/2020

Moved by: Joe Preston

Seconded: Bill Mackie

That the Year 2019 Annual Report be adopted as presented.

Carried

c) Presentation of the 2020 Budget and Municipal Levy

A preamble to the budget and levy vote was read by Ms. VanHooren as follows:

To provide conformity with legislation and regulations governing approval of Conservation Authority levies:

1. *The proposed Year 2020 Levy and Apportionment for KCCA was circulated by registered mail to member municipalities on November 21, 2019, in order to provide a minimum 30 day notice to budget and levy approval on February 19, 2020. There is a 3.0% averaged levy increase over 2019 levels or \$29,318.00.*
2. *A recorded vote will be taken, with each member responding either "For" or "Against" the motion. The motion carries or is lost, according to the total of weighted votes assigned to each board member. This weighted vote is based upon the Modified Current Value Assessment apportioned to that portion of each municipality within the jurisdiction of the KCCA watershed.*
2. *The 2020 levy and budget approved by the Board will be circulated by registered mail to participating municipalities on February 20, 2020, who if not satisfied, may appeal to the Mining and Lands Commissioner by March 31, 2020. Thereafter, no appeals are allowed and the Year 2020 budget and levy will be final.*

AM3/2020

Moved by: Ralph Winfield

Seconded: Alison Warwick

That the 2020 Budget of the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority be approved as presented;

That the member municipalities be assessed for payment:

Matching Levy	\$426,279.25
Non-Matching Levy	\$496,390.94
Special Levy	\$ 83,907.98
Total General Levy	\$1,006,578.17

And that each member municipality's share of the 2020 General Levy be calculated using "Modified Current Value Assessment.

Carried

By Regulation, a recorded Vote was taken for Year 2020 Levy and Budget Approval. In the event that not all of a municipality's member(s) are present, the member(s) in attendance represent(s) only their proportion of the municipal weighting in the voting.

The vote carried with 79.7% of the weighted vote present.

AM3/2020 Recorded Vote

Member Municipality	Present	Levy %	Weight %	In Favour	Opposed	Absent
City of London		57.49	50			
Bill Mackie			16.67	•		
Elizabeth Pelosa			16.67	•		
Ralph Winfield			16.66	•		
City of St. Thomas		27.39	32.22			
Joe Preston			16.11		•	
Linda Stevenson			16.11			•
Central Elgin		7.66				
Dennis Crevits			9.01	•		
Southwold		3.78				
Grant Jones			4.45			•
Thames Centre		1.36				
Alison Warwick			1.60	•		
Middlesex Centre		1.63				
Stephen Harvey			1.92	•		
Malahide		0.68				
Dominique Giguère			0.80	•		
Total		100	100			

Special Presentation

a) Staff Recognition

The Chair recognized Rob Lindsay, Dalewood Conservation Area Coordinator for five years of service.

b) Perry Clutterbuck – Kettle Creek Environmental Trust

Ms. VanHooren recognized Perry Clutterbuck as a founding member of the Kettle Creek Environmental Trust. Mr. Clutterbuck was a driving force behind the creation of the Trust and

remained an active trustee until his resignation in late 2019. The Trust began with a small endowment of \$10,000 and now has assets just over \$321,000. Mr. Clutterbuck graciously accepted.

Guest Speaker: Pete Zuzek

Pete Zuzek, of Zuzek Inc., a world renowned coastal geomorphologist provided an overview of recent studies investigating the impact of current and future lake levels on the shoreline within the Lake Erie basin. Mr. Zuzek's presentation is attached.

Following the presentation, the Chair asked guests to remain and continue to engage with each other and Mr. Zuzek. The Chair thanked Riggs Engineering and Graham, Scott Enns for sponsoring the meeting.

AM4/2020

Moved by: Alison Warwick


Seconded: Dennis Crevits

That the meeting adjourn at 10:54 a.m.

Carried



Elizabeth VanHooren
General Manager/Secretary Treasurer



Stephen Harvey
Chair

Chair's Remarks 2018 Annual General Meeting

Stephen Harvey

February 19, 2020

It is my pleasure to welcome you to KCCA's Annual General Meeting. A warm welcome and expression of gratitude to our many partners and supporters in the room today - all important to our success and the concerted effort to make our local watershed a healthier, happier and greener place to work and play. Thank you.

I would like to take a moment and introduce the members who are present today.

Dennis Crevits	Municipality of Central Elgin
Dominique Giguère	Township of Malahide
Grant Jones	Township of Southwold,
Bill Mackie	City of London
Elizabeth Peloza	City of London
Joe Preston	City of St. Thomas
Linda Stevenson	City of St. Thomas
Steve Peters	City of St. Thomas (alternate)
Alison Warwick	Municipality of Thames Centre
Ralph Winfield	City of London

Today we pause ... two months into a fresh new decade full of promise ... poised to embrace change ... to look back on a challenging year.

And if I could sum up 2019 in one word it would be.... Water. Water... is a powerful resource. The hope is that you have the right amount, at the right time, and of the right quality. In 2019, we had too much water, at the wrong time and the programs and services that CAs have developed in partnership with our municipalities and the provinceto ensure the quality of our water, to mitigate against flooding and erosion continued to be evaluated for their effectiveness.

Normally the watershed receives about 76mm of rain in a month In the first two weeks of May, the watershed received 100 mm of rain... completely saturating the ground. Water ponded in our campgrounds, on sites and on roads – making it impossible for Lake Whittaker and Dalewood to open its doors on May 1 and cost us the premier camping weekend of the year – Victoria Day Long Weekend. Financially, the wet spring cost the Authority approximately thirty to forty thousand dollars in self-generated revenue.

Lake Erie itself was at an all-time high for most of 2019 ... reaching a record breaking 175.19 metres above chart datum on June 22, 2019. At this height, Port Stanley and the Lake Erie shoreline areas were at a higher risk of flooding due to storm surge. Our Port community and shoreline fared far better than others in the western portion of the Lake Erie basin – but it was never the less a trying time for marina owners and residents of Port Stanley who often saw water levels fluctuate by 5-12cm over the course of day depending on wind speed and direction. The change in water level from the beginning to the end of June was 10cm, which is five times higher than normal.

Then, on April 12, 2019 KCCA – along with the other 35 conservation authorities in the province - were advised by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) that the Transfer Payment that

directly funds flood management programs was being reduced by half – a financial impact of \$58,000. To compensate for the loss – KCCA made the difficult decision to not replace the GIS/IT Supervisor that was open due to a resignation. The position was created just a few years earlier to facilitate updated floodplain and hydrology mapping – moving the Authority towards open-data and a digital-first approach to programs and services.

But, CAs are known for their resiliency. We've had good news stories over the past year too. RBC Foundation contributed \$15,000 to empower citizens to become active in flood resiliency. With RBC's assistance, KCCA was able to purchase rain gauges that landowners throughout the watershed will monitor - filling in data gaps to better inform flood forecasting. Over 20 landowners are interested in collecting rain data. Internet cameras are also being installed at key locations in the watershed so that flood waters can be safely monitored.

We received funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada's EcoAction Program to implement wetland creation projects in our watershed over the next three years. Four wetland projects were completed in 2019. An additional 30 BMP projects that will improve habitat conditions and water quality across Elgin County were funded by the Elgin Clean Water Program, a program KCCA administers on behalf of the Elgin CAs with funding from Elgin County and the Green Lane Community Trust Fund.

And as we work with the Province, through comprehensive consultation on the proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act, Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding Report was released. It concluded that, "the development of the modern floodplain policy in Ontario, the watershed approach, the conservation authority model, and the flood standards have been extremely effective at reducing risks."

The report went on to make 66 recommendations ... 15 pertained directly to CAs. The report advocates that the province should work to update technical guides to support CAs in their delegated provincial responsibilities. It promotes that all levels of government work with Essex and Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authorities to undertake strategies to address the impacts of flood and erosion hazards on Lake Erie. And finally, it highlighted, CA's integrated watershed management approach to flooding ... that the province should support CAs and municipalities to create natural green infrastructure like wetlands and forests.

And on that point, we have truly come full circle. Because in KCCA's 1967 Conservation Report ... the report that outlined the authority's purpose ... it was recognized that even though CAs were, "brought into being because of flooding" ... all were aware of the necessity to carry out supplementary measures such as reforestation, proper woodlot management, and prevention of pollution and recreation.

Conservation Authorities were created on a watershed scale, to work in cooperation with our member municipalities, the province and our many stakeholders to help protect life and property from the power of water – by respecting it enough to care about how it can be protected. I'm proud to be part of that vision – and look forward to a new decade of conservation.