



**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE MATTAGAMI REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023
AT 4:30 PM, CONSERVATION AUTHORITY OFFICE, TIMMINS, ONTARIO.**

Present: Andrew Marks Joe Torlone Rock Whissell
 Bill Gvozdanovic David Vallier, General Manager
Regrets: Steve Black
Recorder: Jennifer Bonsall

1.0 Addition to the Agenda—None

2.0 Adoption of Minutes

2.1 Adoption of Minutes of May 3, 2023.

Resolution No. 2023-1596

Proposed by: Joe Torlone

Seconded by: Bill Gvozdanovic

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Mattagami Region Conservation Authority held on May 3, 2023 as described on pages 797 to 799 of the Minute Book are hereby approved as circulated.

June 6, 2023

Carried

3.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest—None were declared

4.0 Reports

4.1 General Manager Report

The GM noted that ONTC is circulating the rails to trails proposal internally and will be back in touch once it has been reviewed. A review of the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC), a larger watershed-based group organized by MRCA, OPG and MNRF, was provided.

4.2 Plan Input Report

Plan input and comments under O Reg 165/06, minor variances, consents, severances, zoning by-law, site plan control, and public and legal inquiries were provided to the Board. It was noted that there are still challenges in having the City of Timmins secure permits for work in floodplain areas.

4.3 DWSP Report

The GM pointed out the great partnership between the City of Timmins and MRCA in the Water Awareness outreach taking place through the Yellow Fish Road Program.

4.4 Regulations Officer Report

It was noted that Site Alteration Liaison Committee meetings are going well. An ongoing obstacle is the historical drainage issues. Elevation shots taken prior to and post-construction during the building process would allow for concerns with lot grading plans to be addressed, but grading inspections are not completed by municipal building inspectors. The Board requested that the Department Director be advised of these concerns.

4.5 Motion to Accept Administrative Reports

Resolution No. 2023-1597

Proposed by: Andrew Marks

Seconded by: Bill Gvozdanovic

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Administrative Reports, consisting of the General Manager's Report, Plan Input Report, Drinking Water Source Protection Report and Regulations Officer Report have been received by the Board for information purposes.

June 6, 2023

Carried

5.0 Items for Discussion

5.1 Conservation Areas / Trail Upkeep

The GM reviewed the amount of work that needs to be completed to address safety issues on trails that are not on CA-owned land, including the removal of stairs on the Bridge to Bridge Trail, culverts that are being lowered, bridges in need of replacement and trail resurfacing. A large number of complaints are being received due to these maintenance issues. The Board requests that the GM provide a plan including the current issues, timelines to replace priority concerns and costing.

5.2 Porcupine Lake Lookout / Fishing Platform

The fishing platform / lookout at the White Waterfront Conservation Area will be removed due to wood rot and structural issue. Funds are not available at this time to replace it.

5.3 Bart Thomson Light Repairs Update

The second company in discussions regarding replacement of lights with swamp anchors has opted not to pursue this project. Helical piles will be used to complete all light repairs possible with funds received. Confirmation has not been received from the City of Timmins that the \$10,000 commitment is specifically for the straightening of the light posts. A. Marks will follow up with the City of Timmins for clarification.

5.4 Mattagami River Speed Restrictions

Numerous calls have been received requesting that the MRCA implement and enforce speed restrictions on Mattagami River; something that is not under our jurisdiction. Transport Canada provided information confirming that the 10km/h within 30m of shore does not apply to rivers less than 100m wide. They also provided direction for the municipal process required to apply for a Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations and designate enforcement officers. This information will be shared when further inquiries are received.

5.5 Trail Clean-up / Access – Hersey Lake & Golden Springs

Quotes received from contractors to clean up the fallen trees and debris from the fall 2022 ice storm were in the \$5,000-\$10,000 range. The students, Field Supervisor and one volunteer worked for almost 2 weeks to clear the trails. Currently, everything but 2 smaller sections are now available for the public to use safely.

Discussion followed about the concern for hazards, garbage and unsanitary washrooms after hours. The GM will determine a process for after-hours reporting for urgent concerns.

5.6 Timmins Flood Advisory Committee

The GM reported that once again this year, the TFAC group worked very well together. After an excellent freshet, 3 days of heavy rains caused over 3 weeks of higher than normal water levels. Excellent communication between OPG, MNRF and the MRCA, with the City attending as advisors, proved successful in managing the water flows.

5.7 Business Number Independence

Concerns are ongoing with no HST or payroll numbers associated with the MRCA business number. Additional issues have surfaced with the requirements of many companies and funders to issue electronic fund transfers—which have to be paid to the City of Timmins—causing confusion in invoicing, issuing payments, and payment notifications. North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority has shared information about the process used by the City of North Bay to process payroll through a separate module. The contacts at NBMCA and the City of North Bay have been shared with City of Timmins Finance to follow up.

6.0 Items for Decision—None

7.0 For Your Information—None

8.0 Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting, scheduled on July 5, 2023, will take place if Financial Audits are available for presentation. Otherwise we will meet again at the call of the Chair.

9.0 Adjournment

*Resolution No. 2023-1598
Proposed by: Andrew Marks
Seconded by: Joe Torlone*

THAT this meeting adjourn at 5:15 p.m.

June 6, 2023

Carried



Steve Black, Chair

August 2, 2023
Date