



**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE MATTAGAMI REGION
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026 AT 4:30 PM,
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY OFFICE, TIMMINS, ONTARIO.**

Present: Joe Torlone-Chair
Lorne Feldman
Rock Whissell
Recorder: Jennifer Bonsall

Andrew Marks-Vice-Chair
Bill Gvozdanovic
David Vallier, General Manager

- 1.0 Territorial Acknowledgement**
- 2.0 Addition to the Agenda—None**
- 3.0 Delegation and Presentations—None**
- 4.0 MRCA Board Elections**

*Resolution No. 2026-1736
Proposed by: Andrew Marks
Seconded by: Bill Gvozdanovic*

BE IT RESOLVED that David Vallier and Jennifer Bonsall be appointed as scrutineers for the 2026 MRCA Board election of Chair and Vice-Chair.

January 7, 2026

Carried

D. Vallier, MRCA General Manager (GM) assumed the Chair to conduct the 2026 Board elections.
The GM called for nominations for Chair. B. Gvozdanovic nominated J. Torlone. there were no further nominations after being called three times.

*Resolution No. 2026-1737
Proposed by: Bill Gvozdanovic
Seconded by: Andrew Marks*

BE IT RESOLVED THAT nominations for MRCA Board Chair be closed.

January 7, 2026

Carried

J. Torlone accepted the nomination and was therefore declared to be the Chair for 2026.

*Resolution No. 2026-1738
Proposed by: Andrew Marks*

Seconded by: Rock Whissell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Joe Torlone be appointed as MRCA Board Chair for 2026.

January 7, 2026

Carried

The GM called for nominations for Vice-Chair. B. Gvozdanovic nominated A. Marks. There were no further nominations after being called three times.

Resolution No. 2026-1739

Proposed by: Bill Gvozdanovic

Seconded by: Joe Torlone

BE IT RESOLVED THAT nominations for MRCA Board Vice-Chair be closed.

January 7, 2026

Carried

A. Marks accepted the nomination and was therefore declared to be the Vice-Chair for 2026.

Resolution No. 2026-1740

Proposed by: Bill Gvozdanovic

Seconded by: Rock Whissell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Andrew Marks be appointed as MRCA Board Vice-Chair for 2026.

January 7, 2026

Carried

The GM returned the meeting to Joe Torlone, 2026 Chair.

5.0 Adoption of Minutes

5.1 Adoption of Minutes of December 3, 2025

Resolution No. 2026-1741

Proposed by: Andrew Marks

Seconded by: Rock Whissell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Mattagami Region Conservation Authority held on December 3, 2025 as described on pages 894 to 899 of the Minute Book are hereby approved as circulated

January 7, 2026

Carried

6.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest—None

7.0 Reports—Deferred

8.0 Items for Discussion

8.1 Conservation Areas / Trails

Post-snowstorm trail grooming was completed at Gillies Lake yesterday and Hersey Lake today. The City plowed a single lane into Hersey Lake CA to allow access. A contractor was hired to open the parking area up. The snowblower is not repaired yet and will require further investigation into the problem.

8.2 Strategic Plan Update

The final update for 2025 Strategic Plan activities was provided to the Board. Specific questions regarding report content will be forwarded to the GM for further discussion. Upon inquiry, the GM noted that there have been no updates on amalgamation discussions since the ERO posting closed on December 22, 2025.

8.3 Gillies Lake NOHFC Funding

A formal announcement about the successful NOHFC application for work at Gillies Lake CA will take place at the MRCA office on Friday, January 9. Invites were distributed by the MPP office. Tenders for work are being developed; one for the Boardwalk and one for trail work.

L. Feldman joined the meeting at this time.

9.0 Items for Decision—None

10.0 Closed Session

*Resolution No. 2026-1742
Proposed by: Rock Whissell
Seconded by: Andrew Marks*

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Authority Board meeting move into Closed Session at 4:45 p.m. to discuss a potential litigation matter.

January 7, 2026

Carried

*Resolution No. 2026-1743
Proposed by: Andrew Marks
Seconded by: Bill Gvozdanovic*

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Authority Board meeting move into Open Session at 4:50 p.m.

January 7, 2026

Carried

11.0 For Your Information

The Open House for public comment on the floodplain mapping updates is scheduled for January 27, 2026. Greenland mapping from 2019 has been updated with new Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data. The Board inquired if the 2019 updates have been completed in the City of Timmins Zoning By-law and OP Schedules. The GM noted that the updates have not been completed by the municipality. The understanding is that they will be outsourcing all the updates—2019 and 2025—once this mapping has been approved.

Further discussion took place regarding potential amalgamation noting that AMO is supportive of Conservation Authorities. The ongoing concern about the municipality's limited control over funding commitments, loss of municipal input, lack of provincial funding and increased provincial oversight were discussed.

Upon inquiry about a potential 2026 NOHFC application, the GM noted that work on the 2024 funding (Rotary Trail) and 2026 funding (Gillies Lake) will be a priority this year. Priorities will be evaluated to determine where another application may be beneficial. It was also noted that rolling stock (e.g., trail grooming snowblower) is not generally eligible for this funding.

12.0 Date for Next Meeting – February 4, 2026

13.0 Adjournment

Resolution No. 2026-1744

Proposed by: Lorne Feldman

Seconded by: Bill Gvozdanovic

THAT this meeting adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

January 7, 2026

Carried



Joe Torlone, Chair

February 4, 2026
Date