



**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE MATTAGAMI REGION  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026 AT 4:30 PM,  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY OFFICE, TIMMINS, ONTARIO.**

**Present:** Joe Torlone-Chair  
Andrew Marks  
David Vallier, General Manager  
Lorne Feldman  
Rock Whissell

**Regrets:** Bill Gvozdanovic

**Recorder:** Jennifer Bonsall

**1.0 Territorial Acknowledgement**

**2.0 Addition to the Agenda—None**

**3.0 Delegation and Presentations—None**

**4.0 Adoption of Minutes**

5.1 Adoption of Minutes of April 1, 2026

*Resolution No. 2026-1761*

*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 April 1, 2026 as described on pages 911 to 914 of the Minute Book are hereby approved as circulated.*

*May 6, 2026*

*Carried*

**5.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest—None**

**6.0 Reports**

6.1 General Manager Report

No concerns with the General Manager's Report as presented.

6.2 Plan Input Report

Plan input comments under O. Reg 41/24, minor variances, consents, severances, site plan control, and legal inquiries were provided to the Board.

6.3 Drinking Water Source Protection Report

DWSP administrative, education and outreach activities updates were provided to the Board.

6.4 Regulations Officer Report

No concerns with the Regulations Officer Report as presented.

6.5 Motion to Accept Administrative Reports

*Resolution No. 2026-1762*

*Proposed by: Rock Whissell*

*Seconded by: Lorne Feldman*

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

*May 6, 2026*

*Carried*

**7.0 Closed Session**

*Resolution No. 2026-1763*

*Proposed by: Lorne Feldman*

*Seconded by: Andrew Marks*

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Authority Board meeting move into Closed Session at 4:36 p.m. to discuss a potential litigation matter.*

*May 6, 2026*

*Carried*

*Resolution No. 2026-1764*

*Proposed by: Rock Whissell*

*Seconded by: Lorne Feldman*

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Authority Board meeting move into Open Session at 4:56 p.m.*

*May 6, 2026*

*Carried*

## **8.0 Items for Discussion**

### **8.1 Conservation Areas / Trails**

Students are completing training and orientation this week. Late snow melt is delaying regular work on trails and grass cutting. Current focus is on property cleanups. Equipment and project supplies are begin prepped for when the weather allows work to begin.

### **8.2 Watershed Update**

Information received from OPG is shared daily with the Timmins Flood Advisory Committee. Decisions are based on historical impacts that have been recorded. The Committee is working to pass as much water through the Mattagami River system as possible without major impacts to the municipality or residents. Fortunately, this year, minimal precipitation and cooler temperatures have helped reduce the speed of the snow melt. Flows through Sandy Falls have been able to be held ~400 m<sup>3</sup>/s, allowing for impacts and storage capacities to be well managed. The Mattagami River Flood Warning is still in place. The Flood Watch for other areas has been terminated effective May 6. The Board Chair commended the group for the excellent work and clear communication that has taken place this spring.

### **8.3 Conservation Authority Amalgamation**

The City of Timmins CAO and other northern CAOs met with MECP. D. Vallier and J. Bonsall met with the City CAO to discuss transition matters, potential agreements and a municipal representative for the transition committee. It was noted that there is uncertainty about a clear cut off date for separation from City services. Further discussion followed about the municipal representative for the transition committee. City CAO has reached out to MECP to clarify options for this representative in light of the expected changes on Council. Temporary restrictions have been received from MECP identifying activities that will require the approval of the MECP Chief Conservation Officer effective May 1, 2026, including (of current importance) any purchase over 5% of authority revenues and sales of land. EY has been selected to offer guidance throughout the transition stage; initial meetings with them are expected to begin next week. Further discussion followed about ongoing concerns with the pending amalgamation and local impacts.

### **8.4 Rotary Trail Resurfacing**

No information is available about continued trail work until legal advice is received.

## **9.0 Items for Decision**

### **91. Norman St. and Craig St Declaration of Surplus Land**

The GM clarified that floodplain lands would have a sale price determined by the Land Management Policy. Lands outside the floodplain would be assessed for fair market value. With

recent information received from MECP, the first step in the sale process will be obtaining approval from MECP to proceed with the sale of lands.

*Resolution No. 2026-1765  
Proposed by: Rock Whissell  
Seconded by: Lorne Feldman*

*WHEREAS the Mattagami Region Conservation Authority (the “Authority”) is the registered owner of lands described as:*

- *MOUNTJOY CON 3 S PT LOT 2 PCL 4698SEC / MOUNTJOY CON 3 S PT LOT 2 PCL 20804SEC (See Schedule ‘A’)*
- *Roll # 562701011506900 / Roll # 562701011503800; and*

*WHEREAS the Authority has determined that portions of the subject properties are not required for current or future conservation, hazard management, recreation, or other program needs; and*

*WHEREAS Section 21(1)(c) of the Conservation Authority Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27 provides Conservation Authorities with the power to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of land;*

*LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT:*

- *Portions of the lands described above as identified in Schedule ‘A’ be declared surplus to the needs of the Authority;*
- *The General Manager is authorized to initiate the process for disposition of the surplus lands in accordance with the Authority’s Land Management Policy and relevant provincial legislation;*
- *The General Manager is further authorized to execute all necessary documents to effect the disposition, subject to approval of final terms and conditions by the Board.*

*May 6, 2026*

*Carried*

The Board commended staff for the excellent handling of issues at hand with these properties.

## 9.2 MRCA Watershed Regulation O. Reg 41/24 Policy Manual

The 2025 policy manual updates did not carry over items in the previous policy which aligned with the City of Timmins Zoning By-law. These items include a renovation/change of use restriction and the ability to add a single accessory structure under 600 ft<sup>2</sup> within a hazard zone.

*Resolution No. 2026-1766  
Proposed by: Andrew Marks  
Seconded by: Rock Whissell*

*WHEREAS the Mattagami Region Conservation Authority is mandated to regulate activities within its watershed in accordance with the Conservation Authorities Act and applicable regulations; and*

*WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 41/24 (Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits) governs these activities; and*

*WHEREAS the Mattagami Region Conservation Authority's O. Reg. 41/24 Policy Manual provides guidance for implementing this regulation within its jurisdiction and is subject to periodic review and updates;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mattagami Region Conservation Authority adopt the amended Policy Manual.*

*May 6, 2026*

*Carried*

### **10.0 For Your Information**

Discussion about future trail maintenance included a concern that local companies have indicated that they will not support donations to a “regional” entity, and the uncertainty if regional conservation authorities will be set up as registered charities.

The Board inquired about the expenses for the Gillies Lake Garden supplies. This endeavour was previously funded by donations to the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation. With Wintergreen having dissolved, it was recommended that the garden group source donations locally for their ongoing activities.

The Board inquired about property development Highway 101 East. The GM reviewed the history of the property including the provincial regulation changes that reduced MRCA authority from 120 m to 30 m around wetlands. It was noted that MECP is involved locally regarding the fill on the property.

### **11.0 Date for Next Meeting – June 3, 2026**

### **12.0 Adjournment**

*Resolution No. 2026-1767*

*Proposed by: Lorne Feldman*

*Seconded by: Andrew Marks*

*THAT this meeting adjourn at 5:42 p.m.*

*May 6, 2026*

*Carried*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Torlone, Chair

June 3, 2026  
Date