

# NICKEL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

## Minutes of General Board Meeting

Thursday, February 13, 2014

Room C-12  
Tom Davies Square

Commenced: 4:05 p.m.  
Adjourned: 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Lin Gibson, Chairperson  
Joe Cimino  
Jennifer Davidson  
Evelyn Dutrisac  
Joscelyne Landry-Altmann  
Mark Signoretti  
Anne Watelet

ALSO PRESENT: P. Sajatovic, N.D.C.A.  
J. Sewell, D.W.S.P.  
N. Conroy, G.S.S.P.C.  
Mr. & Mrs. R. Leblanc, Delegation

COMMUNICATION: Jacques Barbeau  
Russ Thompson

1. Chairperson Gibson opened the meeting by welcoming all present. Chairperson Gibson noted that a number of initiatives were underway or in progress since the Annual Meeting in January and that further discussion on some of these activities would take place at this meeting. Chairperson Gibson had attended the Celebration of Life event held on February 9<sup>th</sup> for John Dennis, former N.D.C.A. member and Vice-Chair, who recently passed away.
2. No declarations of conflict were declared by any member present.
3. Adoption of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Resolution 2014-18

Davidson - Cimino

That the agenda for the February 13, 2014 N.D.C.A. Annual General Board meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a) January 16, 2014

Resolution 2014-19

Davidson - Cimino

That the minutes of the January 16, 2014 General Board meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

b) Business Arising from Minutes

There were no items of business arising from the minutes to be dealt with.

5. Presentation - Drinking Water Source Protection Program Update

Nels Conroy, Source Protection Committee Chair, and Judy Sewell, Drinking Water Source Protection Project Manager, were present to update General Board members on the current status of the program and future priorities. Judy proceeded with an electronic presentation highlighting a variety of issues. It was noted that the revised Assessment Report and updated proposed Source Protection Plan will be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment on February 28, 2014. With the submission will go a letter from Lin Gibson and the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority. Members discussed a number of issues, including transportation threats, mining impacts, etc., in relation to threats to municipal drinking water sources. Members requested that the letter reference these concerns. Nels and Judy agreed that this will be done. The draft letter will be circulated to G.S.S.P.A. members for final review prior to submission on February 28<sup>th</sup>. It is now hoped that the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Plan will be approved within six months after this submission so implementation can begin. Chairperson Lin, thanked Nels and Judy for the presentation and commented that it had been a very productive discussion.

6. General Business

a) Property Matter - Nickeldale Dam and Reservoir/Mitchell Street

This subject had been considered at the January, 2014 General Board meeting. Staff had been directed to gather additional information to clarify a number of issues. The staff report was prepared for General Board members and was shared with Mr. & Mrs. Leblanc, the property owners on Mitchell Street. A very long discussion ensued with many questions being asked. Mrs. Leblanc made prepared remarks to the General Board members. After all issues had been thoroughly considered, staff was directed to prepare an application to the Ministry of Natural Resources to sell the N.D.C.A. owned land to Mr. & Mrs. Leblanc. This package along with the necessary resolution will be

presented at the March 6, 2014 General Board meeting for final consideration.

b) NOHFC Volunteer Program Intern Hiring

Formal approval to hire an individual for this one year internship was recently received. Information pertaining to the position, job tasks, recruitment process, etc., had been distributed to General Board members. Members were pleased that the Heritage Fund Corporation was again providing this support to the N.D.C.A. After a brief discussion, the following resolution was tabled.

Resolution 2014-20

Cimino - Watelet

That the N.D.C.A.'s share of the funding required to support the N.O.H.F.C. approved Volunteer Program Intern position (Project #8500020) be taken from the Levy Stabilization Reserve in 2014 and 2015.

Carried.

c) Environmental Education Program Staffing

At the November, 2013 N.D.C.A. General Board meeting, members approved a plan related to staffing for the Lake Laurentian Environmental Education Program. As part of the plan approval was given to hire an individual to fill the new position of Environmental Education Assistant as soon as possible. A report with recommendation related to the interview process was presented by P. Sajatovic. It was noted that Chairperson Gibson and Member Dutrisac had participated on the interview team. All involved believe a strong candidate has been recruited. General Board members thanked the interview team and received the report. After questions were answered, the following resolution was presented.

Resolution 2014-21

Watelet - Cimino

That Mariane Lamontagne be hired for the position of Environmental Education Assistant - Lake Laurentian Conservation Area, effective February 10, 2014,

AND FURTHER that the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to execute a three-year Term Employment Contract with Mariane Lamontagne based on the information contained in the staff report dated February 1, 2014.

Carried.

d) Drinking Water Source Protection Program Staffing

At the April, 2013 N.D.C.A. General Board meeting, members approved a plan related to the Drinking Water Source Protection Program staff. The issue dealt with the lack of committed funding from the Province for the program and staff beyond March, 2014. At that time, steps were taken with the program staff to address the known conditions. March 31, 2014 marks the end of the current funding agreement for this program. The province has not to this time advised what funding may be provided for the 2014-2015 period. However, there is still work to be done and the issue must be clarified for the existing program staff now. A report from the General Manager had been distributed to General Board members with a recommendation. Members discussed the matter and after questions were answered, the following resolution was tabled.

Resolution 2014-22

Watelet - Dutrisac

That the report from the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer dated February 1, 2014 related to the current staff complement associated with the Drinking Water Source Protection Program be adopted,

AND FURTHER that the General Manager is hereby authorized to proceed with the recommendation contained in the report and as approved by the N.D.C.A. General Board.

Carried.

e) Section 28 Permits Report

Resolution 2014-23

Dutrisac - Watelet

That the N.D.C.A. Permit 2014-01 issued in January, 2014, be approved as outlined in the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines/Watercourses report.

Carried

f) Endorsement of Town of Newmarket Resolution (Ontario Junior Rangers Program)

Correspondence from the Town of Newmarket was recently received. Information related to this matter and the associated resolution recently passed by this municipality had been sent to all 36 Conservation Authorities in Ontario requesting that they support this initiative. N.D.C.A. General Board members felt that this initiative should

be supported through a formal resolution which was tabled for consideration.

Resolution 2014-24

Cimino - Watelet

That whereas in September, 2012, the provincial government cancelled the 70 year old Ontario Ranger Program (ORP), formerly known as the Ontario Junior Ranger Program,

AND WHEREAS when the government cancelled the Ontario Ranger Program it claimed the Stewardship Youth Ranger Program (SYP), an existing day program would deliver the same experience and would offer more jobs,

AND WHEREAS this day program does not offer the same quality of experience youth gained under the previous ORP in respect to knowledge of resource management and without the distractions of daily life,

AND WHEREAS since 2012, 278 Ontario Ranger jobs have been eliminated,

AND WHEREAS when the government cancelled the ORP, many youths lost an opportunity for a once-in-a-lifetime experience because the ORP only required enrolment in an Ontario high school and acceptance into the program was based on a postal code lottery system,

AND WHEREAS cancellation of the 70 year old ORP does a disservice to public services in Ontario and those who have come to admire and respect the natural beauty of our province,

AND WHEREAS Conservation Authorities encourage students to learn about the importance of conserving our shared natural environment and what they can do to make a positive impact,

AND WHEREAS the provincial government committed \$295 million dollars in the 2013 provincial budget for youth employment,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Nickel District Conservation Authority supports the Friends of the Ontario Ranger Program campaign to restore the Ontario Ranger Program in the 2014 provincial budget,

AND be it further resolved that the Nickel District Conservation Authority shall send a letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne and the Minister of Natural Resources, David Orazietti, respectfully requesting their government to restore the Ontario Ranger Program for future generations of young people.

Carried.

7. In-Camera (Personnel/Legal/Property)

No in-camera matters were dealt with at this meeting.

8. New Business

a) Fast Flowing Water (FFW Program)

Chairperson Gibson reported that the promotional video and strategic plan to be used to market the FFW program across the province were now complete. Also it has been confirmed that a presentation will be made on March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Conservation Ontario Council meeting to begin the promotion of the program. Member Landry-Altman reported that efforts continue in order to arrange meetings with the Ministry of Education and Chief Coroner's Office to expand the use of the program. Members will be kept up-to-date on all these initiatives.

b) Community Builders Awards Dinner

Chairperson Gibson reminded members of the upcoming dinner on February 20<sup>th</sup>. The N.D.C.A. has four tickets and as recipient of the 2012 award in the Environment category, it is important to support this community initiative. Any members or staff interested in attending are to contact P. Sajatovic as soon as possible.

c) Development Proposal Public Meeting

Councillor/Member Landry-Altman thanked N.D.C.A. staff members for attending a public meeting held on January 30<sup>th</sup> in relation to a development proposal located in a sensitive floodplain/hazard zone. The purpose of the public meeting was to discuss and clarify all of the main issues including transportation, impact on the floodplain and adjacent residences. N.D.C.A. staff will continue to be available to provide input as required.

d) Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled General Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 6th, starting at 4:30 p.m., in Room C-12, Tom Davies Square.

No other business was transacted.

9. Adjournment

Resolution 2014-25

Dutrisac - Cimino

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.