

NICKEL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Minutes of General Board Meeting

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Room C-12
Tom Davies Square

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

PRESENT: Bob Rogers, Chair
Jacques Barbeau
Joe Cimino
John Dennis
Evelyn Dutrisac
Joscelyne Landry-Altman
Anne Watelet

ALSO PRESENT: P. Sajatovic, N.D.C.A.
D. Lenzi, N.D.C.A.
Residents, M.R. 15 (Whitson River)
Dr. G. Courtin - Laurentian University Bio Ski
Dr. P. Beckett - “
Mrs. Sheilah Arena - “

1. Chair Rogers opened the meeting.
2. No declarations of conflict were declared.
3. Adoption of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Resolution 2009-70

Dennis - Landry-Altman

That the agenda for the October 15, 2009 General Board meeting be adopted as circulated, and include the additions to the agenda as noted.

Carried.

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

a) September 17, 2009

Resolution 2009-71

Dennis - Landry-Altman

That the minutes of the September 17, 2009 General Board meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

b) Business Arising from Minutes

P. Sajatovic reported that the program audit report from the Ministry of Natural Resources will likely not be received prior to early November, 2009. The report will be distributed to General Board members as soon as it is received. It was also noted that the majority of the work associated with the erosion control emergency repairs on Nolin Creek is complete. Chair Rogers reported on the special Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority meeting on Saturday, September 26th. It was a very successful strategy session and a number of key action items were identified for immediate follow-up.

5. Delegation

a) Gaston & Lisa Obomsawin (Request for Erosion Control Assistance - Whitson River)

A comprehensive staff report with mapping and photographs was presented to members. D. Lenzi provided a verbal report to members on the background to this issue and request for assistance. Mr. & Mrs. Obomsawin then had the opportunity to make a verbal presentation and they tabled additional information. The new information tabled could not be substantiated and therefore members did not consider this during their deliberations. Following a very extended discussion, with many questions being answered, the following resolution was presented after having been amended with the concurrence of the mover and seconder.

Resolution 2009-72

Dennis - Dutrisac

That the submission from Gaston & Lisa Obomsawin for erosion control assistance on their property located adjacent to the Whitson River be received,

AND FURTHER the N.D.C.A. hereby advises Mr. & Mrs. Obomsawin that the N.D.C.A. has no funding available to undertake erosion control work on private property anywhere within the watershed area

AND FURTHER that the N.D.C.A. will attempt to consider undertaking an erosion study on the section of the Whitson River identified, as part of the proposed 2011 budget.

Carried.

Member Watelet noted that this delegation and request was similar to the item dealt with at the September General Board meeting. Members directed staff to prepare a report for discussion at the next General Board meeting related to N.D.C.A. policy to deal with these types of requests. It was noted that erosion on watercourses is extensive throughout the watershed area and the implications of continuing to deal with such requests as individual items has to be effectively addressed in relation to N.D.C.A. policy.

6. Presentation - Lake Laurentian Ski Trails

Dr. Gerard Courtin, Dr. Peter Beckett and Mrs. Sheilah Arena, executive members of the Laurentian University Biology Society were present in relation to the cross-country ski trails they operate and maintain in the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area. Peter Beckett provided some background and history on the availability of ski trails at Lake Laurentian which dates back to 1974. Dr. Courtin updated General Board members on some of the recent challenges they have faced and steps taken to rejuvenate the operation. Dr. Courtin presented three specific items that they hoped the N.D.C.A. would support. Sheilah Arena spoke to some of the recent fund-raising undertaken to support the operation and presented some ideas on how the cross-country ski trails and Conservation Area, trails could be more effectively integrated. Chair Rogers thanked the three individuals for their passionate dedication. He indicated that the N.D.C.A. very much welcomed the opportunity to enhance this community partnership and a meeting will be arranged in the near future. After a number of questions were answered, the following resolution was presented. It was noted a report back to the General Board on this partnership work will occur in early 2010.

Resolution 2009-73

Dennis - Barbeau

That the submission from the BioSki executive dated October 15, 2009 be accepted related to the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area, and that the process be undertaken over the next number of years.

Carried.

7. General Business

a) Appointment of General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Chair Rogers presented the results of the September 22, 2009 e-mail poll of members. Chair Rogers on behalf of all members and staff, congratulated Paul Sajatovic and indicated that a media release would be distributed on October 16th advising of this appointment. Mr. Sajatovic thanked members for the honour of serving the organization in this capacity.

Resolution 2009-74

Dutrisac - Watelet

That the September 22, 2009 e-mail poll of Nickel District Conservation Authority General Board members is hereby approved as circulated,

AND FURTHER that Paul Sajatovic is appointed to the position of General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer of the Nickel District Conservation Authority effective September 22, 2009,

AND FURTHER the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer be placed in the N.D.C.A. salary schedule at Group 10, Level 3.

Carried.

b) N.D.C.A. Transition to Integrated Watershed Management Vision

Chair Rogers and P. Sajatovic shared information with members related to the renewed vision for the N.D.C.A. It was noted that a detailed presentation will be made at the November 2009 General Board meeting and that this will lay the groundwork for the N.D.C.A. Corporate Strategic Planning Process which will commence in early 2010.

c) Greater Sudbury Climate Change Consortium Project

Chair Rogers updated members on the action steps taken to date to move this project forward. It was noted that this type of project is a key component of the N.D.C.A.'s future vision of Integrated Watershed Management in our watersheds. A meeting held with likely consortium partner representatives on September 21st was highlighted. P. Sajatovic also advised members that Chair Rogers, Dr. Liette Vasseur and as many potential partners as possible will be making a presentation to City Council on November 12th. General Board members will receive the presentation in advance for their awareness and information. Chair Rogers indicated the members will be continuously updated and engaged as this project proceeds.

d) 2010 Draft N.D.C.A. Budget

A staff report had been sent to members on October 3rd and additional information was included in the agenda package. P. Sajatovic outlined the key issues and approaches to be taken to develop the draft 2010 budget, the 2010 Business Plan, and 2010 Capital Maintenance/Special Projects Plan. It was noted that the N.D.C.A.'s Transition/Reorganization vision would be incorporated in all documents. After questions and discussion, the following resolution was presented.

Resolution 2009-75

Watelet- Dutrisac

That the N.D.C.A. draft 2010 Budget, 2010 Business Plan and 2010 Capital Infrastructure Maintenance/Special Projects Work Plan be prepared as directed by the General Board based on the staff report dated October 3, 2009,

AND FURTHER that General Board members will be consulted by e-mail poll to seek approval of the 2010 budget package in order to submit the budget document to our member municipality prior to appearing before the City's Finance Committee on November 16, 2009.

Carried.

e) N.D.C.A. Tangible Capital Assets Policy

Discussion of this matter was deferred to the November, 2009 General Board meeting.

f) Section 28 Permit Applications - September, 2009

Resolution 2009-76

Watelet - Dutrisac

That the N.D.C.A. Permits 2009-30 to and including 2009-33, issued in September, 2009, be approved as outlined in the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines/Watercourses and Fisheries Files report.

Carried.

g) December, 2009 Christmas Dinner Meeting

Due to time constraints, staff were directed to poll members concerning the date, time and location, and finalize these plans as soon as possible.

h) Conservation Ontario Update

It was decided that Chair Rogers and P. Sajatovic will send a written report to members concerning the key issues discussed at the October 5th Conservation Ontario Council meeting and the continuing work of the Environmental-Education Task Group that Chair Rogers is involved with as the northern Conservation Authorities representative.

i) Retirement Reception for Allen Bonnis

Members are to be updated by e-mail on the plans for this event and best wishes reception to be held from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 9th in Room C-11 at Tom Davies Square.

8. In-Camera Matters

Resolution 2009-77

Cimino - Dutrisac

That we go in-camera at 5:45 p.m.

Carried.

At 5:55 p.m. members returned to open session. The Chair of the in-camera session indicated that no resolutions would be forthcoming from the discussion held related to a legal/property matter.

9. New Business

- i) One item of new business had been added to the agenda. Staff provided a verbal and written report related to the issue. Following the discussion a resolution was presented for consideration by General Board members.

Resolution 2009-78

Dennis - Landry-Altmann

That N.D.C.A. Resolution 2007-59 passed at the October 4, 2007 General Board meeting now be implemented as a result of new encroachments recently identified on N.D.C.A. owned land,

AND FURTHER that Del Bosco Surveying be retained at the maximum cost of \$7,100.00 including all disbursements, to complete the property survey plan and report as outlined in the staff report,

AND FURTHER that this unexpected expense be charged back to the Water Control Preventative Maintenance Reserve,

AND FURTHER that staff report back to the General Board as soon as possible on the extent of the problem and include an action plan outlining what steps will need to be taken to remove any and all encroachments from the N.D.C.A. owned land.

Carried.

ii) Next Meeting

It was noted that Chair Rogers and Vice-Chair Dennis will be attending the Latornell Conservation Symposium on Thursday, November 19th, the date for the next regularly scheduled General Board meeting. Staff was directed to poll members to determine if the General Board meeting could be rescheduled to Thursday, November 26th.

Updated information will be provided to members as soon as possible.

No other business was transacted.

10. Adjournment

Resolution 2009-79

Dennis - Watelet

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.