

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

Thursday, October 10, 2024

Meeting #08/2024

PRESENT:

| | | |
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| Paul Buchner | Chairperson | Township of South-West Oxford |
| Morgaine Griffin | Vice-Chairperson | Municipality of Central Elgin |
| Gary Clarke | Member | City of St. Thomas |
| Arthur Oslach | Member | Town of Aylmer |

STAFF:

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| Dusty Underhill | General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer |
| Susan Simmons | Financial Services Coordinator |
| Peter Dragunas | Water Management Technician |
| Brittany Bell | Communications/Program Support Assistant |
| Gerrit Kremers | Resource Planning Coordinator |
| Al Bradford | Conservation Areas Supervisor |

ABSENT:

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| Scott Lewis | Member | Township of Malahide |
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OTHERS PRESENT:

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| Rob Perry | Reporter, the Aylmer Express |
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WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Buchner welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at (10:00 a.m.).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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| <u>Motion # 102/2024</u> | M. Griffin | G. Clarke | CARRIED |
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THAT, the Agenda for the October 10, 2024, Full Authority meeting be adopted as circulated and amended.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:

No one had a pecuniary interest to disclose at this time.

DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO AUDIO / VIDEO RECORD MEETING:

The Chairperson asked for disclosures of intentions to audio or video record the meeting. No one indicated any such intentions at this time.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Motion #103/2024 G. Clarke M. Griffin CARRIED

THAT, the Minutes of Full Authority Meeting #08/2024 (September 12, 2024), be adopted as circulated.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

No one reported any outstanding business to discuss from the previous Minutes.

PUBLIC / SPECIAL DELEGATIONS:

None

REPORTS:

Reports FA 70 to FA 73/2024 – Monthly Staff Reports, were presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 104/2024 G. Clarke A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, Staff Reports FA 70 to FA 73 for the month of September, 2024 be noted and filed.

Report FA 74/2024 – September Summary of Revenue and Expenditures, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 105/2024 G. Clarke M. Griffin CARRIED

THAT, Report FA 74/2024 (September Summary of Revenue & Expenditures), be noted and filed.

Report FA 75/2024 – Accounts Paid, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 106/2024 M. Griffin G. Clarke CARRIED

THAT, Accounts Paid totaling \$43,514.36, be approved as presented in Report FA 75/2024.

Report FA 76/2024 – Conservation Ontario Council was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 107/2024 M. Griffin A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the update on the activities of Conservation Ontario Council outlined in Report FA76/2024, be noted and filed.

Report FA 77/2024 – Conservation Areas Strategy, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 108/2024 A. Oslach M. Griffin CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority approve the draft Conservation Areas Strategy for publication on the Catfish Creek Conservation Authorities website and by any other means the Authority deems adequate.

Report FA 78/2024 – Flood Watch and Warning Plan & Low Water Response Manual, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 109/2024 M. Griffin A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority approve the Flood Watch and Warning Plan, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 686/21;

AND THAT, the Full Authority approve the Low Water Response Manual in accordance with Ontario Regulation 686/21.

Report FA 79/2024 – Catfish Creek Channel Sounding, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 110/2024 G. Clarke M. Griffin CARRIED

THAT, the channel sounding observations described in Report 79/2024, be received as information at this time.

Report FA 80/2024 – Budget Draft -2025, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 111/2024 G. Clarke A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority approve the Draft Budget presented in report FA80/2024;

AND THAT, the Draft Budget and General Levies be circulated to the member municipalities for the 30-day notice period in accordance with the Budget and Apportionment Regulation made under the Conservation Authorities Act.

Report FA 81/2024 – CCCA Section 30.4 Stop Order Form, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 112/2024 G. Clarke M. Griffin CARRIED

THAT, the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Section 30.4 Stop Order Form be approved by the Full Authority;

AND THAT, the Section 30.4 Stop Order Form for the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority attached to Report FA 81/2024, be adopted as presented.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT:

- Met with Ian Begg concerning the planning of the Tisdale Soft Opener on October 17th, 2024 at 1pm. Created an invite list went over the itinerary, site preparation and created a list of attendees who will hopefully also speak on importance of green spaces and land donations.
- Reviewed the Lake Erie Action plan meeting materials for the September, 2024 meeting.
- Completed the September Full Authority Agenda package.
- Attended a Southwestern Region General Managers meeting at the UTRCA where status of watershed stewardship and watershed health monitoring services and implementation of O. Reg. 41/24 was discussed. Discussions were also held about the Permit fee freeze about whether it will continue and what to plan for concerning budgetary items. Other discussions occurred around the One Health Approach where nature is involved in all of life's interactions and it should be accounted for equally about everything else in life. We also had a presentation on the Healthy Lake Huron Plan
- Attended Conservation Ontario's Annual General Meeting on September 23, 2024.
- Completed the job posting, application process and conducted interviews for the Customer Services Outreach Clerk Position. I am pleased to announce that Jennifer McDaniel will be joining our team on October 15, 2024. Thank you to the Interview Committee for your assistance.
- Started preparing reports etc. for the November Land Management Committee meeting and discussing necessary changes required moving forward.
- Continual work to complete the Land Inventory. Had a meeting with Kim Smale prior General Manager of the CCCA to ask about any questions we were stuck on about our property holdings. Noah Pineau has also scanned all of our property files so we can tie in all of the information we have to live links about information on our property holdings that is required by O. Reg 686/21.
- Researching alternatives including rezoning to save tax burdens on Conservation Lands deemed Residential. Open Space designations are less of a burden then residential and cutting costs is key in today's economic times.
- Dealt with some compliance and enforcement issues throughout the watershed.
- Reviewed the new PGMN Guidelines and took in a webinar regarding the proposed guidelines.
- Completed the Conservation Areas Strategy consultation and received no comments or feedback.
- Received confirmation that the Long Point littoral Zone did receive there money for the grant they had applied for. The working group will continue to meet and discuss things moving forward including membership, terms of reference etc. etc.

CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Copied:

- Correspondence Register for September, 2024.

Motion # 113/2024

A. Oslach

G. Clarke

CARRIED

THAT, the Copied Correspondence and Correspondence Register for September, 2024, be noted and filed.

CLOSED SESSION:

None

NEXT MEETING / TERMINATION:

The next meeting of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority will be held on Thursday, November 28, 2024, commencing at 10:00 a.m.


Motion # 114/2024

M. Griffin

G. Clarke

CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority be terminated at 10:43 a.m.



General Manager / Secretary –Treasurer



Authority Chairperson