



**Minutes of the meeting of the
Quinte Conservation Executive Board Meeting**

Date: July 21, 2022, 3:30pm
Location: ZOOM

Members Present: **Carrie West** (Township of Madoc), **Chris Malette** (City of Belleville), **Dale Grant** (Stirling and Rawdon Township), **Ellen Johnson** (Town of Greater Napanee), **Heather Lang** (Tyendinaga Township), **Henry Hogg** (Addington Highlands Township), **James Flieler** (Municipality of Tweed), **Janice Maynard** (County of Prince Edward), **John Wise** (Stone Mills Township), **Kate MacNaughton** (County of Prince Edward), **Les Stanfield** (County of Prince Edward), **Mike Kirby** (Centre Hastings Municipality), **Mike Stevens** (Marmora and Lake Municipality), **Nicki Gowdy** (Township of Central Frontenac), **Norm Roberts** (Township of South Frontenac), **Tom Livingston** (County of Prince Edward)

Members Absent: **Don Kuntze** (City of Quinte West), **Jim Dunlop** (County of Prince Edward), **John Hirsch** (County of Prince Edward), **Paul Carr** (City of Belleville), **Ray Hobson** (County of Prince Edward), **Ronald Carroll** (Tudor and Cashel Townships), **Sean Kelly** (City of Belleville), **Steven Everhardus** (Town of Deseronto)

Staff Present: **Brad McNevin** (CAO), **Amy Dickens** (Source Water Protection Coordinator), **Christine Phillibert** (Water Resources Manager), **Mary Gunning** (Aquatic Science Coordinator), **Sam Reid** (Corporate Services Assistant), **Sharlene Richardson** (Regulations Officer), **Tammy Smith** (Corporate Services Manager)

Also Present: **Jeff Wright** (OPG)

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm.

a. Notice Regarding Cell Phones and Pagers

Cell phones and pagers are not permitted to be turned on during the meeting, except in an event of an emergency. If the device is to be left on, it must be announced at the beginning of the meeting.

b. Collection of Personal Information for Board Minutes

This is addressed to anyone that is not a board member and/or staff person of Quinte Conservation: Your name will be used in the board meeting minutes and the minutes will become public information after review and approval of the board. If you are present for a delegation or hearing, the context of your presentation will be recorded in the minutes of the board meeting.

2. Approval of the Agenda

There was no discussion.

MOTION QC-22-060

Moved By: Dale Grant (Stirling and Rawdon Township)

Seconded By: John Wise (Stone Mills Township)

THAT, the Agenda for the July 21, 2022 Executive Board Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Quinte Conservation Executive Board meeting of June 16, 2022.

There was no discussion.

MOTION QC-22-061

Moved By: Henry Hogg

Seconded By: Ellen Johnson

THAT, the Minutes from the June 16, 2022 Quinte Conservation Executive Board Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

5. Action Items of the previous Quinte Conservation Executive Board Meeting

Staff gave update on ongoing action items.

6. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

7. Delegations

Jeff Wright did a presentation on Ontario Power Generation and the Big Island wetland.

Board Member asked if the Big Island marsh was established because of human activity restricting flow in the bay.

Jeff stated yes and that human activity would be a factor over decades. Jeff added that reporting over time is required to Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Staff stated that there are historical air photos from the early 1950s that show the significant amount of open water at Big Island.

Board Member asked if the historic burning of the cattails would have contributed positively or negatively to the Big Island wetland.

Jeff answered that there is a lot of dead growth in cattail wetlands and that burning can increase nutrients and sunlight and the cattails will come back quickly. Jeff added that it would be hard to measure if it impacted it positively or negatively and that at this time this is not a common practice for cattail wetlands.

Board Member asked if there was any wildlife monitoring happening at Big Island.

Staff answered that there have been some observations that have been noted but no formal reporting has taken place.

Discussion followed.

8. Review and Approval of the Section 28 Regulations and Permits (Motion to Approve)

There was no discussion.

MOTION QC-22-062

Moved By: Tom Livingston

Seconded By: Nicki Gowdy

THAT, the Review and Approval of the Section 28 Regulations and Permits be approved.

CARRIED

9. Plan Review Summary (Motion to Approve)

Board Member asked about the minor variance comments on Paradise Lane in Tweed.

Staff answered that our minor variance comments have been sent to the municipality. Staff added that if the minor variance is approved then the permitting process would commence.

MOTION QC-22-063

Moved By: Henry Hogg (Addington Highlands Township)

Seconded By: John Wise (Stone Mills Township)

THAT, the Plan Review Summary be approved.

CARRIED

10. Budget Control (Motion to Approve)

Board Member asked if Quinte Conservation has received the funding from the Government of Ontario.

Staff answered no and that it is usually between July to October.

Board Member asked about water control structure projects.

Staff answered that all the projects are either starting or have contracts forming. Staff added that these projects are funded in part by WECL.

MOTION QC-22-064

Moved By: John Wise (Stone Mills Township)

Seconded By: Ellen Johnson (Town of Greater Napanee)

THAT, the Budget Control be approved.

CARRIED

11. Hydro Report (Motion to Receive)

Board Member asked that we have less maintenance, but we used more electricity. Shut down not as much why did we use more electricity.

Staff answered that there are many things under the services category not just electricity, all the items listed under the "Services" category contribute to the amount.

Board Member asked what generated revenue means.

Staff answered that generated revenue is the amount of money we receive from Elexicon for the electricity produced at the dam.

MOTION QC-22-065

Moved By: Heather Lang (Tyendinaga Township)

Seconded By: Tom Livingston (County of Prince Edward)

THAT, the Hydro Report be received.

CARRIED

12. Little Bluff Gate Installation and Fee Review (Motion to Approve)

Staff did overview of report.

Board Member stated that Quinte Conservation just spend a lot of money at Little Bluff Conservation Area and that if there are only a few complaints regarding the cost it is not worth it to lower the price by 66%.

Staff answered that all revenue from parking gets distributed over all the conservation areas. Staff added that Quinte Conservation needs to communicate what the fees are going towards at each area. Staff added that in the fall there will be display boards at conservation area parking lots of what the vision is for that area and what the parking fee is going towards at that area.

Board Member asked why Quinte Conservation is decreasing the fee for Little Bluff Conservation Area and not increasing the fee at the other conservation areas.

Staff answered that there needs to be a balance between all conservation areas and staff need to look at the big picture over all the conservation areas.

Board member asked how annual passes work with the new gate at Little Bluff Conservation Area.

Staff answered that staff are still working out the details for this.

Board Member stated that Quinte Conservation needs to be consistent. Board Member added that as staff work towards a more effective way of collecting funds then we can implement different fees for different areas.

Board Member asked if Quinte Conservation has stats on complaints.

Staff said no. Staff added that many of the complaints are going to Prince Edward County Councillors from residents.

Board Member asked about the timeline.

Staff answered that the proposed action would be put into place right away if passed by the Board.

MOTION QC-22-066

Moved By: Chris Malette (City of Belleville)

Seconded By: Janice Maynard (County of Prince Edward)

THAT, staff and the Lands Committee recommend maintaining consistency across the entire Quinte Conservation region. AND FURTHER THAT, Staff and the Lands Committee recommend applying a \$5 per day or \$50 annual pass to Little Bluff Conservation Area similar to all other Conservation Areas, be approved.

CARRIED

13. Monitoring Department Report (Motion to Receive)

Board Member asked if there is monitoring or sampling in Belleville, specifically south of the 401 and on the Moira River.

Staff answered that there are some monitoring stations in Belleville. Provincial Wetland Monitoring Network (PWMN) station is at the footbridge over the Moira River in Belleville. Also, staff measure baseflow south of the 401 and there are Ontario Benthic Biomonitoring Network (OBBN) sites along Potter's Creek and Bell Creek.

Board Member asked if an inventory of the data collected is organized to collaborate with departments in the organization.

Staff Member stated that this is something that staff are working towards and something that has already been started between departments. Staff have been consulting with other staff on how the data can help with other programs and services Quinte Conservation provides.

Board Member stated that larger Conservation Areas have invested in coordinating the monitoring data with various departments and having multiple metrics at the same location.

Board Member stated the report was very well done. Board Member asked about impacts of nitrate levels in the monitoring wells and if notice is sent to private well owners in the case of a spike in nitrates in one of the monitoring wells.

Staff answered that many of Quinte Conservation's monitoring wells are on private property. Staff added that if there is a spike in nutrients, a letter is sent to the landowner.

Board Member asked if Conservation Ontario has made any movement to have the cost for monitoring shared between the Provincial Government and the municipality because right now it is mostly funded by municipal levy.

Staff stated that the Provincial Government provides Quinte Conservation with equipment and the Government lab analyzes Quinte Conservation's water samples.

Board Member asked if the municipality is sent a letter when nutrients are high in a monitoring well in that municipality.

Staff stated no but staff would adopt this the next time letters need to be sent to landowners.

MOTION QC-22-067

Moved By: Chris Malette (City of Belleville)

Seconded By: John Wise (Stone Mills Township)

THAT, the Watershed Monitoring Programs 2021 report be received.

CARRIED

14. SWP Verbal Report (Motion to Receive)

Staff are working on voluntary best practices guidelines program.

Staff gave update on Tweed Amendment process.

There was no discussion.

MOTION QC-22-068

Moved By: Ellen Johnson (Town of Greater Napanee)

Seconded By: Heather Lang (Tyendinaga Township)

THAT, the SWP verbal report be received.

CARRIED

15. Other Business

Staff stated that tickets are now on sale for the 75th Anniversary fundraiser.

Staff are asking Board Members to help promote the event and sell tickets if possible.

Board Member asked staff to email the entire Board with the expectations.

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm.

MOTION QC-22-069

Moved By: Chris Malette (City of Belleville)

Seconded By: Norm Roberts (Township of South Frontenac)

THAT, the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED



James Flieler, Chair