



**Quinte**  
**CONSERVATION**

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

**Date:** **March 21, 2024 3:30pm**  
**Location:** **Joe Eberwein Boardroom (Quinte Conservation)**

**Members Present:** **Brent Taylor** (Twp of Tudor and Cashel), **Carrie West** (Township of Madoc), **Chris Malette** (City of Belleville), **Dave Ogden** (Tyendinaga Township), **Don Kuntze** (City of Quinte West), **Don Stewart** (Stirling and Rawdon Township), **James Flieler** (Municipality of Tweed), **Jamie Zeiman** (Town of Deseronto), **Janice Maynard** (County of Prince Edward), **Kathryn Brown** (City of Belleville), **Krysta-Lee Woodcock** (Stone Mills Township), **Lynn Klages** (Township of Central Frontenac), **Mike Stevens** (Marmora and Lake Municipality), **Norm Roberts** (Township of South Frontenac), **Paul Carr** (City of Belleville)

**Members Absent:** **Bob Norrie** (Town of Greater Napanee), **John Hirsch** (County of Prince Edward), **Kirby Thompson** (Addington Highlands Township), **Mike Kirby** (Centre Hastings Municipality), **Nathan Townend** (Loyalist Township)

**Staff Present:** **Brad McNevin** (CAO), **Christine Phillibert** (Water Resources Manager), **Amy Dickens** (Source Water Protection Coordinator), **Catherine Sinclair** (Regulations Officer), **Christine Phillibert** (Water resources Manager), **Kristina Hamilton** (Corporate Services Assistant), **Mary Gunning** (Aquatic Science Coordinator), **Paul McCoy** (Planning and Regulations Manager), **Sharlene Richardson** (Regulations Officer), **Tammy Smith** (Corporate Services Manager), **Taylor Hermiston** (Communications Coordinator)

**1. Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.**

**a. Notice Regarding Cell Phones**

Cell phones 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**

**MOTION QC-24-023**

**Moved By:** Dave Ogden

**Seconded By:** Krysta Lee Woodcock

THAT, the Agenda for March 21, 2024, Executive Board Meeting be approved.

**CARRIED**

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Quinte Conservation Executive Board meeting of January 18, 2023.**

**MOTION QC-24-024**

**Moved By:** James Flieler

**Seconded By:** Norm Roberts

THAT, the Minutes from the January 18, 2024 Quinte Conservation Executive Board Meeting be approved.

**CARRIED**

**4. Business Arising from the Minutes**

N/A

**5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**

N/A

**6. Delegations**

N/A

**7. Monthly Permits Summary (Motion to Receive)**

**MOTION QC-24-025**

**Moved By:** Lynn Klages

**Seconded By:** Don Kuntze

THAT, the monthly permits summary for the months of January and February 2024 be received.

**CARRIED**

**8. Monthly Planning Summary (Motion to Receive)**

**MOTION QC-24-026**

**Moved By:** James Flieler

**Seconded By:** Dave Ogden

THAT, the monthly planning summary for the months of January and February 2024 be received.

**CARRIED**

**9. Year End Regulations & Planning Summary 2023 (Motion to Receive)**

**MOTION QC-24-027**

**Moved By:** Paul Carr

**Seconded By:** Dave Ogden

THAT, the year-end regulations and planning summary for 2023 be received.

**CARRIED**

**10. Budget Control (Motion to Approve)**

**MOTION QC-24-028**

**Moved By:** Don Kuntze

**Seconded By:** Jamie Zieman

That the Budget Control Report be approved.

**CARRIED**

**11. Hydro Report (Motion to Approve)**

**MOTION QC-24-029**

**Moved By:** Carrie West

**Seconded By:** Dave Ogden

THAT, the Hydro Report be approved.

**CARRIED**

**12. Update to Conservation Authorities Act, Regulation and QC Policy (Motion to Approve)**

**MOTION QC-24-030**

**Moved By:** Kathryn Brown

**Seconded By:** Lynn Klages

THAT, staff complete the necessary administrative updates to all Quinte Conservation information (website, mapping, technical studies, by-laws, policy, etc.) in accordance with the amended Conservation Authorities Act (CAA) and Ontario Regulation 41/24, be approved.

**CARRIED**

Staff member offered clarification regarding the motion. Board member asked for confirmation on the changes. Staff member clarified that additional information is provided further in the board package that will discuss the changes to the regulation and act.

**13. Delegation of Powers related to Permit Issuance, Cancellation and Hearings (Motion to Approve)**

**MOTION QC-24-031**

**Moved By:** Dave Ogden

**Seconded By:** Norm Roberts

THAT, the Quinte Conservation Executive Board delegate the powers of (1) issuance and extension of permits up to the maximum period of validity and (2) the cancellation of permits, to the Chief Administrative Officer, Senior Staff and Regulations Officers;  
AND THAT, the Quinte Conservation Executive Board be delegated the powers to preside over any hearings regarding (1) the Issuance & Extension of Permits and (2) the Cancellation of Permits;  
AND FURTHER THAT, the Quinte Conservation Executive Board be delegated the powers to preside over any hearings regarding (1) Section 28.1 (Permits), (2) Section 28.1.2 (Mandatory permits, zoning orders) and (3) Section 30.4 (Stop Work Orders);

AND FURTHER THAT, the Quinte Conservation Executive Board delegates the powers of Administrative Reviews (Requests for Reviews) to the Chief Administrative Officer and/or Senior Staff, BE APPROVED.

**CARRIED**

Board member asked for clarification, Staff clarified that we will continue to follow the same process for hearings, cancellations of permits, decision making regarding files, etc. Board member offered further information regarding a local landowner who had cut trees and changed a wetland area, the neighbouring Conservation Authority attended, and laid charges. The CA lost the case and now the landowner is threatening to sue the CA for costs. Board member asked if this could impact Quinte Conservation in the same way. Staff offered that it is possible.

**14. Appointment of Regulations and Enforcement Officers (Motion to Approve)**

**MOTION QC-24-032**

**Moved By:** Krysta Lee Woodcock

**Seconded By:** Dave Ogden

THAT, the Quinte Conservation Executive Board appoints Brad McNevin, Catherine Sinclair, Lindsay Nash, Mark Boone, Paul McCoy, and Sharlene Richardson as Officers (including designation as a Provincial Offences Officer) to enforce regulations made by Quinte Conservation pursuant to section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

AND THAT, the Quinte Conservation Executive Board appoints Brad McNevin, Catherine Sinclair, Jesse Platt, Lindsay Nash, Mark Boone, Mike Burnt, Paul McCoy, and Sharlene Richardson as Officers (including designation as a Provincial Offences Officer) to enforce section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

**CARRIED**

**15. Solar Eclipse Planning (Motion to Approve)**

**MOTION QC-24-033**

**Moved By:** Kathryn Brown

**Seconded By:** Lynn Klages

THAT, the staff report titled "Solar Eclipse Planning", be approved;

AND THAT, staff continue to coordinate with all levels of government and other agencies to ensure effective management of the historic event in QC's watershed;

AND FURTHER THAT, a report be presented to the Board of Directors after the event for information.

CARRIED

Board member offered that Hastings County held an emergency exercise and there are concerns of an influx of people. Board member asked who we have been in contact with, staff replied that Municipalities and Emergency Management have been contacted. Staff offered that our properties that are currently opened will remain open, but we will not be opening our properties that are still closed for the season (i.e. Little Bluff and Beaver Meadows). Board member offered that there will be no events planned by the municipalities. Board member commented that he feels that this is fear mongering.

**16. Spring Outlook – Verbal Report (Motion to Receive)**

**MOTION QC-24-034**

**Moved By:** Dave Ogden

**Seconded By:** Jamie Zieman

THAT, the Spring Outlook Report be received.

CARRIED

Staff reported on Spring Outlook, conditions are currently higher than normal due to an early freshet. From December – March temperatures were warmer than normal. During the winter more rain fell than snow in many parts of the watershed, the snow that did fall did not stick around due to rain and warm temperatures. During the fall, the groundwater table was low, it has since recovered to normal conditions. Spring rains are needed to continue to replenish the groundwater. There is a very low risk of flooding at this point in time. The peak flows on the Salmon River, Napanee River, and Consecun Creek are the lowest peaks ever recorded. The Moira River at Foxboro peak was the second lowest since 1915, with the lowest occurring in 1931. The long term forecast is calling for slightly more precipitation than average this spring, and a drier summer. Dams need to be monitored to balance reservoir levels and prepare for spring precipitation.

Staff reported the need to prepare for drought.

**17. Staff Report- Depot Lakes Campground Business Plan (Motion to Approve)**

**MOTION QC-24-035**

**Moved By:** Lynn Klages

**Seconded By:** Norm Roberts

THAT, the Depot Lakes Campground Business Plan staff report be approved.

CARRIED

Board member commented that he is all for giving the plan the go ahead and wants to make sure we stick to our focus as a Conservation Authority, in the best interest of the water supply and the environment. Has concerns with an influx of people to the property. Staff offered that it

is part of the direction for the Conservation Area. We want to reduce the sites around the day use area to make more natural space for all to enjoy. Board member commented on business model and other Non hydro campsite comparable prices. Staff commented that fees are set as sufficient to run the campground. Staff commented further on future potential for private maintenance. Staff commented that this is a legacy Business inherited from the Napanee Region Conservation Authority and at one time was in a state of embarrassment and in need of repair. Quinte Conservation has now found the best balance for the property and transformed it. Board member commented on the financial concerns. Board member commented on personally camping there previously, and loved the area, asked about the idea of maintenance outsourcing. Staff offered that the idea of maintenance outsourcing needs further investigation. Board member asked about status quo. Interior camping has changed, and seasonal spots will come to an end at the "Point" after 2025 season. Previously approved changes to be implemented in 2026.

**18. Presentation – QC Watershed Science and Monitoring (Motion to Receive)**

**MOTION QC-24-036**

**Moved By:** Paul Carr

**Seconded By:** James Flieler

THAT, the QC Watershed Science and Monitoring staff Presentation be received.

**CARRIED**

Staff offered report as presented. Board member asked where water soldier originated, staff clarified that it was introduced into the Trent Severn and has migrated downstream. Originally an ornamental in ponds. Board member asked if citizens are able to get rid of water soldier, staff offered that it could be done but there needs to be clear education because it can spread easily. MNRF would need to be involved and may not allow it. Board member asked about potential divers being able to search for it. Staff clarified that divers can be helpful. Anglers have been on the look out for water soldier as well and are an important source of finding where water soldier is taking over. Board member asked about confirmed water soldier eDNA. Staff confirmed positive results from eDNA testing. We continue to collect data using this technique. Staff also follow up with visual inspections when reports of eDNA come in. Staff offered further challenges on combatting water soldier. Board member asked how is the fishery in big island and has it improved? Can Water soldier be irradiated? Can there be info for cottagers if found. Staff offered landowner handout and info pkgs. Are being developed and available. We haven't done fish assessment since 2020 but the data looks very good. Habitat has potential for some species at risk to utilize the created habitat in Big island wetland. Board member asked about mercury contamination. Staff offered that MNRF are involved with testing on the bay as they had concerns about possibility of mercury in the bay. Testing has so far showed negative/negligible impacts. Board member asked about water soldier spreading, by hand removal. Staff clarified that there are recommendations on when and how to remove. It does spread if you do not get the entire plant. Staff spoke about the use of herbicides as a control mechanism.

**19. 2024 Board Member Recognition**

Chris Malette – Member Since 2019

Don Kuntze– Member Since 2019

Norm Roberts– Member Since 2016  
Paul Carr– Member Since 2015  
John Hirsch– Member Since 2015  
James Flieler– Member Since 2015  
Carrie West– Member Since 2015  
Janice Maynard– Member Since 2011  
Mike Kerby– Member Since 2011  
John Wise– Member Since 1999

**20. 2024 Staff Recognition**

Amy Dickens – 20 Years  
Brad McNevin – 20 years  
Mark Boone – 20 Years  
Mary Gunning – 15 Years

Maya Navrot – A Special Thank you for 17 Years of service.

**21. Other Business**

N/A

**22. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The date and time of next meeting is April 18, 2024, or earlier at the call of the chair.

**23. Adjournment (*Motion to approve*)**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 pm.

**MOTION QC-24-037**

**Moved By: Lynn**

**Seconded By: Norm**

THAT, the meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

 FOR CHRIS MALETTE

Chris Malette, Chair