



# Board of Directors Meeting

## MINUTES

The special meeting (at the call of the Chair) of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held remotely via the LTVCA's Administration Office at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 19, 2020. The following directors were in attendance: L. McKinlay, T. Thompson, A. Finn, J. Wright, M. Hentz, P. Tiessen, C. Cowell, S. Emons, S. Hippie and R. Leatham. J. Frawley was unable to attend.

### 1. First Nations Acknowledgment

M. Peacock read the First Nations acknowledgement.

### 2. Call to Order

Chair, Linda McKinlay called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending this unscheduled Board of Directors meeting for consideration of the impact of Schedule 6 of Bill 229.

M. Peacock took a roll call of Board members.

### 3. Adoption of Agenda

**BD-2020-69 C. Cowell – S. Emons**

**Moved that the agenda and all additional information be adopted as presented.**

CARRIED

### 4. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest

None Declared.

### 5. Presentation

M. Peacock provided a Power Point Presentation to the Board of Directors on the impacts of proposed changes under Schedule 6 of the Omnibus Bill 229.

**BD-2020-70 T. Thompson – C. Cowell**

**Moved that the Board of Directors receive the presentation 5.1) for information.**

6. New Business

6.1) Impact of Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020

**BD-2020-71 S. Emons – S. Hipple**

**Moved that:**

**WHEREAS** on November 5, 2020, the Province of Ontario introduced Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), which proposes amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act and Planning Act;

**AND WHEREAS** the proposed amendments will diminish LTVCA's ability to serve its municipal partners and other watershed stakeholders in the protection from natural hazards and conserving natural resources;

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT** LTVCA's Board of Directors request that the Government of Ontario remove the proposed amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act and Planning Act as contained in Bill 229 Schedule 6 and continue with the process already underway with Bill 108;

**AND FURTHER THAT** This request is for the following reasons:

1. The proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act that removes oversight and control of Conservation Authorities from local municipalities giving it to the Minister is less transparent, less responsible to local citizens, and removes consistency, and
2. That proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act does not streamline but increases Red Tape in permitting and will slow and encumber the Section 28 permitting process, and
3. That proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and the Planning Act will endanger the protection of the watershed and its environment, and
4. That proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act will not support and improve the continued protection of local residents from Natural Hazards.

A vote was taken by the Board of Directors for the motion set before them. The vote was unanimously carried in favour of the motion by all attendees.

CARRIED

A motion was put before the Board of Directors for a request to send correspondence to our member municipalities seeking support on the above noted resolution regarding Schedule 6 of Bill 229.

**BD-2020-72 R. Leatham – M. Hentz**

**Moved that** given that the Province of Ontario has passed in first reading Bill 229, which includes Schedule 6 containing major changes to the Conservation Authorities Act, and

Given these changes will have many negative consequences to municipal oversight, watershed management, service delivery, accountability and transparency in the carrying out of LTVCA business, and

Given these changes mark a significant departure from changes discussed over the last 3 years culminating in recommended changes found in Bill 108, and

Given that these changes are being brought forward in a budget bill thereby limiting consultation on the changes,

**Therefore** be it resolved that the LTVCA Board of Directors requests member municipalities to pass the attached resolution requesting the deletion of Schedule 6 from Bill 229.

**And Further** that these resolutions be sent to the Primer, Minister of Finance, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks.

**Attached Resolution for Municipal consideration:**

**WHEREAS** on November 5, 2020, the Province of Ontario introduced Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), which proposes amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act and Planning Act;

**AND WHEREAS** the proposed amendments will diminish LTVCA's ability to serve its municipal partners and other watershed stakeholders in the protection from natural hazards and conserving natural resources;

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2. That proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act does not streamline but increases Red Tape in permitting and will slow and encumber the Section 28 permitting process, and
3. That proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and the Planning Act will endanger the protection of the watershed and its environment, and
4. That proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act will not support and improve the continued protection of local residents from Natural Hazards.

CARRIED

7. Correspondence

- 7.1) **Backgrounder: Concerns About Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and Planning Act Which Affect Conservation Authorities**

- 7.2) Advocacy Strategy & Key Messages for Conservation Authorities Re: Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and the Planning Act
- 7.3) Conservation Ontario Detailed Reference Document (November 11, 2020)
- 7.4) Summary of Proposed Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act & Planning Act through Bill 229 and Implications
- 7.5) Proposed Resolution for Municipalities provided by Conservation Ontario
- 7.6) Toronto Star news article: 'The developers are all in control': Doug Ford's government moves to limit the power of conservation authorities, sparking fears for the environment
- 7.7) National Observer news article: Ford government to take powers away from conservation authorities
- 7.8) Ontario Nature article and petition, Conservation Authorities Under Fire
- 7.9) Revised Municipal Resolution
- 7.10) Major Streamlining and Cost Concerns with Bill 229
- 7.11) Halton Mayors Oppose Proposed Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act
- 7.12) CO Media Release: Province Tying Conservation Authorities up in Red Tape – Repeal Schedule 6
- 7.13) CELA Webinar, by Deborah Martin-Downs, CAO, Credit Valley Conservation

**BD-2020-73 S. Emons – C. Cowell**

**Moved that Correspondence items 7.1) and 7.13) be received for information.**

CARRIED

## 12. Other Business

None noted.


## 13. Adjournment

**BD-2020-74 P. Tiessen – T. Thompson**

**Moved that the meeting be adjourned.**

CARRIED

  
Linda McKinlay  
Chair

  
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer