



Board of Directors Meeting

A G E N D A

June 16, 2022

2:00 p.m.

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3. Adoption of Agenda	
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1. First Nations Acknowledgement

We will begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of First Nations people who have longstanding relationships to the land, water and region of southwestern Ontario. We also acknowledge the local lower Thames River watershed communities of this area which include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, Munsee Delaware Nation, Delaware Nation, and Caldwell Nation. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America). We are thankful for the opportunity to live, learn and share with mutual respect and appreciation.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

5.1) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2022



Board of Directors Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held in person and remotely via the LTVCA's Administration Office at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 21, 2022. The following directors were in attendance: T. Thompson, L. McKinlay, A. Finn, M. Hentz, P. Tiessen, C. Cowell, S. Emons, H. Aerts, S. Hipple and J. Wright. R. Leatham and JJ Strybosch were unable to attend.

1. First Nations Acknowledgment

M. Peacock read the First Nations acknowledgement.

2. Call to Order

Chair, Trevor Thompson called the meeting to order.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Item 9.7) to be removed from the agenda.

BD-2022-01 C. Cowell – S. Hipple

Moved that the agenda be adopted as amended by the removal of item 9.7.

CARRIED

4. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest

None Declared.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

BD-2022-02 P. Tiessen – M. Hentz

Moved that the Board of Directors remote meeting minutes of February 24, 2022 be approved.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None declared.

7. Presentations

7.1) Municipality of Lakeshore Shoreline Management Plan

Jason Wintermute provided a power point presentation on the Municipality of Lakeshore Shoreline Management Plan.

L. McKinlay and H. Aerts had questions of J. Wintermute around the municipality having the ability to set minimum shoreline protection standards, such as through Official Plans and Zoning By-laws. It was determined that question would need to be directed to the municipality.

7.2) Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum 5 Year Strategic Plan, 2022-2026

Alison Klages, provided a power point presentation on Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum 5 Year Strategic Plan, 2022-2026.

7.3) Revisions to the Draft Planning Fee Schedule

Valerie Towsley provided a power point presentation on Revisions to the Draft Planning Fee Schedule.

T. Thompson asked if fees will be raised over the next couple of years given the recent rise in the inflation rate. Staff won't know until we've assessed whether the fees are meeting current cost expenditures. A fee review will be undertaken at year end.

7.4) Indigenous Community Education Centre and Revitalization of the Longwoods Resource Centre

Mark Peacock provided a power point presentation on the Indigenous Community Education Centre and Revitalization of the Longwoods Resource Centre.

BD-2022-03 L. McKinlay – C. Cowell

Moved that the Board of Directors authorize the Chair and the CAO to sign the funding agreement for the Indigenous Community Education Centre and Revitalization of the Longwoods Road Resource Centre, and

That the Board of Directors authorize the Chair and the CAO to sign the RFP for Architectural and Mechanical / Structural / Electrical Engineering services should upon review of the bids, board members do not have concerns with the bid.

CARRIED

BD-2022-04 S. Hipple – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Board of Directors receive presentations 7.1) - 7.4).

CARRIED

8. New Business

None noted.

9. Business for Approval

9.1) Income and Expenditure vs Budget to February 28, 2022

BD-2022-05 M. Hentz – L. McKinlay

Moved that the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended February 28, 2022.

CARRIED

9.2) Municipality of Lakeshore Shoreline Management Plan

BD-2022-06 L. McKinlay – S. Hipple

Moved that the LTVCA approve the Municipality of Lakeshore Shoreline Management Plan as a technical document, and further

That the LTVCA staff be directed to work with the Municipality of Lakeshore in the implementation of the plan, ensuring that public consultation is undertaken as recommendations of the plan are brought forward for implementation.

CARRIED

9.3) Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum 5 Year Strategic Plan, 2022-2026

BD-2022-07 P. Tiessen – M. Hentz

Moved that the Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum 5 Year Strategic Plan, 2022-2026 be approved.

CARRIED

9.4) ALUS Elgin Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Appointment of LTVCA Member

BD-2022-08 L. McKinlay – H. Aerts

Moved that the LTVCA Board of Directors appoint Mike Hentz to sit on ALUS Elgin Partnership Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

9.5) Wind Farm Proposal – Skakel Conservation Area

BD-2022-09 L. McKinlay – P. Tiessen

Moved that the proposal to put either an access road or tower on the Skakel Conservation Area be refused.

CARRIED

9.6) Indigenous Community Education Centre and Revitalization of the Longwoods Resource Centre

Refer to Motion BD-2022-03

9.7) Naming of the McGregor Creek Diversion Channel

Item deleted as per approved agenda.

9.8) Planning Fee Schedule

BD-2022-10 M. Hentz – H. Aerts

Moved that the fee schedule be approved for use in order to start the collection of fees for planning purposes.

CARRIED

9.9) Planning MOU between the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich and the LTVCA

BD-2022-11 P. Tiessen – L. McKinlay

Moved that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich and the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority be approved.

CARRIED

10. New Business

10.1) C.A.O.'s Report

BD-2022-12 L. McKinlay – C. Cowell

Moved that the C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer Report be received for information.

CARRIED

10.2) Water Management

10.3) Planning and Regulations

10.4) Conservation Area Lands

10.5) Conservation Services

10.6) Communications, Outreach and Education

10.7) Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee - March 17, 2022

10.8) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Minutes - March 3, 2022

BD-2022-13 H. Aerts – L. McKinlay

Moved that the New Business items 10.2) to 10.8) be received for information.

CARRIED

11. Correspondence

11.1) Letter to Honourable David Piccini Re: Agricultural Sector Appointment to LTVCA

BD-2022-14 H. Aerts – P. Tiessen

Moved that Correspondence item 11.1) be received for information.

CARRIED

12. In Camera Session

BD-2022-15 J. Wright – S. Emons

Moved that the Board of Directors meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

BD-2022-16 P. Tiessen – M. Hentz

Moved that the Board of Directors move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

13. Other Business

None noted.

14. Adjournment

BD-2022-17 C. Cowell - H. Aerts

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Trevor Thompson
Chair

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

7. Presentations

7.1) Talbot Trail Environmental Assessment

Steve Taylor from BTE, will be providing a power point presentation on the Talbot Trail Environmental Assessment.

7.2) Recent Municipal Planning and Building Policy Changes - Additional Dwellings and Minimum Sizes

Connor Wilson will provide a power point presentation on Recent municipal planning and building policy changes - additional dwellings and minimum sizes.

7.3) BMX and Chatham Leaf and Yard Waste Depot Sites Review

Mark Peacock will provide a review of the sites to be discussed in Business for Approval

9. Business for Approval

9.1) Income and Expenditure vs Budget to April 30, 2022

Date: June 16, 2022
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: **Income and Expenditure vs Budget to April 30, 2022**
From: Todd Casier, CPA, CA, Manager, Finance and Administrative Services

Background:

Review the 2022 Budget to the Revenue and Expenditures for the four months ended April 30, 2022.

REVENUE	2022 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET APR PROJECTED		2022 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
GRANTS	1,542,782	514,261	*	559,630	45,369
GENERAL LEVY	1,506,624	1,506,624	^	1,369,761	(136,863)
DIRECT SPECIAL BENEFIT	205,000	205,000	^	205,000	0
GENERAL REVENUES	638,100	212,700	*	288,920	76,220
FOUNDATION GRANTS & REVENUES	0	0	*	6,144	6,144
RESERVES	0	0	*	0	0
CASH FUNDING	3,892,506	2,438,585		2,429,455	(9,130)
OTHER	0	0		0	0
TOTAL FUNDING	3,892,506	2,438,585		2,429,455	(9,130)

*-based on a 4 of 12 month proration of the budget

^-based on cash received to date

Grant income is greater than budgeted due to the reversal of deferred revenue for ongoing programs, the timing of grants invoiced and increased or new grants including Rondeau Barrier Beach, OMAF (Chippewas of the Thames First Nation), the Elgin ALUS program and a new Species at Risk program.

Note: Grant income is based on funds received/invoiced and not matched to expenses, meaning there may be expenses outstanding and not recognized in the attached expense statement. At year-end, each grant is reviewed individually, spent funds for grant programs not invoiced are set-up as receivables and added to grant income, unspent funds are reduced from grant income and deferred for future expenditures.

Levy revenue is shown on a cash basis. The following municipalities are paid in full as of June 9th, 2022: Chatham-Kent, Dutton/Dunwich, Lakeshore, Leamington, London, Middlesex Centre, Southwold and West Elgin.

General Revenue is above budget due to the following factors:

- Planning & Regulations is above budget due to increased demand and Conservation Areas is above budget due to receiving seasonal camping revenue.

The Foundation Grants and Revenues budget is zero because of the uncertainty of funds available. The amount recorded is due to of trail maintenance for Longwoods CA and for signs for CM Wilson.

Reserves are zero as this account is used to balance the accounts at year-end if expenses are greater than revenues.

EXPENSES	2022 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET APR PROJECTED	2022 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
WATER MANAGEMENT				
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES	183,042	61,014	57,865	(3,149)
EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES	12	4	4	0
FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING	202,762	67,587	52,071	(15,516)
TECHNICAL STUDIES	124,979	41,660	79,989	38,329
PLANNING & REGULATIONS	378,967	126,322	120,371	(5,951)
WATERSHED MONITORING (PGMN)	124,315	41,438	56,690	15,252
SOURCE PROTECTION	31,878	10,626	7,543	(3,083)
THAMES MOUTH DEBRIS REMOVAL	0	0	0	0
Water Management Subtotal	1,045,955	348,651	374,533	25,882
CONSERVATION & RECREATION PROPERTIES				
CONSERVATION AREAS	626,125	208,708	174,739	(33,969)
COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION				
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	161,719	53,906	46,920	(6,986)
CONSERVATION EDUCATION	84,111	28,037	8,946	(19,091)
SKA-NAH-DOHT VILLAGE	130,575	43,525	32,219	(11,306)
Community Relations & Education Subtotal	376,405	125,468	88,085	(37,383)
CONSERVATION SERVICES/STEWARDSHIP				
CONSERVATION SERVICES (FORESTRY)	94,006	31,335	45,821	14,486
CHATHAM-KENT GREENING PROJECT	541,174	180,391	159,859	(20,532)
PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION	908,429	302,810	399,172	96,362
SPECIES AT RISK	300,412	100,137	162,862	62,725
Conservation Services/Stewardship Subtotal	1,844,021	614,673	767,714	153,041
CAPITAL/MISCELLANEOUS				
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING	0	0	0	0
REPAIRS/UPGRADES	0	0	0	0
UNION GAS CENTENNIAL PROJECT	0	0	0	0
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS (FED/PROV)	0	0	0	0
Capital/Miscellaneous Subtotal	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,892,506	1,297,500	1,405,071	107,571

Water Management

Flood Control Structures is comparable to budget.

Flood Forecasting and Warning expenses are below budget due to several large annual invoices received later in the year and no flood event on the Thames River to April 30th, 2022.

Technical Studies are above budget due to staff time required to bring the Cambium project closer to completion and staff time and services performed for the Rondeau Barrier Beach Grant and not included in the budget and to be reimbursed.

Planning and Regulations is comparable to budget.

Watershed Monitoring is above budget due to March 31 year-end budget expenditures and staff time to complete this grant.

Source Protection is comparable to budget.

Conservation Areas

Conservation area expenses are below budget as most large projects, operation of the campgrounds and other large operational costs are incurred during the summer months.

Community Relations and Education

Community Relations, Conservation Education and SKA-NAH-DOHT Museum and Village are below budget due to the seasonal nature of large activities in these programs and reduced staffing cost.

Conservation Services/Stewardship

Conservation Services (Forestry) expenses are above budget and Chatham-Kent Greening expenses are below budget due to the allocation of the spring seedling tree costs. Combined the two programs are comparable to budget.

Phosphorous Reduction is above budget mostly due to equipment purchased for a new project with Chippewas of the Thames First Nation not included in the budget and to be reimbursed and the ALUS Elgin program expenses not included in the budget and to be reimbursed.

Species at Risk is above budget due to March 31 year-end budget expenditures and a new Acoustic Monitoring program and expenses not included in the budget and to be reimbursed.

Capital/Miscellaneous

No Capital/Miscellaneous expenses to date.

Summary:

	2022 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET APR PROJECTED	2022 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
TOTAL CASH FUNDING	3,892,506	2,438,585	2,350,697	(87,888)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,892,506	1,297,500	1,338,548	41,048
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	0	1,141,085	1,012,149	(128,936)
LESS: ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSET	0	0		0
NET CASH FUNDING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	0	1,141,085	1,012,149	(128,936)

At April 30, 2022, LTVCA’s operating surplus is not favourable mostly due to the outstanding General Levy payments not received as of June 9th, 2022, with new grants off-setting new grant expenditures.

Note: The difference between the projected budget funding and projected budget expenditures is due to the recognition of the annual General Levy and Special Levy versus all other income and expenses are prorated for the period.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended April 30, 2022.

The reports align with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

4. Improve Transparency and Understanding of Financial Statements

Respectfully Submitted

Todd Casier, CPA, CA
Manager, Financial and Administrative Services

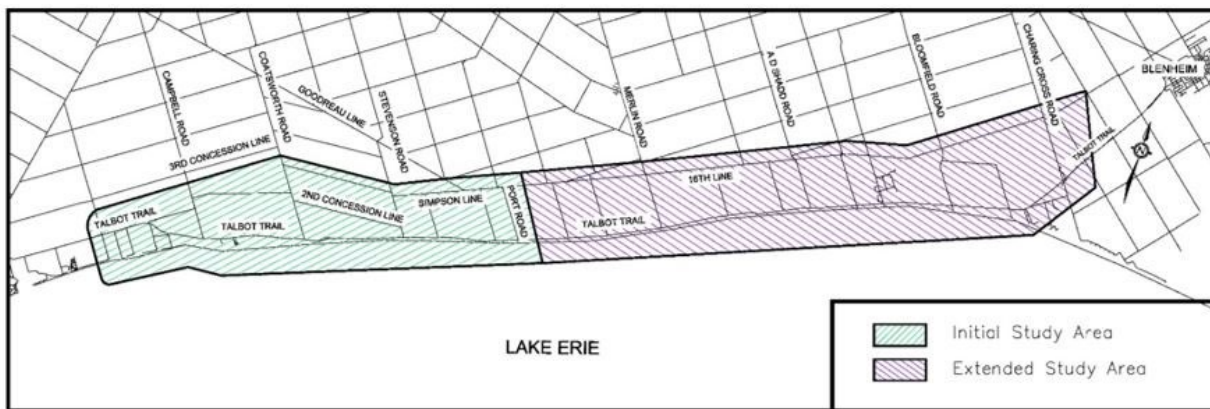
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

9.2) Talbot Trail Environmental Assessment

Date: June 16, 2022
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: Talbot Trail EA – Future Municipal Infrastructure
From: Jason Wintermute, Manager, Watershed and Information Services

INTRODUCTION

The Municipality of Chatham-Kent is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study to develop a long-term transportation plan for Talbot Trail from 2nd Concession Line (Ellerbeck Road) to Charing Cross Road. The Study is evaluating alternatives for rehabilitation of the existing corridor to address the road failure/slope instability, and alternative routes/road reclassifications to address the needs of the Study Area. The study is considering the potential connection of Talbot Trail from Blenheim to Wheatley.



The main objective of this study is to provide a planning basis for re-establishment of Talbot Trail away from the future shoreline recession of Lake Erie. It is understood that it will be too costly to fully protect the shoreline from future recession and shoreline protection would have detrimental effects on sediment transport including affecting the shoreline downdrift.

STUDY PROCESS

The Talbot Trail EA Study is being conducted as a Schedule C project under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) (2015). The Study is following the Class EA Process by establishing the need and justification for the project, considering all reasonable alternatives with acceptable effects on the natural, social and cultural environments, and proactively involving the public.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Municipality wishes to ensure that anyone interested in this study has the opportunity to be involved and provide input. The Municipality has conducted several online Public Information Centre (PIC) meeting for this project that included a series of exhibits that presented the analysis and evaluation of preliminary design alternatives, the Technically Preferred Alternative, and next steps. Further information, and future consultation for this process can be sought through Chatham-Kent's Let's Talk site at: <https://www.letstalkchatham-kent.ca/talbot-trail-class-environmental-assessment-study>

COMMENTS

The design criteria for this process used the Chatham-Kent Lake Erie Shoreline Study that was finalized in 2020 by Zuzek Inc. which used the latest information on historical and future coastal hazards, including climate change scenarios. As part of the Shoreline Study, it was recommended that an EA process be initiated to determine a new Talbot Trail alignment. This EA is the next steps in that process (refer to attached report - Infrastructure Protection Design Criteria, BTE).

As part of this study, setting a 100-year top of bank (95% confidence limit, including climate change) limit was undertaken. It was determined that only using a 50% confidence limit would result in a scenario of being correct only 50% of the time, and incorrect the other 50%. As such, two Standard Deviations was added to the Average Annual Recession Rate, giving a 95% confidence limit (page 3 of attached report).

Golder Associates, in consultation with Peter Zuzek, Zuzek Inc. (Zuzek 2020), has provided an estimate for the protection of the 100-year protection zone with climate change based on the historical recession rates from the Zuzek report and used twice the offset from the top of bluff to reflect accelerating loss expected in the next 100 years (page 4 of attached report). This offset is for design purposes for future infrastructure along this stretch of shoreline. The EA goes to the next step of adding two standard deviations for future infrastructure, hence, 95% confidence.

Currently, the LTVCA Regulated Area for new construction is determined using a historical 100 year erosion allowance (in addition to a 3:1 stable slope allowance and an additional 15 m allowance). The current opinion in the Conservation Authority community is that the regulations under the Conservation Authorities Act do not allow for the use of a climate change influenced erosion allowance to be used for the purposes of implementing the regulations. However, the consideration of the impacts of climate change are recommended for municipal planning purposes in the Provincial Policy Statement. Current policies at the LTVCA use an estimated erosion allowance of 35 m per 100 years for the main section of the bluff in the area of the study (50% confidence). However, the recent Chatham-Kent Lake Erie Shoreline Study (2020) provided updated analysis on the erosion rate and found that the average rate in this area was actually 42 m per 100 years. The average plus one standard deviation was found to be 57 m per 100 years (86% confidence). It was the intention of the LTVCA to update the erosion allowance for this area during the next Chatham-Kent Official Plan update, together with the municipality. Until further changes are made to the C.A. Act and/or its regulations to allow for climate change considerations, it may be that the municipal planning setbacks derived from this study and the LTVCA regulatory setbacks will not align.

NEXT STEPS

A preferred route has been determined through a vetting process, and further revisions have been undertaken after input from landowners and public bodies was received. Now that this phase is completed, the consultant and technical review committee feel it is time to issue the Notice of Completion and post the Environmental Assessment for the final review period. As the need for this project is largely driven by natural hazards, and Conservation Authorities in Ontario have been delegated the provincial responsibility for commenting on natural hazards, the LTVCA is being asked for its support with the recommendation to move forward with the final review period. The Environmental Assessment is anticipated to come before Chatham-Kent Council on July 11th for approval to move forward with the final review period.

The Technical Report "19-042 Talbot Trail Infrastructure Protection Design Criteria Memo May 19-22 QC Combined" is available upon request, it is not attached due to the size of the Report.

Recommendation: That the LTVCA Board of Directors supports the Environmental Assessment process undertaken thus far and supports the posting of the Talbot Trail Environmental Assessment for the final review period.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
12. Strengthen Program Review Policy(s)

Prepared by:
Jason Wintermute
Watershed Resource Planner

Recommended by:
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
CAO, Secretary Treasurer

9.3) Revision to Section 28 Permit Fees

The LTVCA is committed to delivering the best possible services with our available staff and resources. In doing so, the LTVCA continues to implement changes, review opportunities to create efficiencies, and increase transparency to better improve our customer service. As part of such, administration is proposing various modifications to the fee schedule.

MZO Fees – LTVCA

As part of the passing of Bill 229, the Protect, Support and Recovery From COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020, along with subsequent Bill 257 the Supporting Broadband and Infrastructure Expansion Act, 2021, changes were made to the Planning Act enabling the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to issue a Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) which can allow development to occur even if it's in contravention to a municipal zoning bylaw, conflicts with development master plans, and conflicts with Provincial Policy issued under Subsection 3(1) of the Planning Act. A MZO may be issued forcing a Conservation Authority to issue a permit that would otherwise contradict the Conservation Authorities Act and the LTVCA's board-approved policies.

Should a MZO be imposed within the LTVCA's jurisdiction, it's expected that the mandatory issuance of an approval would be required to be expedited. In expediting this type of complex development proposal, it is likely to directly affect the typical service delivery of the LTVCA resulting in significant delays to routine and standard applications. The process for a MZO is expected to require expedient reviews of complex studies with expected service delivery timelines that are inconsistent with the current staffing capabilities. This issue has already been observed across the Province of Ontario. In addition to project review, Conservation Authorities have also been required to determine or negotiate compensation for the loss of natural heritage features or impacts to natural processes that affect natural hazards. Such activities are also currently beyond the scope of current staffing capabilities. It is anticipated that should a MZO be imposed, the LTVCA may also need to retain consultants and legal counsel.

The current fee schedule does not list a fee for a MZO. As such, it would likely be interpreted that the standard listed fees would also apply to a MZO. It is therefore recommended that the fee schedule be updated to note that standard listed fees do not apply to a MZO.

An appropriate fee would ensure cost-recovery so as to avoid the local member municipalities from having to bear the additional cost burden associated with such large-scale development proposals.

Other Conservation Authorities have provided a set fee or a surcharge on an existing fee for MZOs. It is recommended that the LTVCA not use such as fee due to the large uncertainty surrounding project scope and the required resources. The recommendation is to note on the fee schedule that a fee for MZOs will be determined through a scoping exercise conducted with the project proponent with the objective of the fees being revenue neutral to the LTVCA, both in terms of LTVCA's own staff time and any consulting fees incurred.

Hydro One Minimum Fees - LTVCA

A fee schedule for Hydro One permits under the Conservation Ontario – Hydro One Memorandum of Understanding was proposed and approved at the October 21st, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting. Now that LTVCA staff have begun working with the protocol, a deficiency has been noted with the fee schedule. Under the MOU, the Conservation Authority is obligated to screen projects in advance that Hydro One forwards for review. As such, the possibility exists that Hydro One will forward a project that requires substantial review, but in the end does not actually require a permit. It is therefore recommended that a minimum fee of \$100 be set for a Hydro One project review, to be deducted from any subsequent permit fees determined for the project. This fee is equivalent to one routine permit application using Standard Compliance Requirements.

Retroactive Permit Applications – LTVCA

Retroactive permit applications are for works that have already been started or completed without obtaining a permit. The LTVCA's current fee schedule says to double the applicable application fee for such works.

Such a fee policy may be appropriate for works which align with the LTVCA's board-approved policies (where staff would be able to issue a permit). However, if the works were started or completed and they don't meet the board's policies, then an issue could arise. As an example, if someone filled in a provincially significant wetland, they may be issued a violation notice with the requirement that the fill be removed. If voluntary compliance couldn't be obtained, it may be necessary to file charges and go to court to have the fill removed with fines charged. In such a case, there shouldn't be a connection between the regular permitting side of the program and the enforcement side of the program. However, currently, the person could submit a permit application and pay double the fee in an attempt to obtain permit or permission from the Authority, which could affect the enforcement actions being undertaken.

Staff recommend that the following wording be included in the revised fee schedule related to retroactive permit applications:

“Applications where work has commenced or finished without authorization and where such works comply with LTVCA board-approved policies: 100% Surcharge.”

Recommendation:

That the following adjustments to the Planning and Regulations Fee Schedules;

- 1) That the fee schedule be adjusted to note that fees for MZO's will be determined through a scoping exercise conducted with the project proponent with the objective of the fees being revenue neutral to the LTVCA.
- 2) That a minimum fee of \$100 be set for Hydro One project reviews, with the minimum fee deducted from subsequent permit fees determined for the project.
- 3) That the wording for retroactive permit applications be adjusted to include the wording *“Applications where work has commenced or finished without authorization and where such works comply with LTVCA board-approved policies: 100% Surcharge.”*

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
2. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship
4. Improve Transparency and Understanding of Financial Statements

9.4) Chatham-Kent Leaf and Yard Waste Lease

Date: June 16, 2022
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: Chatham Leaf and Yard Waste Lease Report
From: Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

Background

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority entered into a 20 year lease agreement with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent on June 1, 2002. This agreement was for the exclusive use of one parcel on lands purchased for use as maintenance/soil storage area for the McGregor Creek diversion (22843 Creek Road). The area in question is approximately 168m x 50m or .84 ha in size.

The parcel includes an portable office structure and a retaining wall where yard waste s contained. .

There are no clauses defining an extension of the lease past the initial 20 year period. The agreement also provides for use of the right of way from Creek Road into the site (approximately 7m x 144m or 0.1ha in size).

Figure 1: General Location of Chatham Leaf and Yard Waste Depot. **(site in red and Right of Way in black)**



The LTVCA has had a very positive relationship with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent in the operation of the depot. The municipality has improved the property, adding the portable office and road amenities associated with the use of the site as a leaf and waste depot. Over the last months staff from the LTVCA and the municipality have been negotiating an extension of the lease. The LTVCA and municipality have entered into a three month extension of the current lease to allow the lease to be reviewed by both the LTVCA board and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent council. This short term extension (to August 31, 2022) was signed by the CAO and the chair in May. The municipality has agreed to pay all legal costs of the LTVCA to extend the original lease.

The municipality has proposed no changes to the original lease other than putting better mapping with more accurate area definitions in the agreement and extending the agreement until June 1, 2042. Additionally, the municipality has recommended that the lease be extended through an amending agreement to the original lease.

A detailed plan of the proposed leased area is attached to this report.

Staff Recommendations:

It is recommended that, other than minor changes as described above, that the conditions of the original lease agreement be brought forward through the amending agreement. The one change being the inclusion of a better defined leased area and mapping in the lease.

LTVCA recommends signing of a new lease for a 20 year period.

Recommendation:

The C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer and the Chair be authorized to sign a lease with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent upon review of the final document by the LTVCA lawyer.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA’s Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

Respectfully Submitted
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

9.5) Chatham BMX Track Lease

Date: June 16, 2022
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: BMX Track Lease Renewal Report
From: Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

Background

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority entered into a 20 year lease agreement with the Chatham Cycling Club Incorporated locally known as Wolfe Creek BMX on April 1, 2002. This agreement was for the exclusive use of two parcels on lands purchased for use as maintenance/soil storage area for the McGregor Creek diversion (22843 Creek Road). The area in question is approximately 4 acres.

The two parcels include one parcel for parking and one parcel for the BMX track.

There are no clauses defining an extension of the lease past the initial 20 year period. The agreement also provides for use of the right of way from Creek Road into the site.

Figure 1: General Location of Chatham BMX Track. (site in red and Right of Way in black)



The LTVCA has had a very positive relationship with the Chatham Cycling Club Incorporated. The Club has improved the property, adding electrical servicing and amenities associated with the use of the site as a BMX track. Over the last 3 months staff and the club have been negotiating an extension of the lease. In the past the BMX track has used an area outside of the leased area, with the permission of the LTVCA, for infrequent overflow parking. It is recommended that this area be also included in the lease. A detailed plan of the proposed leased areas is attached to this report. The Chatham Cycling Club Incorporated has agreed to pay the LTVCA legal costs to develop this lease.

Staff Recommendations:

It is recommended that, other than minor changes to bring the lease up to date, that the conditions of the original lease agreement be brought forward in the new lease. The one change being the inclusion of approximately 1 additional acre in the leased area for overflow parking.

LTVCA recommends signing of a new lease for a 20 year period.

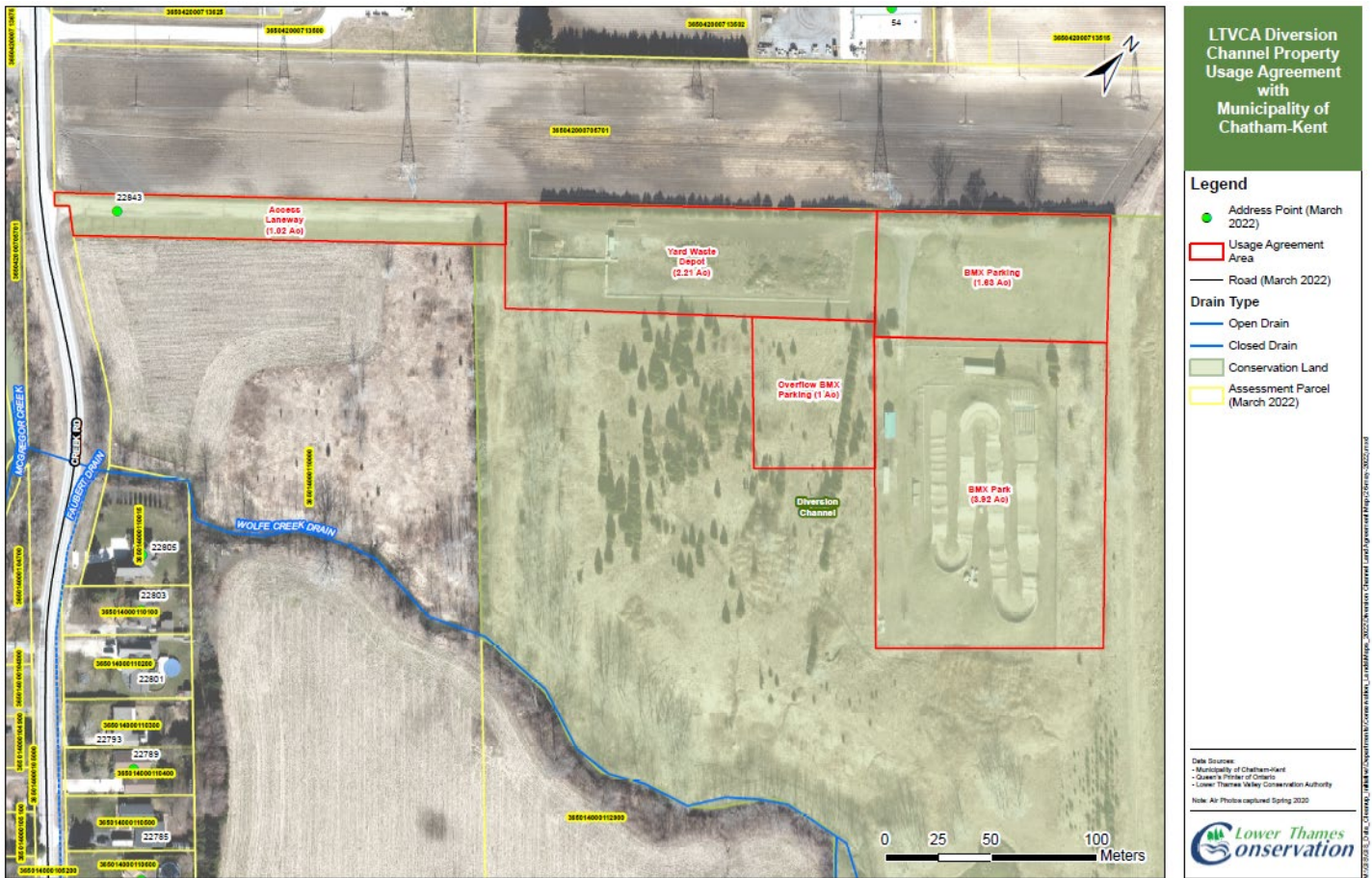
Recommendation:

The C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer and the Chair be authorized to sign a lease with the BMX upon review of the final document by the LTVCA lawyer.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

Respectfully Submitted
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer



9.6) Change of Purchasing Policy to Address Project Lead Purchasing

Date: June 16, 2022
 Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
 Subject: **Change of Purchasing Policy to Address Project Lead Purchasing**
 From: Todd Casier, CPA, CA, Manager, Finance and Administrative Services

Background:

LTVCA staff have begun a review of the LTVCA Purchasing Policy that was last updated in December 7, 2016. A full report will be brought to the August Board of Director’s meeting. In the interim staff are recommending the inclusion of an additional category in the “Authorized Purchasers & Their Purchase Limits”. It has been found that project leads are having to obtain multiple approvals for purchase of field services, equipment and supplies that are well within the controls of their approved budgets. Routine/reoccurring supplies require project leads to obtain approvals that are inefficient and time consuming for management staff. To reduce this paperwork, staff are recommending that project leads be authorized to purchase up to \$1,500. To accomplish this, an additional level of authority is being recommended in section 4.6 of the Purchasing Policy as follows: (Additional level in red *italics*)

4.6 Authorized Purchasers & Their Purchase Limits

Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer Level	\$50,000.00
Department Manager Level*	\$10,000.00
Manager, Watershed & Information Services	
Manager, Communications, Outreach & Education	

Manager, Conservation Lands & Services

*With approval of the Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

District Supervisor Level \$5,000.00

Eastern District Supervisor

Western District Supervisor

Project Leads \$1,500.00

Agricultural Program Coordinator

Species at Risk Biologist

Environmental Project Coordinator

Curator Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum

Regular Fulltime or Contract Staff \$500.00

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority shall not divide the order to reduce the overall value of the contract to fall below specific thresholds.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors authorize project leads to have a purchasing limit of \$1,500, And That this be included in the LTVCA Purchasing Policy.

The reports align with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

4. Improve Transparency and Understanding of Financial Statements

Respectfully Submitted

Todd Casier, CPA, CA

Manager, Financial and Administrative Services

Reviewed By:

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.

C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

10. Business for Information

10.1) C.A.O.'s Report

Date: June 216, 2022
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: C.A.O.'s Report
From: Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

Covid-19 update

Opening of Offices

The Pandemic Management Committee continues to meet three times a week but will be shortly finishing its work. All staff have returned to offices as of June 8, 2022. Staff were required to attend the office as arrangements of desks have been made to accommodate all staff to ensure staff separation where possible.

Bill 229 Changes Update

Phase 2 Regulations and Policy

On May 25, 2022 Conservation Ontario hosted a meeting of General Managers to review Phase 2 regulations and policies associated with the regulations. The province has stated that the purpose of these documents is to:

- Implement recent amendments to the CAA and build on the Phase 1 regulations.
- Improve CA governance, oversight, transparency, and accountability.
- Build on what is working well and provide flexibility at local level.
- Support a smooth transition by January 1, 2024 of CAs to the new funding framework and alignment with the three categories of programs and services

The Following Regulations and Policies have been enacted:

1. Reg. 402/22: Budget and Apportionment

- Details CA budget process and municipal apportionment methods for levying participating municipalities and includes revocation of the current regulations that govern municipal levies.

2. O. Reg. 401/22: Determination of Amounts Under Section 27.2 (2) of the Act (amounts owed by specified municipalities)

- Applies to CAs with both participating and specified municipalities for the purposes of apportioning Clean Water Act, 2006 (CWA) and Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008 (LSPA) operating expenses and capital costs.

3. Fee Classes Policy

- Published Minister's list of the classes of programs and services for which a CA may charge a fee

4. O. Reg. 399/22: Amendments to Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services Under Section 21.1.2 of the Act (O. Reg 687/21)

- Increases transparency regarding the use of user fees for category 3 programs and services (those that a CA determines are advisable to provide in its jurisdiction), where a cost apportioning agreement is in place.
- Revokes requirement to publish cost apportioning agreements on CA websites, which is now captured in O. Reg. 400/22.

5. O. Reg. 400/22: Information Requirements

- Increases transparency of CA operations by requiring the posting of prescribed information on a Governance section of a CA's website.
- Details the methods available to CAs to determine amounts owing by their specified municipalities for CA programs and services provided in respect of these Acts.

Submission of Inventory of Programs and Services

The province has undertaken a review of the Inventory of Programs and Services required by all Conservation Authorities by Feb 28, 2022. On May 2, 2022 the province hosted a webinar on their findings and recommendations. It must be noted that the province will not be approving the Inventory of Programs and Services. The important thing is that we respond to questions and concerns from our member municipalities as this forms an important part of the Agreements we are negotiating with municipal members for levy support. The webinar showed that the LTVCA Inventory requires limited revisions if any.

Planning Agreements with Member Municipalities

LTVCA staff continue to work with member municipalities to sign planning agreements as the first step in ensuring member municipalities support the programs of the LTVCA. One agreement has been signed, one has gone to council for final review and 3 are close to being finalized. We are continuing to work to a deadline of November 2022 for having all planning agreements in place. We recognize that this target may be difficult for some municipalities and will accommodate their needs.

Recommendation:

The C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer Report be received for information.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

Respectfully Submitted
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

10.2) Water Management

10.2.1) Flood Forecasting and Operations

Flood Messaging and Flood Events

There have been 7 flood messages issued since the last written report to the Board of Directors. One of these was a standing message issued for both Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie intended to cover the month of May. While the June standing message was issued by email on June 2, due to unforeseen circumstances it was posted to the website on June 8.

Four messages were issued for potential flooding events on the Great Lakes shorelines. All four messages were Flood Outlook messages issued for Lake Erie and along Erie Shore Drive in particular. The messages were issued April 13th and 20th, May 19th, and June 6th. During the April events, the wind rose up high enough that flooding could have occurred, but they did not last long enough to produce any significant flooding. During the May and June events, the winds never reached their predicted speeds and as a result there was not significant flooding.

There was also one Flood Outlook message related to potential flooding on our smaller local watercourses issued on June 6th. A Special Weather Statement had been issued calling for 25 to 50 mm of rain, with the potential for additional rain due to thunderstorms. Most of the watershed received around 20 to 30 mm, except the southwest which saw 10 to 15 mm, and the LTVCA portion of Middlesex County which saw 45 to 60 mm. At this time of the year, and considering the dry conditions leading up to this event, the 20 to 30 mm seen around the Chatham area was not enough to require operation of the McGregor Creek Diversion Channel.

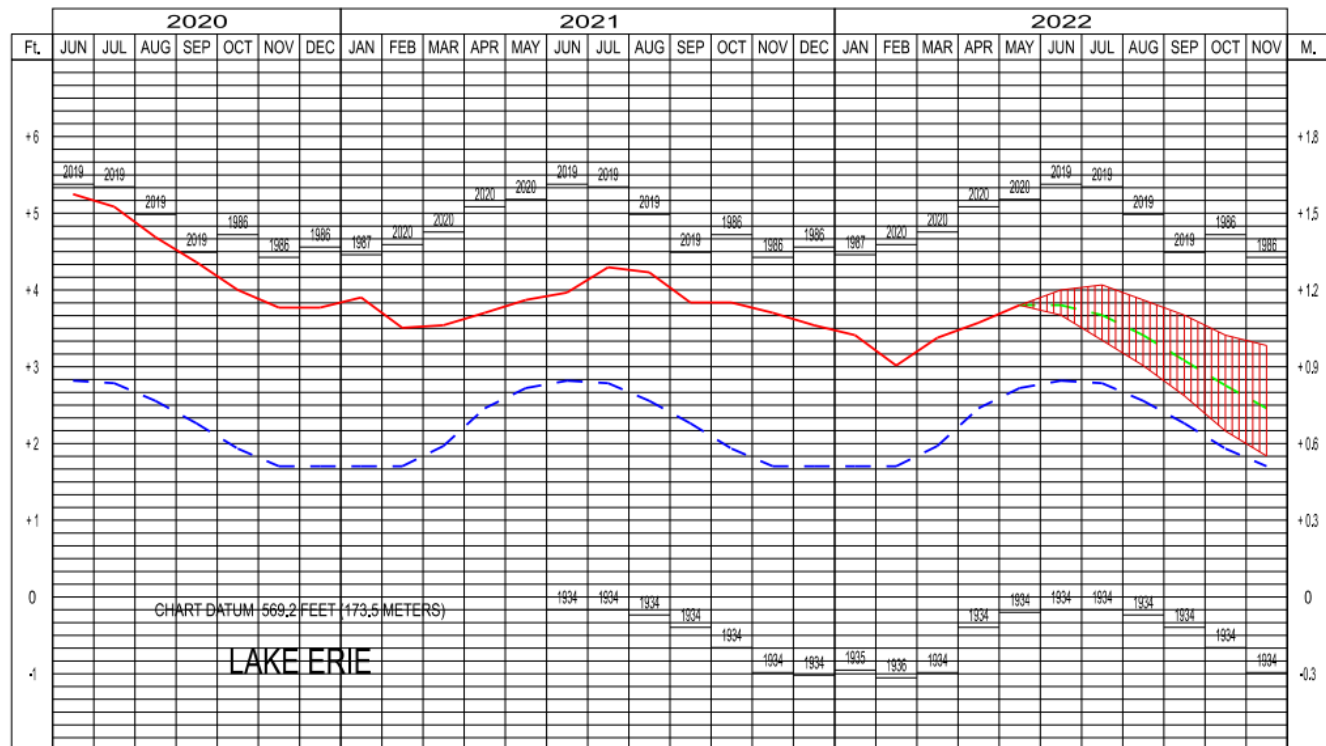
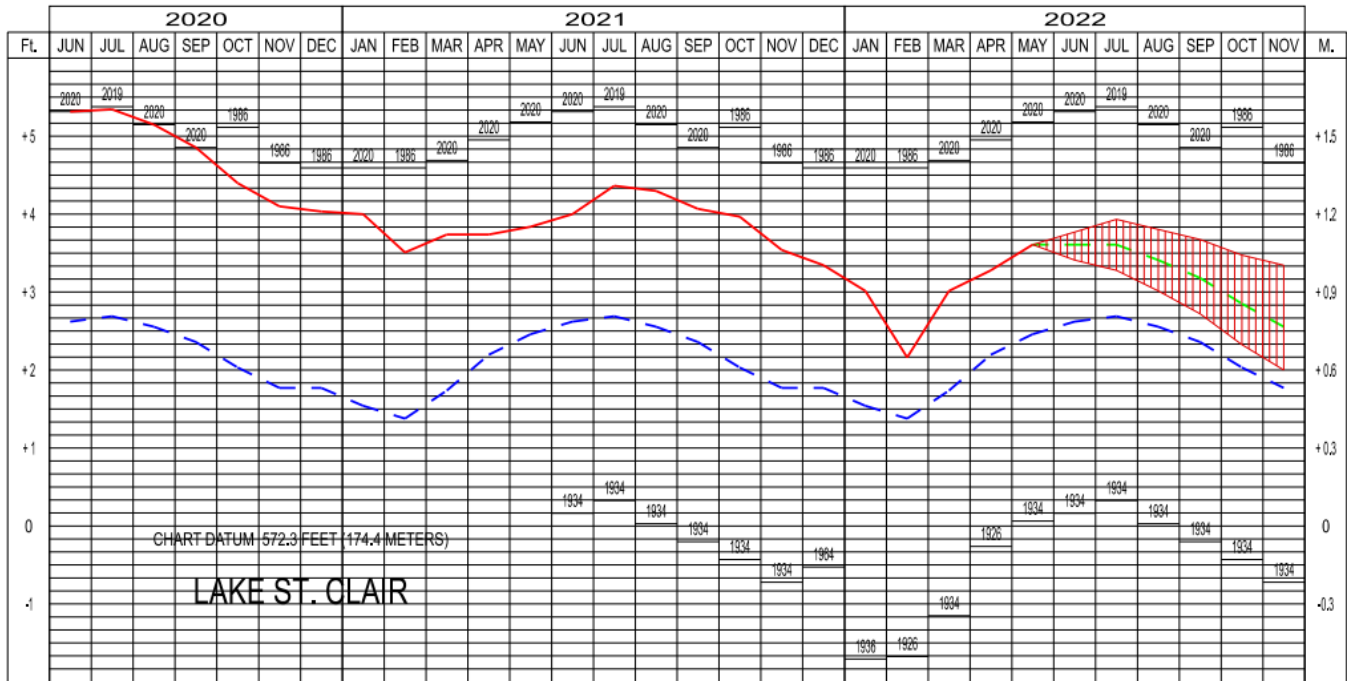
Report on Lake Conditions

Lake Erie's daily average water level on June 1st was 174.67 m (I.G.L.D.). Water levels at the beginning of June were down 47 cm from the record high June monthly average set in 2019. However, they were still 31 cm above what would be considered normal water levels for June. Water level forecasts suggest that water levels are near their seasonal peak and are not predicting any significant change by the beginning of July.

Lake St. Clair's daily average water level on June 1st was 175.51 m (I.G.L.D.). Water levels at the beginning of June were down 51 cm from the record high June monthly average set in 2020. However, they were still 31 cm above what would be considered normal water levels for June. Water level forecasts suggest that water levels are near their seasonal peak and are not predicting any significant change by the beginning of July.

Long range forecasts suggest that water levels are now trending more towards normal. Stronger wind events are now required to cause flooding along the Lake St. Clair shoreline and along most of Lake Erie. However, Erie Shore Drive still appears to be more vulnerable at lower wind speeds, likely due to near-shore down-cutting and shoreline damage.

The figures below are published by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and graph the monthly average water levels and water level forecast over the next 6 months. These versions were published at the beginning of June.



10.2.2) Flood Control Structures

There has been little activity surrounding the LTVCA's flood control structures over the last few months. It has been a relatively dry last few months so there have been no operations since the last report. Seasonal maintenance has continued for the flood control structures.

Over the last few months there have been a couple instances where it appears that people had been trespassing on the McGregor Creek Diversion Channel Dam. It appears that the people were turning the controls on the actuators attempting to operate the dam. However, the LTVCA keeps the power disconnected to the dam when not in use, so the dam can't actually be operated without trained LTVCA staff present.

10.2.3) Low Water Response Program

The Low Water Response Program is a provincial program largely administered by the Conservation Authorities. Within each Conservation Authority's jurisdiction, a Low Water Response Team, made up of provincial appointees and local stakeholders, is created to advise the province should a significant period of low water supply necessitate action by the province. The role of the Team is limited when there is not a Low Water Condition. During a Level 1 Condition the expectations are largely around communicating water conservation efforts. During a Level 2 Condition, there can be further communication around water conservation, as well as work in preparation for a Level 3 Condition when the province may need to act. Given that drought is largely a natural phenomenon, provincial actions are largely focused on restricting water usage through the MECP's Permit to Take Water program.

The Low Water Response Program looks at both precipitation and flow in local watercourses in determining whether there is a low water condition. For precipitation, both 18-month and 3-month rainfall totals are examined and the program thresholds are: Level 1, 80% of average; Level 2, 60% of average; and Level 3, 40% of average. For flows, the average flow over the last month is examined and the spring thresholds are: Level 1, lowest average summer flow (LASF); Level 2, 70% LASF; and Level 3, 50% LASF. During the growing season, LTVCA staff create a brief report for the Team summarizing conditions around the watershed, which is available to others by request.

Analysis conducted by LTVCA staff at the beginning of June suggests that the region would be in a Low Water Level 1 Condition based on a deficit of rainfall over the last 3 months. The total accumulated rainfall over the last 3 months has ranged from around 60% to 77% of normal, depending on the location within the watershed. The other indicators, 18-month rainfall and monthly stream flows, did not indicate a Low Water Condition. However, only one of the indicators is required to meet the threshold in order to declare a Low Water Level 1 Condition. As a result, once confirmation is obtained from the Low Water Response Committee, the Low Water Level 1 Condition will be declared. The recommended action under a Low Water Level 1 Condition is to use existing communication channels to seek a voluntary 10% reduction in water usage from the relevant water sources.

Further information on the Provincial Low Water Response Program can be found at <https://www.lioapplications.lrc.gov.on.ca/webapps/swmc/low-water-response/>

10.2.4) Watershed Monitoring

Watershed-wide, surface water quality monitoring continues at 22 sites throughout the watershed. The sampling was being conducted under two programs, the Provincial (Surface) Water Quality Monitoring Program (PWQMN) and a special grant under Canada-Ontario Agreement (COA) Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem.

Funding from the COA grant only ran through to March 31st and was in the queue for renewal until the provincial election put a halt to such approvals. Late approval of this grant after March 31st is typical for this program, and during the last election a similar situation occurred where approval wasn't obtained until after the election. In the past, the LTVCA has carried the expenses between March 31st and the date of approval with the COA grant allowing the LTVCA to claim expenses from March 31st to the date of approval. Now that the election is over, it is anticipated that the

agreement should be back in the queue to be approved shortly. In anticipation of future work related to the grant, the LTVCA is in the process of hiring a 12-month contract to assist with the program, anticipated to start at the beginning of July. Final reporting for the 2021 fiscal year is due at the end of June and is anticipated to be completed on time.

The species of benthic organisms present in a watercourse and their diversity can be used as an indicator of stream health. Such data is used for Watershed Report Cards and by partner agencies. The sampling of local watercourses for benthic invertebrates began on June 2nd this year and is being conducted by LTVCA staff. As of the writing of this report, 3 samples have already been collected and an additional 8 samples are anticipated to be collected over the next few weeks. Samples are preserved for later classification, which includes sample processing, species identification and counting. Prior to COVID, the benthic sampling program was being conducted in partnership with the University of Windsor. With the restriction of activities at the university over the last few years, the sampling has been conducted in-house with LTVCA staff. However, this has caused a backlog of samples that still need to be processed from the last few years. Now that the university is back to more normal operations, the Healthy Headwaters Lab at the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research at the University of Windsor will be working to process the backlog.

10.2.5) Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB)

Lake Erie Blooms

The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issues Western Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Early Season Projections in May and June leading up to their Seasonal Forecast at the end of June. The Early Season Projection from June 7th is included in this agenda.

The Seasonal Lake Erie HAB Forecast gives coastal managers and drinking water facility operators a general sense of how “bad” the upcoming bloom season has the potential to be. The seasonal forecast is an ensemble of models based largely upon phosphorus discharge from the Maumee River. This year the seasonal forecast will be issued at a public Webinar style event on June 30th hosted by Ohio Sea Grant. Those interested in registering can do so at <https://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/news/calendar/2022/06/30/lyq9i/habs-forecast-2022>

The reports align with the following objectives of the LTVCA’s Strategic Plan:

2. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
3. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship
4. Improve Capital Asset Review

Western Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Early Season Projection

07 June 2022, Projection 05



The Western Lake Erie HAB Early Season Projection gives an estimate of potential bloom severity based on measurements and forecasts of river discharge and phosphorus loads from now through July. The severity of the western Lake Erie cyanobacterial HAB depends on input of total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) from the Maumee River during March 1-July 31. TBP is the sum of dissolved phosphorus and the portion of particulate phosphorus available for HAB development.



With observations through June 5, we continue to expect a bloom that is likely less severe than 2021 (<6) with a maximum range ~6. If precipitation for the rest of the spring continues to match the early season forecast of near average rainfall, a smaller bloom, similar to 2020 (~3), is likely. While June and July are expected to have average rainfall, there is still large uncertainty in the size of rain events. Larger rain events may produce larger TBP loads, resulting in a CI severity closer to 2021 (~6). We will update the early season projection each week with new information, and will issue a comprehensive seasonal forecast on June 30th.

Blooms that do form will move with the wind and change over time; we will provide information on the presence and location of the bloom throughout the summer. The TBP loads are projected using Heidelberg University data and river forecasts from the National Weather Service Ohio River Forecast Center (through July).

R. Stumpf, J. Noel (NOAA), and L. Johnson (Heidelberg University) with assistance from E. Davenport, A. Hounshell, and M. Tomlinson (NOAA)

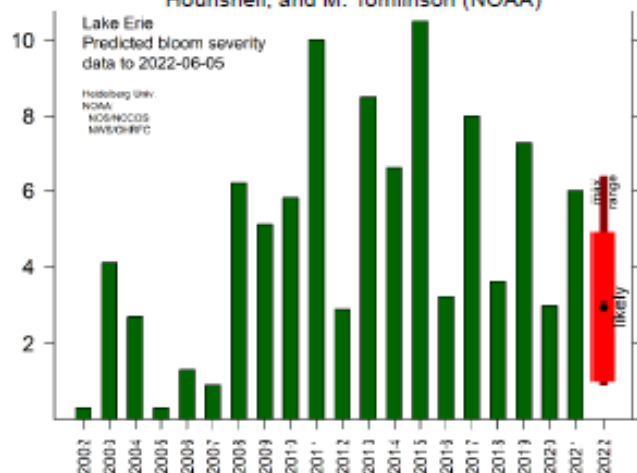


Figure 1. Projected bloom as compared to previous years. The wide, bright red bar is the likely range of severity based on limits of model uncertainty. The narrow, dark red bar is the potential range of severity. Because the forecast uses modeled discharge for two months, there is uncertainty in maximum bloom severity.

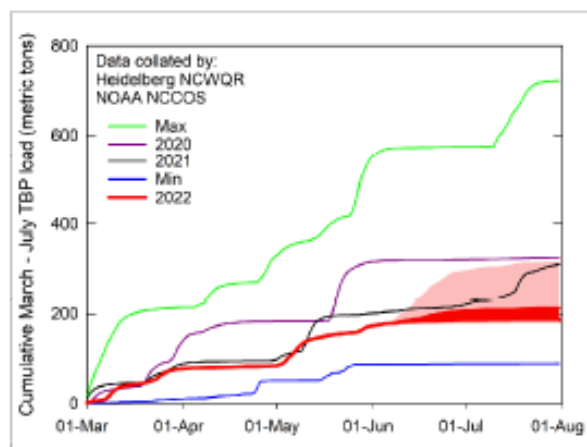


Figure 2. Cumulative total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) loads for the Maumee River (based on Waterville, OH). Each line denotes a different year. 2022 is in red: the solid line is the measured load to June 5; the red area shows the likely range for the remainder of the loading season; and the light red shows the possible range.

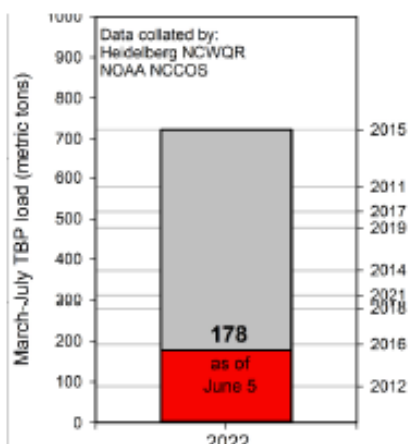


Figure 3. Total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) load accumulated from the Maumee River near Waterville, OH to date. The right axis denotes the TBP load from selected previous years. Loads to date are low.



Figure 4. True color image of Lake Erie on 4 June 2022 derived from the Copernicus Sentinel-3b satellite. Brighter water in the western Lake Erie basin is likely due to sediment from recent runoff or wind resuspension.

For more information visit: <http://www.ncwqr.org/> or <http://coastalscience.noaa.gov/research/habs/forecasting/>

10.3) Planning and Regulations

10.3.1) Planning

From the end of March 2022 through to the end of May 2022, there were 76 planning submissions reviewed by staff for this reporting season with respect to the Provincial Policy Statement, Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. On average it takes roughly 5 days to respond to submissions, ranging from same day response to 15 days for more involved planning submissions. There have also been 64 phone calls and over 96 email responses to inquiries that staff have responded to.

Planning Numbers	2019 Totals	2020 Totals	2021 Totals	Jan Totals	Feb Totals	March Totals	Apr Totals	May Totals	2022 Totals
Chatham-Kent	150	259	306	16	11	16	23	23	89
Elgin	76	67	79	5	4	4	8	7	28
Essex	16	46	36	4	1	1	2	6	14
Middlesex	48	35	54	4	1	5	3	4	17
Total Numbers	290	407	475	29	17	26	36	40	148

**OP, ZBL, OPA, ZBLA, Consents, Minor Variances, Plans of Subdivision, Legal Inquiries*

10.3.2) Bill 229 – - Municipal Planning MOU's

Staff will be presenting a Power Point presentation to West Elgin's council on June 9, 2022 for the WE / CA Planning MOU. A draft final MOU was sent to West Elgin on June 6, 2022 for a final review by the municipality.

CA staff have also been in discussions with Strathroy-Caradoc around the Draft MOU and it was determined that to best streamline the process that a joint SC / SCRCA / LTVCA MOU would be preferred. Staff reached out to SCRCA and they were agreeable to a joint MOU and a revised draft was sent to them for any additional input on the document. Staff will be following up on that progress.

We have also been in consultations with KCCA around a joint MOU with Southwold. KCCA still needs to add content on their fee schedule processes, but otherwise, had no further updates to the Draft MOU. Once we receive the updated content from KCCA, that draft MOU will be sent out to the Township planner and CAO.

The next municipalities to be contacted for this process are Middlesex Centre, Southwest Middlesex and Chatham-Kent. We are waiting on ERCA to get back to us on the draft MOU for Leamington and Lakeshore, as they are currently going through a fee review / update process.

10.3.3) Dock Policy

A resolution at the October 21, 2021 Board of Directors meeting, directed that staff undertake consultation with the public and the municipalities of Chatham-Kent and Lakeshore on the Draft Dock Policy. Staff sent the Draft Dock Policy to municipal departments in Chatham-Kent and Lakeshore in October of 2021, with a subsequent submission sent out in May 2022 to broader municipal departments. As no further feedback has been received by either municipality, staff will now post the Policy on our website for any public feedback on this document.

10.3.4) Section 28 Regulations / Permitting

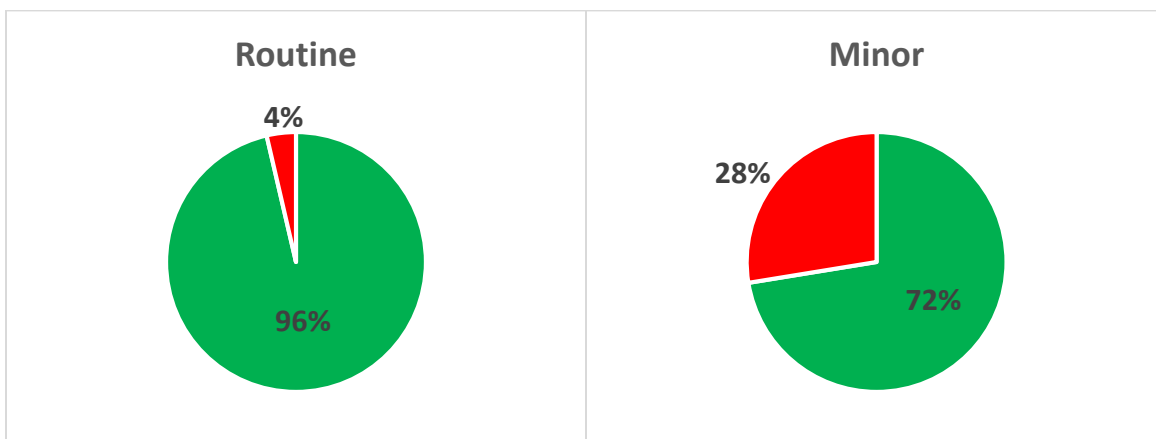
In the months of April and May, the LTVCA received 110 permit applications with respect to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. Of the 243 permit applications received in the first five months of 2022, all but 21 had been approved by staff. Three applications can't be approved by staff as they don't comply with board-approved policies and hearings in front of the Executive Committee have been requested (one is scheduled to be conducted on June 08, 2022 while the remaining two are yet to be scheduled). One application was cancelled by the applicant and the remaining 17 applications were in the queue to be reviewed by staff as of the end of May. Additionally, one application from 2021 has yet to receive a hearing decision from the Executive Committee (at the time of writing of this report).

The regulations program continues to experience a strong demand for resources. In an attempt to keep pace with the demand and to support the Regulations Technician, the Watershed Resource Planner and Water Resources Engineer continue to help with processing permits. The Planning Technician is providing support for the program by surveying for floodplain development applications. An Administrative Assistant for the Planning and Regulations program was hired in April 2022. Their training continues to provide support to the program. There is no foreseeable decline in service demand for the future of the program.

\$48,600 has been collected thus far this year (as of the end of May) in permit application and hearing fees.

10.3.5) Permit Processing Timelines

For applications issued since the last board report and up to the end of November, the charts and table below indicate that 96% of "routine" and 72% of "minor" permit applications met their applicable customer service standard for turnaround time. Permit turnaround times continue to lag behind the LTVCA's & Conservation Ontario's customer service standards.



Complexity of Application	# of Days to Review Permit Applications				
	0 - 14 Days	15 - 21 Days	21 - 28 Days	29 - 90 Days	> 90 Days
Routine	53	1	0	1	0
Minor	78	56	17	33	1
Major	3	0	0	0	0

For the months of April and May, the average turnaround time for a routine permit application was 1 day (ranged between 0 and 3 days). The customer service standard for routine permits is a turnaround within 14 days. The processing time for routine permit continues to meet customer service targets. This improvement is largely due to the Water Resources Engineer that was hired near the end of 2020 taking on the task of processing most of the applications identified as being routine in complexity.

For the months of April and May, the average turnaround time for a minor permit application was 18 days (ranged between 0 and 223 days). For private property minor complexity permits, the average turnaround time was 21 days. The customer service standard for minor complexity permits is a turnaround within 21 days. The processing time for minor permit applications is meeting the customer service targets.

Another required aspect of the Regulations program is the organization and handling of Hearings. It can take a significant amount of time to manage the applications up to the point a Hearing is deemed required and requested. Then, further time is required to prepare, arrange, and conduct the Hearings. There were four Hearings conducted in 2021 and two Hearings so far in 2022. There remains a 2021 application which requires a Hearing (planned for June 8, 2022) plus an additional three 2022 applications which requires a Hearing (two of which are scheduled for June 8, 2022; one yet to be scheduled).

10.3.6) Property Inquiries

Up to the end of May, 662 property inquiries (including permit pre-consultation questions) were received and responded to by the Regulations Program which is 280 more since the last board report. At the time of writing of this staff report, the current response time to property and pre-consultation inquiries is approximately 1-5 business days for e-mails and up to 5 business days for phone calls.

10.3.7) Section 28 Enforcement

In the first five months of 2022, fourteen complaints / tips were received from the public about possible Section 28 enforcement issues. Eleven out of fourteen issues are confirmed violations or potential violations of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 152/06. None of the issues have been resolved.

The reports align with the following objectives of the **LTVCA's Strategic Plan**:

2. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
3. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship

10.3.8) O. Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications

Staff Report

O.Reg. 152/06 Permit Applications
(Up to May 31, 2022)

B.D. 06/16/2022

App No.	Location	Community/ Township	Municipality	Decision	Processing Time (days)
2022 Permits					
031-2022	952 Hiawatha Beach Road	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 12, 2022	89
041-2022	18331 Kent Bridge Road	Morpeth	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 06, 2022	72
063-2022	20803 Cooks Road	Caradoc	Strathroy-Caradoc	Granted: Apr 05, 2022	50
079-2022	10 Creek Road	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 12, 2022	40
109-2022	River Line @ Scane Road	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	10
110-2022	10 Tracy Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	37
111-2022	36 Houston Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	37
112-2022	115 Towanda Boulevard	Erie Beach	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	11
113-2022	828 Duplessis Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	42
114-2022	23127 Kent Bridge Road	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	29
115-2022	6286 Talbot Trail	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May, 05, 2022	44
117-2022	59 Creek Road	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	29
118-2022	2 Jonathan Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	8
119-2022	4 Jonathan Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	8
120-2022	6 Jonathan Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	8
121-2022	8 Jonathan Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	8
122-2022	10 Jonathan Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	8
123-2022	12 Jonathan Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	8
125-2022	19085 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: Apr 27, 2022	33
127-2022	134 Tuscany Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 08, 2022	12
128-2022	22499 Gray Line, Site A1	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	27
129-2022	22499 Gray Line, Site L1	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	27
130-2022	91 Tecumseh Road	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	25
133-2022	122 Tuscany Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 08, 2022	9
134-2022	25060 Carroll Line	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	0
135-2022	22 O'Brien Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 01, 2022	0
136-2022	West/North Branch of the Smugglers Creek Drain	Tilbury North	Lakeshore	Granted: Apr 04, 2022	3
137-2022	17650 Morris Road	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Granted: Apr 04, 2022	0
138-2022	31 Tracy Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 08, 2022	4
139-2022	89 Gordon Street	Thamesville	Chatham-Kent	Granted Apr 28, 2022	24
140-2022	21527 Gray Line	Aldborough	West Elgin	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	17
141-2022	Thames River	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 13, 2022	5
142-2022	37 Kensington Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 28, 2022	23
143-2022	2 Tracy Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 13, 2022	2
144-2022	19100 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: Apr 28, 2022	17
145-2022	7067 Grande River Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 11, 2022	0
146-2022	Hill Road over Morpeth Drain No.1	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 20, 2022	9
147-2022	33537 Scotch Line	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: Apr 13, 2022	1

148-2022	53 Dundee Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 14, 2022	3
149-2022	15 O'Neil Street	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 14, 2022	19
150-2022	Rose Beach Line & South Marsh Creek	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: 09 May 2022	26
151-2022	22959 Zone Road 4	Zone	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 25, 2022	42
152-2022	511 Ladale Lane	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Granted Apr 28, 2021	14
153-2022	19095 Haven Avenue	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted Apr 28, 2022	17
154-2022	42 Stonegate Walk	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 14, 2022	0
155-2022	Between Country Road 46 & Middle Road South	Tibury west	Lakeshore	Granted: Apr 19, 2022	0
156-2022	888 County Road 37	Mersea	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: Apr 21, 2022	0
157-2022	105 King Street East	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 28, 2022	9
158-2022	768 Bloomfield Road	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	3
159-2022	219 Dornoch Street	Wardsville	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: Apr 22, 2022	0
160-2022	4 th Line near Wetland(42.73313-81.42315)	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
161-2022	4 th Line near Wetland(42.7371-81.417)	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
162-2022	4 th Line near Wetland(42.7377-81.4162)	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
163-2022	Houghton Road near Wetland(42.71049-81.37766)	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
164-2022	6 th Line near Wetland(42.72115-81.393)	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
165-2022	Iona Road - Between 1 st Line and Chalmers Line _Municipal Culvert(42.75018-81.4639)	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
166-2022	Iona Road - Between Chalmers Line and 2nd Line _Municipal Culvert(42.74722-81.4601)	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
167-2022	Iona Road - At Intersection of Aberdeen Line _Municipal Culvert(42.73904-81.44952)	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15

168-2022	Aberdeen Line _Municipal Culvert(42.73756-81.4514)	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
169-2022	Aberdeen Line _Municipal Culvert(42.7334-81.4575)	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
170-2022	Between 401 and 4 th Line_McIellan Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
171-2022	Between Old Railway Line and 6 th Line_Racz & Iona Station drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
172-2022	Iona Road - Between 6 th Line and Talbot Line_Racz Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
173-2022	1 st Line_Neil Turner Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
174-2022	1 st Line_Neil Turner Drain Branch	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
175-2022	Routh Road_Vancoten Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
176-2022	Routh Road_Howe Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
177-2022	2 nd Line_Smith Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
178-2022	2 nd Line_Natural Water Course Drain(42.75192,-81.4452)	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
179-2022	2 nd Line_McNaughton - Agar Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
180-2022	2 nd Line_McNaughton - Agar Drain Branch	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
181-2022	2 nd Line_Natural Water Course to Thames River	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
182-2022	2 nd Line_McIntosh Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
183-2022	Union Road between 401 and Third Line_Bogart Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
184-2022	3 rd Line_Baird Creek Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
185-2022	Magdala -Between 2 nd Line and 3 rd Line_Lewis Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
186-2022	2 nd Line_Hunt Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15

187-2022	4 th Line_McLellan Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
188-2022	6 th Line_A.D.Turner Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
189-2022	6 th Line_Firby Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
190-2022	6 th Line_Whalls Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
191-2022	6 th Line_Whalls Drain Branch	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
192-2022	Talbot Line_Keith Gordon Whalls Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
193-2022	Talbot Line_Natural Water Course(42.70569,-81.3777)	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
194-2022	Moore_Hamilton Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
195-2022	Talbot Line_Mccormick Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
196-2022	Talbot Line_Orchard Carroll Drain	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
197-2022	Talbot Line_Lodge Graham Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
198-2022	Homestead-Between Talbot Line and Walnut Road_Talbot Creek Casey Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
199-2022	Homestead-Between Talbot Line and Walnut Road_Talbot Creek Casey Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
200-2022	Talbot Line_Natural Water Course(42.67562,-81.40625)	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
201-2022	Talbot Line_Rivers Trojek Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
202-2022	Talbot Line_Gillory - Mcphail Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
203-2022	Talbot Line_East Galbraith Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
204-2022	Talbot Line_McFarlane Blue Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
205-2022	Talbot Line_Mckillop Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15
206-2022	Talbot Line - Between Houghton Road and Iona Road_Natural Water Course(42.70398,-81.3794)	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: 04 May, 2022	15

207-2022	Heron Line over Boyle Drain	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: Apr 28, 2022	7
208-2022	335 King Street West	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 26, 2022	31
209-2022	Springfield Rd 226 NW of Gentelman Dr.	Melbourn	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: Apr 28, 2022	3
210-2022	Government Drain No. 4	Romney	Chatham Kent	Granted: Apr 28, 2022	3
211-2022	O'Neil Eskritt Drain	Howard	Chatham-kent	Granted: Apr 28, 2023	3
212-2022	Borland Drain	Howard	Chatham-kent	Granted: Apr 28, 2024	4
213-2022	Massey Drain	Orford	Chatham-kent	Granted: Apr 28, 2025	5
216-2022	20300 Tecumseh Road	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Granted: Apr 27, 2022	2
217-2022	20960 Pier Road	Wheatley	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 25, 2022	26
218-2022	109 Tuscany Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 26, 2022	9
222-2022	24 Parkview Court	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 09, 2022	5
223-2022	817 Keil Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 26, 2022	223
224-2022	8574 Seventh Line East	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 05, 2022	0
225-2022	7014 Eighth Line	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 10, 2022	5
227-2022	Arnold Creek Drain	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 12, 2022	2
236-2022	2135 Lockwood Crescent	Mount Brydges	Strathroy-Caradoc	Granted: May 24, 2022	0
241-2022	25785 McMurphy Line	West Elgin	West Elgin	Granted: May 30, 2022	0
242-2022	33217 House Line	Port Stanley	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: May 30, 2022	0

10.4) Conservation Area Lands

10.4.1) Conservation Area Visitation / Camping Stats, April 1 - May 31, 2022

Longwoods Road Conservation Area – 3,263 people (2,724 Apr 1 – May 31 2021) (Includes two people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits – 462 vehicles (1,362 vehicles Apr 1 – May 31 2021)

E.M. Warwick Conservation Area – 670 people (0 April 1 – May 31 2021)

Big Bend Conservation Area – 277 people (0 April 1 – May 31 2021)

C.M. Wilson Conservation Area – 2,164 people (638 April 1 – May 31 2021) (Includes two people per pay & display permit (transaction) Pay and Display Permits – 140 vehicles (319 April 1 – May 31 2021)

Sharon Creek Conservation Area – 299 Day Use Transactions on MacKay Pay (438 April 1 – May 31 2021)

2022 Parking Passes – 99 sold (169 sold Apr 1 – May 31 2021)

10.4.2) Conservation Areas

Longwoods Road Conservation Area

Staff have been busy with events and bookings at this property, with weekend rentals, educational classes and lots of interest for future events. Staff are busy preparing for tenants of the “Burwell House” to vacate, while renovating the other “Livermore House”.

It is anticipated that our Stewardship Staff will move into the Burwell House this August, and by the end of July we will have a new tenant at the Livermore House.



The “Livermore House” is one of two houses at Longwoods Road CA. It still retains much of the original farm house charm, like the beautiful hardwood floors found under the old carpet.

Upgrades such as this, new carpeting, flooring and painting throughout-should help in drawing a higher monthly rent to the LTVCA.

The Electrical Safety Authority ESA has mandated that some hydro posts raised up on the Longwood Rd site. 3 quotes have been received and work is to commence within the upcoming month which will bring us back into compliance.

The Canada Revitalization Grant that was approved has begun, with a RFP being posted and reviewed by engineers. Plans are underway and LTVCA is set to start this exciting project this upcoming fall.

Our partnership with Oneida First Nation continues with new a hire starting June 13th.

E.M. Warwick

The extra time and resources spent at this property is starting to pay off with groups booked every weekend all summer long. A new addition this year is a bbq that is available for tenants to use.

Sharon Creek

Staff organized the second Friends of Sharon Creek meeting to be held June 8th. A good turn out occurred with participants expressing general interest in improving the property and assisting staff with the vision of how the Conservation Area is managed . Our current Mackay Pay Phone app at Sharon Creek is in the midst of changing to Passport Parking Canada. This new platform will be available general public to pay \$5/day to utilize parking at the property. The London Canoe Club continues to provide a presence and offer their own programming.

Big Bend

Seasonal campers are in, and the campground has opened for transient campers. New hydro was added to the storage barn to allow for two more seasonal sites.

Big "O"

After a two year break, staff hosted our 6th annual birding event in Comber on May 7th at 10 am. Area birder Paul Pratt guided public around this birding hot spot. The newly acquired 3 acres on the west side was planted in Tall Grass Prairie in 2021, and is now about to bloom. Staff cut in the new trail to access this adjacent area, and new signage will be installed shortly.



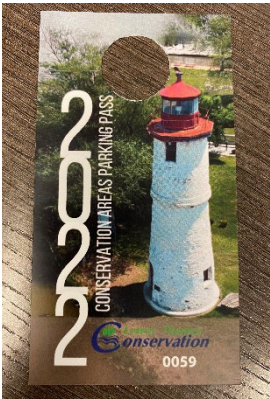
Staff released four wild birds at the Big "O" CA Birding event, including this Eastern Screech Owl.

C.M. Wilson

Seasonal campers are in and the campground was opened successfully. The well water tank was cleaned out, and 4 septic tanks were pumped.

2022 Guidebooks

Staff did a good job raising close to \$10,000, selling advertisements for our annual Guidebooks. Communications Staff did a nice job adjusting this years guidebook, that will promote all of our programs, properties and showcase all we have to offer. Funds raised will cover the costs of printing. The book should be ready soon to be distributed at local Tourism offices, campgrounds, municipal centres and our LTVCA offices.



2022 Guidebook cover will match the 2022 Parking Permits seen here

The reports align with the following objectives of the **LTVCA's Strategic Plan**:

2. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
3. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship

Stewardship & Restoration

THANK YOU! Retired Teachers of Ontario - District 33



519-354-7310
info@ltvca.ca
ltvca.ca

For your donation for 77 Carolinian trees, given away on April 29 to CK residents! Helping the reforestation efforts in Chatham-Kent!

Chatham hotel gets creative to help environment



*The 2.5-acre project involving the creation of a wetland surrounded by tree planting. July 14, 2020.
(Photo courtesy of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent).*

By [Paul Pedro](#) May 28, 2022 6:59am

The environment has a new and unusual ally when it comes to reforestation.

Retro Suites Hotel in downtown Chatham has partnered with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and ReLeaf Chatham-Kent to help preserve and create new natural habitats in the municipality.

Retro Suites it possible to plant more than 600 trees across Chatham-Kent during the last two years after embarking on a joint green initiative since 2020 encouraging their hotel guests to pass on room service during their stay.

This year, Retro Suites has donated larger trees to help kick off a fundraising effort to support both the Sydenham Field Naturalists and the Lower Thames and St. Clair Region Conservation Authorities. Native trees and shrubs will be auctioned off in the ReLeaf Chatham-Kent Facebook group for the next couple of weeks.

“Retro Suites Hotel recognizes the importance of awareness and the outstanding benefits that these native trees provide to our community along with the long-term benefits for our ecosystem.” said Retro Suites Spokesperson Miranda Sheffer. “Retro Suites Hotel thus encourages members of Chatham- Kent, as well as challenges other businesses to support LTVCA and ReLeaf CK through donations or tree planting.”

The overall target of the program is to engage the entire community to unify and rally together to improve the health of Chatham’s ecosystems.

10.5.1) General Update

In the western district

Before planting season could begin, a review of equipment needs was undertaken. The trailer for the planter needed to be re-wired for the lights to work, after which a tractor was rented from Furlan Bros. Farm to plant the western district sites. Conservation Services began the season's tree planting projects on May 6th, machine planting **300 memorial trees on the authority-owned Skakel site** near Thamesville.

In the eastern district, 4 projects were completed, totaling 10,700 trees. The first eastern site was planted on May 24th, and the last site was completed May 31st. Projects included:

- Haryett: planting 600 trees in a mix of cedar windbreaks and deciduous shade trees around pasture
- Rennison: converting 1.5 acres of old field to pine plantation, with 900 trees planted
- Richards: planting 4900 trees to extend natural cover around a vegetated ravine
- DeLeary: planting 4300 trees on a regenerating, out-of-production field with the Oneida Nation of the Thames; wetland creation in the low, wet areas of the site is pending

All planting is now complete, and all tree orders have been filled and given out. Rental of the cold-storage facility from Manitree Fruit Farm has been ended.

The hitch for the planting trailer used at the eastern district sites was damaged at our final location, and is currently undergoing repairs.

We are now looking forward to prairie seeding projects, wetland projects, and recruiting planting projects for 2023 during the summer months.

ALUS Middlesex

The field season is well underway for ALUS Middlesex, with new projects being established across the county. Working with farmers and community partners, **ALUS Middlesex was able to establish 87.5 acres of projects this spring and provide \$157,400 in funding to farmers** to help offset establishment costs.

Tree planting projects are all wrapped up for the year, with the focus now moving onto wetland creation and tall grass prairie seeding. Earlier this month, ALUS Middlesex was joined by the environmental education class from Strathroy District Collegiate Institute. Students volunteered to help plant riparian vegetation around a newly created wetland project. We look forward to seeing these pollinator plants and shrubs growing over the summer and beyond – thank you to all our student volunteers.



ALUS Elgin

The spring weather marked the beginning of the planting season. This month, ALUS Elgin saw great engagement and involvement from farmers throughout the County. Through strong partnerships and careful planning with **19 farmers and 7 local environmental organizations, ALUS Elgin has enrolled 118 acres of restoration projects.**

So far, our program has **provided \$120,100 for project establishment** to enable landowners to reach their stewardship goals and to protect local wildlife. Much of ALUS Elgin's funding was sourced from the generous support of the Weston Foundation; Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks; Ontario Trillium Foundation's Grow Grant; and Government of Canada.

Additional contributions from the Canadian Wildlife Federation supported ALUS Elgin to **establish 11 acres of pollinator habitat** projects in priority areas close to Lake Erie. A pollinator habitat is a landscape dominated by native wildflowers and grasses meant to support the survival of local butterflies, bees, birds and more. One of our first projects established this season was such a habitat. Sitting atop of the bluffs of Lake Erie, this project will serve as part of a network of feeding and stopover sites for pollinators, like the at-risk Monarch Butterfly, during their migration.



Fig 1. Shows the planting of a native wildflowers to establish a pollinator habitat on a Lake Erie bluff.

The growth of the program has required ALUS Elgin to grow its capacity by adding a full-time staff member. An Assistant Program Coordinator position was shared with partners and listed on the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority webpage on May 19th. Candidates will be interviewed over the month of June. This role will support the Program Coordinator in delivering and expanding the reach of the ALUS program.

ALUS Chatham-Kent Update

With planting season almost behind us, all the 2022 ALUS CK projects have been drill seeded and broadcast seeded for tallgrass prairie. **Total ALUS CK prairie acres 39.7.** ALUS CK tree plantings have been established. **Total ALUS CK tree acres 18.1.** Note that 4.6 of those acres were the projects from Jeff Sharp at St. Clair Region CA. (Lapp & Rabideau)

Extra funding has been secured through a Grasslands Stewardship Initiative grant submitted in early May. This funding is for an **18 acre tallgrass planting** along Neve Drain running into Rondeau Bay and will benefit species at risk and so ties into our SAR programming. ALUS has been successful in acquiring further funding for wetland related projects. These funds can be used to enlarge and enhance ALUS CK wetlands not only new projects.

Ducks Unlimited and Imagine McGregor

Alyssa Broeders started as the new Wetland and Urban Stewardship Technician at the end of April and has been making headway on several Imagine McGregor and DUC Projects.

This season began with a tree giveaway funded by the Retired Teachers Association, in which **70 large stock trees were handed out to the public**. There are several events coming up in June, including the **planting of a 500 plug pollinator garden at the Water Treatment Facility by volunteers from Enbridge**. Local high school classes are also being engaged in the program; 25 students from the environmental science class at UCC will be **planting 60 trees along Queens Line, and 80 students from UCC** will be removing invasive plants from the Maple Leaf Cemetery tallgrass prairie. Plantings at Lake Morningstar and Tecumseh Park are also in the works.

The **LTVCA has also partnered with Sons of Kent (SOK)** through the Imagine McGregor program; the CA will be the charity organization for the upcoming “Brewfest,” in exchange for the restoration of the McGregor Creek bank behind the brewery. This event is a partnership between the three major breweries in CK (Red Barn, Bayside, and SOK), and is sure to bring in ample funds and exposure for the Imagine McGregor program.

Habitat services signs are also being created through a partnership between the LTVCA, ReLeaf CK, and the Sydenham Field Naturalists. These signs are to be given out to certified wildlife-friendly urban gardens to help spread awareness of the importance of planting native.

10.5.2) Phosphorus Reduction Initiatives

LTVCA: Conservation Services Advertising Campaign

During the Spring of 2022, the LTVCA completed an integrated marketing campaign with the objective of raising awareness about LTVCA conservation services and programs. The ultimate goal of the campaign was to reach new landowners and stakeholders in the LTVCA watershed with the objective of increasing the implementation of stewardship projects. The campaign involved the following activities:

1. Print advertising in local newspapers including: the Ridgetown Independent, Blenheim Tribune, Tilbury Times, Chatham Daily News, Chatham This Week, West Elgin Chronicle, and Strathroy Dispatch.
2. Digital advertising campaign with Post Media, which targeted device users within the LTVCA geography with digital advertisements on brand safe websites and phone applications. This included a variety of applications and websites such as the Weather Network and Kijiji. In total the digital campaign resulted in 3,000,000 impressions and 1,894 clicks which directed users to the LTVCA grants and landowners webpage.
3. The LTVCA also drafted and released a sponsored content story with Post Media that highlighted two landowners experience completing restoration projects with the support of LTVCA conservation services. The sponsored story was geographically promoted via Post Media’s various social media outlets. The sponsored story can be found at the following link: <https://lfpres.com/sponsored/business-sponsored/lower-thames-valley-conservation-authority>.



This activity was funded by an Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Great Lakes Protection Initiative contribution agreement.

LTVCA: Soil Health Program 2022 – Budget Allocated!

The LTVCA launched the new 2022 Soil Health Program on April 13th. The objective of the program is to provide financial support to farmers who are planting cover crops to sequester carbon, improve soil health, and to reduce agriculturally sourced phosphorus loads. The program offers farmers \$15.00/acre to plant cover crops in the LTVCA watershed.

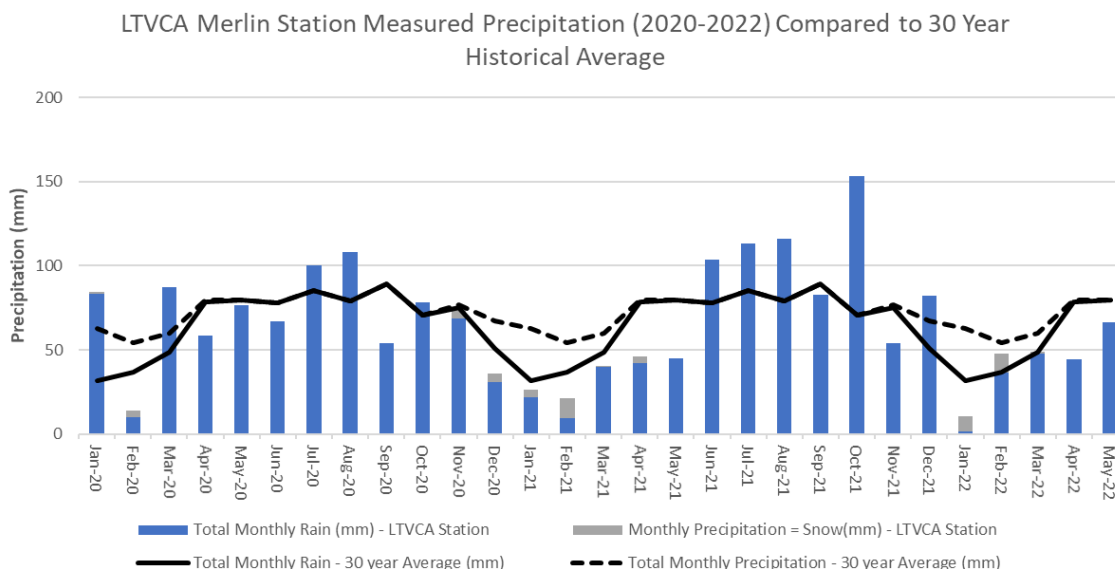


Since the launch, the LTVCA has observed significant demand for the program from regional agricultural businesses and organization. As of June 3rd, the \$140,000.00/year budget for plantings that will occur in the 2022 and 2023 growing seasons has been fully allotted to eligible projects. This investment could contribute to the planting of 9,300 acres of cover crops per year within the LTVCA jurisdiction. In total 72 farmer businesses were approved for funding contributions to offset the cost of planting cover crops. It should be noted that additional applications were received, however the LTVCA could not approve these projects based on budget limitations.

This project is undertaken with the financial support of the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund, a Government of Canada Department of Environment and Climate Change program, in partnership with Conservation Ontario. The LTVCA has been approved for \$423,000.00 in funding to administer the program from 2022-2024. The majority of the funding will be allocated to provide incentives to farm businesses to plant cover crops during 2022 and 2023. The LTVCA will also receive funds to offset the cost of administering the program.

On-Farm Applied Research & Monitoring (ONFARM) Program

From April to May of 2022, LTVCA project staff continued to collect water quality and quantity data in the Jeannettes Creek ONFARM study subwatershed. Approximately 111mm of precipitation was recorded at the Merlin edge of field sites during the period.



The relatively dry conditions observed during 2022 has significantly reduced the occurrence of flow events in the ONFARM Jeannettes Creek study subwatershed. From January-May the LTVCA has measured 218mm of precipitation at the Merlin Edge-of-Field research sites, this 118mm lower than the 30-year average for the region (336mm). As such, the LTVCA has only observed 2 significant flow events during 2022 in the subwatershed and to date no significant Spring flow events. All events that have occurred have been sampled and base flow sampling continued at all sites throughout

this period. The LTVCA collected both surface and subsurface tile drainage samples throughout the events at the edge of field research sites. Additional samples were collected at the stream, and pump station monitoring sites in the ONFARM study subwatershed.

To learn more about the LTVCA's involvement in this initiative, watch the below YouTube video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TON9EreMDXM>

This program is funded by the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year federal-provincial-territorial initiative. ONFARM was developed by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and delivered by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) with support from various organizations including Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, five Conservation Authorities and The Soil Resource Group. The current funding agreement for the program concludes during February of 2023.

10.5.3) Aquatic Species at Risk (SAR)

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters provided LTVCA staff with a free virtual Invasive Species training session on April 27. Donna Small has been hired as an Aquatic Biology Technician through the Canada Summer Jobs program and Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk. The SAR field crew is gearing up to redeploy temperature and light sensors in the lower Thames River at the same 10 locations monitored last year. It is hoped that annual monitoring of these sensors will document seasonal variations in these parameters that are critical to the survival of fish and mussel SAR in the river. This work will be followed with eDNA, fish seining and mussel survey work for SAR. A *Fishing in Rondeau Bay* flyer has been distributed to key locations in the Rondeau Bay watershed to show fisherfolk in the area how to identify SAR fish from similar-looking species. Final reports regarding Aquatic Species Surveys, HOB0 data logger results, Landowner Contact, Road Surveys and Habitat Restoration are being prepared for Fisheries and Oceans Canada.



Bioacoustic Monitoring of Bat and Bird Species at Risk

A year-one final report was submitted to Environment and Climate Change Canada outlining equipment purchased, a 2022 monitoring plan for Mosa Forest and financials associated with the first fiscal year of this project.

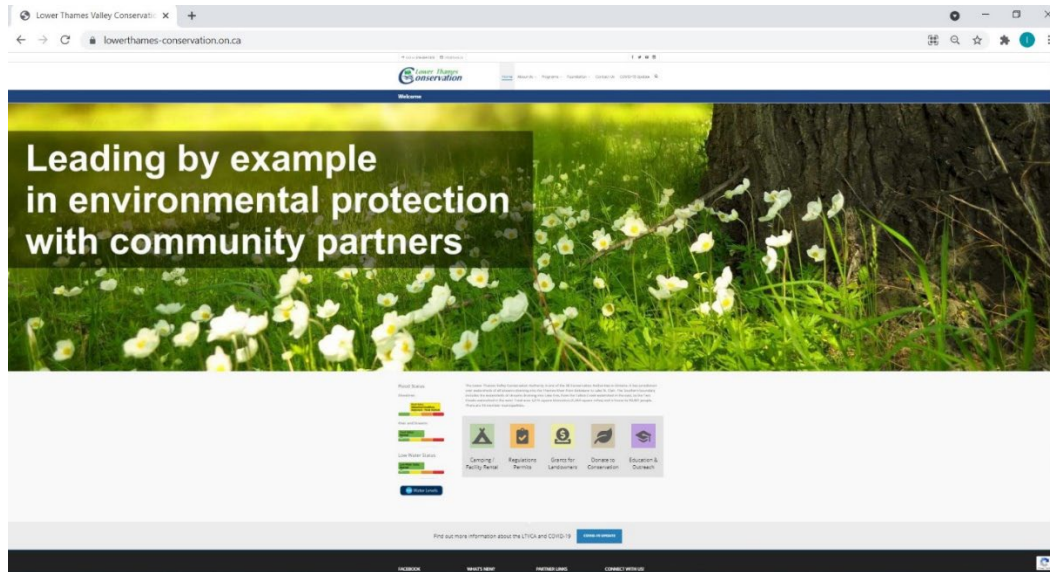


Justyna Van Poucke has been hired on an eight-week Canada Summer Jobs contract to assist with processing of sound recordings related to acoustic monitoring of birds and amphibians in Mosa Forest and Ashton Forest Conservation Areas and management of acoustic and ultrasonic detectors for birds and bats at these properties. Data downloads have now been conducted twice on the bat detectors and once on the acoustic detectors, with the latter to be downloaded and moved to different habitats imminently. Two rounds of Amphibian Call Counts have been completed to date. A contractor, Myotistar, will be initiating Ecological Land Classification of these properties this month to identify habitats and species present. Incidental observations of other wildlife species are being noted during field visits to the properties and eBird checklists are being submitted following each visit.

10.6) Communications, Outreach and Education

10.6.1) Website Updates

Ongoing are the postings of watershed and shoreline conditions, Minutes and Agendas of Board Reports, changes in fees, updates regarding programs and services of the LTVCA and virtual/onsite events and activities.



Our website alerts visitors of the current status of COVID-19 Pandemic health unit and government guidelines that affect our conservation area usage and our programs and services. During the pandemic the LTVCA website is updated to inform the public about the procedures we are using to respond to inquiries and requests to purchase items from the Conservation Authority. With the waning of the 6th COVID-19 wave and the lifting of restrictions, offices at Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority are returning to a more normal work environment. Staff are gradually returning to work from offices, and by June 8, 2022 we should be at our regular operations.

10.6.2) Social Media

Followers continue to increase on our social media platforms. Daily posts on LTVCA's social media platforms were issued following the April 12, 2022 meeting of the Board of Directors. (**Facebook** – 3,032 followers for an increase of 121 new followers; **Twitter** – 1,244 followers for an increase of 21 new followers; **Instagram** – 988 followers for an increase of 42 new followers, **YouTube** - 102 subscribers for an increase of 8 new subscribers.) Posts focus on the LTVCA's ongoing programs and services, and follow environmental issues across our watershed.

The **Ska-Nah-Doht Village's Facebook** page currently has 2,645 followers for an increase of 136 followers and 2,455 page likes. The **Instagram page for the Village** has 331 followers for an increase of 36 new followers.

Social media posts circulate daily to Directors of the LTVCA and Foundation, First Nations Communities, Municipal Councils/Clerks/CAO's, MP's and MPP's, Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee, all staff, Conservation Ontario, and watershed media (as needed).

We have reinforced the importance of all the COVID-19 protocols, removal of garbage and pet waste, and have encouraged visitors to support our conservation areas through payment of parking fees and the purchase of 2022 parking passes.

In addition to the daily departmental posts, there were posts and media releases created on our social media and website for other major events associated with the LTVCA over the past couple of months:

- Shoreline and Watershed Conditions Statements as needed
- Attention Notices: Conservation Area Service Disruption; Cautionary Messages; Hours, Cancellations
- Media Releases: Earth Day, Soil Health Program, Big O Birding Event, Educational Programming
- Friends of Sharon Creek Invitational Meeting
- Other Like Organizations Events: Conservation Oriented Webinars; Conferences; Forums
- Watershed Media Links to Conservation Subjects and Conditions in watershed/province
- Employment Opportunities with the LTVCA
- Special Event Postings: Twilight Tuesdays, Battle of Longwoods, Introduction to Birdwatching,
- LTVCA Rain Barrel Fundraiser
- Focus on Special Weeks/Days: Indigenous Cultures Day, Chatham-Kent & Lambton Children's Water Festival Donations, Earth Day
- Post re Turtle Nesting Season – Slow Down for Turtles Crossing

Departmental Social Media Post Messages – April 12 – June 3, 2022

- **Water Management Mondays**
 - *April 4 – Property in a Floodplain or Regulated Area?*
 - *April 11 – Standing Message for High Static Water Level on Lakes Erie and St. Clair*
 - *April 25 – Thank you to all for helping with Thames River Cleanup*
 - *May 2 – 2023 Watershed Report Card data underway*
 - *May 9 – Planning and Regulations Numbers*
 - *May 16 – Why Does LTVCA have Regulations?*
 - *May 20 – Lake Erie Harmful Algae Bloom*
 - *May 30 – Kick 'n Sweep – Benthic Sampling Underway*



- **Stewardship Tuesdays**
 - *April 5 – Bird Boxes Available – Bluebird, Wood Duck*
 - *April 12 – Free Tree Giveaway*
 - *April 19 – Free Trees Gone!*
 - *April 26 – Trees Have Arrived!*
 - *May 3 – Site Preparation Important*
 - *May 10 – Thank You Retired Teachers for Tree Donations*
 - *May 17 – We're Busy Tree Planting*
 - *May 24 – Forest Ontario Annual Spring Landowner Workshop*
 - *May 31 – We Still Have Some Trees Left*

Stewardship & Restoration

70 CAROLINIAN TREES TO GIVE-AWAY!

Sponsored by Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTOERO District 33)

**REGISTRATION
OPEN!**
(LINK ATTACHED)

LTVCA WATERSHED
RESIDENTS ONLY.



Lower Thames
Conservation 519-354-7310
info@ltvca.ca
ltvca.ca

- **Conservation Area Wednesdays**

- April 6 – *Battle of Longwoods Is Back!*
- April 13 – *Join Us for a Friends of Sharon Creek Meeting*
- April 20 – *Big 'O' Birding Event*
- May 4 – *Big 'O' Birding Event*
- May 12 – *Watch for Spring Maintenance Work Happening at Longwoods*
- May 18 – *Father's Day LTVCA 2022 Parking Pass Sales*
- May 25 – *LTVCA Conservation Areas 2022 Guidebook Launch*
- June 1 – *Big Bend Conservation Area – Seasonal Campsites Available*

Please join us at **BIG "O" Conservation Area**

FREE EVENT!

Guided hike by area birder:
Paul Pratt; live bird demo, tour
new tallgrass prairie area and
snacks provided!

**MAY 7
10 AM
7034 HIGHWAY 77
COMBER**






email: Randall.vanwagner@ltvca.ca to pre-register

Lower Thames
Conservation



- **Outreach and Education Thursdays**

- *April 7 – Visit Us at the Middlesex County Archives Heritage Fair*
- *April 14 – Battle of Longwoods Returns*
- *April 21 – Join Us for Longwoods ‘Spring Tidy’*
- *April 28 – Celebrating Volunteer Week*
- *May 5 – National Day of Awareness (MMIWG2S)*
- *May 12 – Looking for a Cool Summer Job?*
- *May 19 – Wild Always Means Wild*
- *May 26 – Join Us for an Introduction to Bird Watching*
- *June 2 – June is National Indigenous History Month*

Outreach & Education

Looking for a Cool Summer Job?!

3
positions at
Longwoods
available!

Apply now!

Lower Thames Observation
519-264-2420
info@ltvca.ca
ltvca.ca

Instilling inherent value for our natural & heritage resources.

- **Phosphorus / Water Quality Fridays**

- *April 1 – April is Earth Month Reflections*
- *April 8 – Ontario Bio Strip Tailgate Tour*
- *April 13 – Return of Our Soil Health Program*
- *April 22 – Reduce Phosphorus Runoff – Soil Health Program*
- *April 29 – Cover Crop Incentives*
- *May 6 – ONFARM Samples Collected from Jeannettes Creek*
- *May 13 – Living Lab – Growing Potatoes With Cover Crops – Presentation*
- *May 27 – Planting Season – Maintenance of our Research Sites Underway*
- *June 3 – Our Soil Health Program Funding is Fully Allocated – Thank You!*

Announcing:

The Soil Health Program 2022

A cover crop initiative

www.ltvca.ca

Lower Thames Observation

PLUS WE POST AND SHARE OTHERS' MESSAGES ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS:

- encourage people to use our conservation areas safely during the COVID-19 pandemic
- articles of public interest from local media regarding ecosystems and the environment, and local environmental issues (erosion, flooding, emergency preparedness, wetlands, grasslands, pollinators)
- watershed community based environmental initiatives including reposting municipal posts; sharing London Canoe Club posts (for Sharon Creek Conservation Area)
- cool facts about nature – local plants, birds, trees, animals and thing families can do with their children to engage with nature in their own back yards or in a conservation area during the pandemic – helping people to reconnect with nature
- supporting Conservation Ontario’s social media campaigns: *Healthy Hikes Week Long ‘Step Into Nature’ Campaign*
- sharing of neighbouring Conservation Authorities’ information – posts of interest
- sharing of municipal public health information – CK Public Health, London Middlesex Health, St. Thomas Elgin Health, Windsor

10.6.3) 2022 Conservation Area Guidebook

The 2022 Conservation Area Guidebook was compiled by communications and lands staff and posted on our website, and on all our conservation area webpages (<https://www.lowerthames-conservation.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/2022-LTVCA-Conservation-Areas-Guidebook-May-24-2022-web.pdf>) Hard copies will also be distributed at our conservation area events and campgrounds as well as at watershed libraries and tourist/visitor centres. 10,000 Guidebooks will be printed with costs offset by the generosity of local business sponsorships.

This 54 page booklet mirrors the information on the LTVCA’s conservation areas webpages as well as the information in Conservation Ontario’s Guidebook to Ontario’s Conservation Areas. The cover matches the 2022 Parking Pass.

The Guidebook has a chart listing all our Conservation Areas, and their facilities and features at the beginning (with page numbers), along with a gentle reminder of our area regulations. The maps of the conservation areas also illustrate a QR code. This code links a page to a corresponding webpage, ensuring the public has the most current news and information about that conservation area.

Land acknowledgement, a map of our watershed and note of our 10 member municipalities, messages from key municipal figures, ‘Did You Know’s, ways to purchase parking passes, special events, overviews of stewardship and agricultural programs, special thank yous, volunteer opportunities and ways to contact us are included, along with ways to connect with us on our 4 social media platforms.

The social media launch of the Guidebook was on May 25.

Day Use Conservation Areas

Big Bend
2500 Big Bend Rd, Mount Brydges
Big Bend Family, seasonal group
27799 Fargo Rd, Charing Cross
Big Bend (seasonal)
2525 Wynwick Line, West Lorne
Longwoods Board (group)
8348 Longwoods Rd, Mount Brydges

Camping

Big Bend Family, seasonal group
27799 Fargo Rd, Charing Cross
Big Bend (seasonal)
2525 Wynwick Line, West Lorne
Longwoods Board (group)
8348 Longwoods Rd, Mount Brydges

Facility Rentals

Big Bend (seasonal)
27799 Fargo Rd, Charing Cross
Big Bend (seasonal)
2525 Wynwick Line, West Lorne
Longwoods Board (seasonal)
8348 Longwoods Rd, Mount Brydges
Ten Creek (seasonal)
2548 Wynwick Rd, West Lorne

Contact Us

100 Thames Street
Chatham, Ontario

(519)-354-7310

www.ltvca.ca

Relax, Refresh, Return.

Explore LTVCA CONSERVATION AREAS

Lower Thames Conservation 2022

10.6.4) Wilson Pond Beaver Signage

In response to comments received on social media about beavers arriving at the C.M. Wilson Conservation Area pond and the cutting down of trees planted around the pond edge, it was recommended that interpretive signage be designed to help the public understand the nature of what was occurring. The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation funded the signage. LTVCA communications staff designed the sign below, which is being printed and will be installed near the pond.

Wilson Pond Beavers



American Beaver
Castor canadensis

- largest rodent in North America, chunky with oily, brown fur
- can weigh up to 37 kg, and be over 1 metre long
- flat, scaly tail, short arms and legs, short neck, beady eyes, and a broad head with short ears, and large orange teeth
- large, webbed hind feet used for swimming
- smaller front paws, not webbed and with long claws for digging



In summer, beavers eat aquatic vegetation, grasses, herbs, and fruit. In winter, they eat the food storage accumulated the previous fall. This winter 'cache' of trees is in deep water close to their lodge, providing bark and cambium for them to eat. Their favourite trees are aspen, poplar, willow, alder and birch.

A Little Pond History...

This pond at the C.M. Wilson Conservation Area was created when the nearby 401 highway was built in the early 1960's - the land was extracted for the coverleaf and a 'borrow pit' remained. The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority acquired this 30 hectare property in 1967, and began the process of naturalizing the site as a conservation area. Gradually the 'pit' filled with water from underground springs. Over the years that followed, the pond was stocked with fish, and aquatic plants and animals discovered this new habitat! Reptiles like turtles and snakes, and amphibians such as Frogs and toads made the pond their home. Water plants like cattails, pondweed and lily pads took root. Trees were planted along the shoreline beginning in the late 1990's.

50 years since the beginning of this naturalization, beavers have made their way to Wilson Pond, found it a suitable habitat, and adopted it as their new home!



Beavers produce "lodges" made of mud and sticks and use them for dens. They make this mound of mud and sticks in their aquatic habitat, then chew an underwater tunnel and hollow out a den in the centre. Lodges are strategically placed away from the shore, in calm water. These lodges/dens are critical for breeding.



A beaver is monogamous, keeping a single mate for life. The female finds a home and is the central figure in a beaver family. Beavers mate mid winter with a 4 month gestation. A single litter of 4 kits (baby beavers) are born May/June and are furred, have functioning teeth, open eyes, and can walk and swim. Kits leave the lodge after 1 month. Young of beavers stay with parents for 2-3 years.

Fun Facts

- when threatened, a beaver will slap its tail in the water to communicate an alarm to their family
- beaver teeth continue to grow throughout their lives
- valves close their ears and nostrils when they are under water
- beavers alter habitat to their preference by making dams, cutting forests, and flooding small bodies of water





Lower Thames
Conservation
www.ltvca.ca



Visit 'Wildlife in Ontario' for more facts about
← Beavers

10.6.5) Weekend Visitor Services Staff Hired at the Resource Centre/Museum

Mark Bakelaar has been hired to work weekends and statutory holidays until Thanksgiving Monday. Mark will greet visitors to the museum and offer assistance and direction to them as they find their way to the features and facilities at Longwoods Road Conservation Area. This will ensure the building is consistently open weekends and statutory holidays during the busier months, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m..

10.6.6) Events Held at Longwoods

- Longwoods Spring Tidy - April 23
- Battle of Longwoods April 30 - May 1



10.6.7) Media Releases Issued Since April 21, 2022

- Launch of Soil Health Program
- Earth Day
- Battle of Longwoods Event
- Big O Birding Event
- Field Trips Running Full Steam Ahead

10.6.8) Education Programming Developments / Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum

Between Easter Weekend and the end of the school year in June, LTVCA Education staff will provide education programs to between 2,200 and 2,300 people (students, youth, and adult community groups). The majority of programming will take place between May 10 and June 28, 2022.

Over the past 2 months Educators have partnered with the teams at Nshwaasnangong Child Care & Family Centre and Middlesex EarlyON to provide programming for young children, and in some cases their families. These opportunities are being used to build relationships so we can partner together for further programming and events in the future.

Asynchronous programs have been booked by 10 classes, many of who have requested access to multiple resources. As of May 30, 2022, 551 non-unique youth will have been able to make use of our free virtual program offerings in 2022.

Event and workshop opportunities have begun for the 2022 season. The **Battle of Longwoods** took place on April 30 and May 1, 2022 and saw 1,191 return for our first large event since reopening to the public—over that weekend approximately 400 people came into the museum itself! (Stats for Battle of Longwoods - paid 666, free 315, re-enactors 150, scouts camping 60).

The following is a confirmed list of events and workshops for the 2022 summer season:

- Intro to Bird Watching, June 15
- Artifact Day, July 10
- Twilight Tuesdays, July 12 – August 23
- Forest Therapy Walks, July 28, August 28, October 29

Further programming opportunities throughout the LTVCA watershed are planned for the remainder of the year.

At this time, the museum is generally open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays as well, given staff availability.

Three youth positions will be joining the Communications, Outreach, and Education Department for 8 weeks each over the summer months to support programming, interpretation, and event delivery. Funding is through a Canada Summer Jobs grant.

10.6.9) Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation (LTVCF) is a not-for-profit, federally registered charity, governed by a volunteer Board of six Directors. The Executive – President Dan McKillop, Vice-president Ken Brooks and Secretary-Treasurer Don Pearson have been re-elected for 2022 at their AGM on May 18, 2022.

The LTVCF works in partnership with the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, to raise funds towards the wise management of our renewable natural resources. Since 1995, the Foundation has raised approximately \$1M for natural and cultural heritage conservation.

A committee has been formed to develop a fund-raising strategy for the Indigenous Education Centre addition.

Next meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors is June 15, 2022.



The reports align with the following objectives of the **LTVCA's Strategic Plan**:

4. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
5. Increase the Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship

10.7) Executive Committee Minutes February 9, 2022

LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022

A meeting of the Conservation Authority's Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 remotely via the Authority's Administration Building at 100 Thames Street, Chatham, Ontario at the hour of 10:00 AM. A roll call was held with the following committee members present: T. Thompson, L. McKinlay, C. Cowell, P. Tiessen & R. Leatham.

Also present were the following staff members: M. Peacock, J. Homewood & V. Towsley (minutes recorder).

1. Call to Order

Chair, Trevor Thompson called the meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 10:00 AM.

2. First Nations Acknowledgement

M. Peacock provided the reading of the First Nations Acknowledgement. Of particular importance on this day to recognize the Truth and Reconciliation for First Nations.

We will begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of First Nations people who have longstanding relationships to the land, water and region of southwestern Ontario. We also acknowledge the local lower Thames River watershed communities of this area which include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, Munsee Delaware Nation, Delaware Nation, and Caldwell Nation. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America). We are thankful for the opportunity to live, learn and share with mutual respect and appreciation.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

E-2022-01 L. McKinlay – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – September 30, 2021

E-2022-02 C. Cowell – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Executive Committee meeting minutes of September 30, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED

6. New Business

Motion to sit as a Hearing Board

E-2022-03 L. McKinlay – R. Leatham

Moved that the Executive Committee sit as the Authority's Hearing Board.

CARRIED

a. **Hearing #1 – LTVCA AppNo: #580-2021 – 866 Hiawatha Beach Road, Chatham-Kent**

The Chair introduced the Hearing Board members and the CAO to the applicant. The applicant was in attendance via remote access for the hearing. Jason Homewood, Water Resources and Regulations Technician provided the Hearing Board with the staff report which was previously provided to the applicant and to the Executive Committee. A power point presentation was also given regarding this application as it relates to the Lake Erie shoreline and the CA Regulations. The applicant was provided an opportunity to be heard.

The Hearing Board had questions for staff and the applicant regarding the proposal.

The Chair requested that the applicants, Jason Homewood, and Valerie Towsley leave the meeting in order that the Hearing Board could meet in camera.

E-2022-04 R. Leatham – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Hearing Board meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

E-2022-05 R. Leatham – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Hearing Board move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

Resolution Number E-2022-06

The Chair advised the Committee that LTVCA staff will provide the applicant the Hearing Board's decision at a later date.

E-2022-07 R. Leatham – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Hearing Board sit as the Executive Committee.

CARRIED

E-2022-08 L. McKinlay – C. Cowell

Moved that the Executive Committee sit as the Authority's Hearing Board.

CARRIED

b. Hearing #2 – LTVCA AppNo: #617-2021 – 1312 Bluff Line, Chatham-Kent

The Chair introduced the Hearing Board members and the CAO to the applicant and her consultant. The applicant, and her engineer were in attendance via remote access for the hearing. Jason Homewood, Water Resources and Regulations Technician provided the Hearing Board with the staff report which was previously provided to the applicant and to the Executive Committee. A power point presentation was also given regarding this application as it relates to the Lake Erie shoreline and the CA Regulations. The applicant and her consultant were provided an opportunity to be heard and provided the Hearing Committee with a power point presentation.

The Hearing Board had questions for staff and the applicant regarding the proposal.

The applicant had further questions of the Hearing Committee on the regulations as it would relate to the proposal as submitted for approval.

The Chair requested that the applicant, her consultant, Jason Homewood, and Valerie Towsley leave the meeting in order that the Hearing Board could meet in camera.

E-2022-09 C. Cowell – L. McKinlay

Moved that the Hearing Board meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

E-2022-10 C. Cowell – L. McKinlay

Moved that the Hearing Board move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

Resolution Number E-2022-11

The Chair advised the Committee that LTVCA staff will provide the applicant the Hearing Board's decision at a later date.

E-2022-12 R. Leatham – P. Tiessen

Moved that the Hearing Board sit as the Executive Committee.

CARRIED

7. Other Business

None noted.

8. Adjournment

E-2022-13 C. Cowell – L. McKinlay
Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED



Trevor Thompson
Chair



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

10.8) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Meeting Minutes – April 7, 2022

WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the regular meeting held on April 7th 2022 at Two Creeks

Attendance: Gerry Soulliere, Mike Diesbourg, Pauline Sample, Bruce & Marj Jackson, Rick & Forest Taves, Mark Peacock, Randall VanWagner, Vicki Haley, Lorna Bell, Bob Roth, Ken Hatt, Joe Pinsonneault.

Agenda: Moved by Lee Pearce, sec. by Mike Diesbourg agenda be accepted as outlined (Carried)

Minutes: Moved by Phil Humphries, sec. by Roger Dundas minutes be accepted as read (Carried)

Memorial Groves: Anyone can make a donation to Two Creeks by going on our website and scanning the QR code. The Car Barn will be parking its Food Truck at Two Creeks this season for a few days each week. He will make a donation to us of up to 500.00 a month depending on business. He will need a small amount of room for storage and will also need an electrical outlet which will be installed in the small pavillion.

Prop. & Equip.: The portable toilets will be delivered May 1. The large pavillion has been rented for a shower. Chatham Kent has cut some pines in different areas to allow for regeneration. Ron Haleys memorial bench will be installed soon, it will be bolted on to some large patio stones. Will need some gravel delivered for the driveway and parking areas. LTVCA has an unused 30' tri axle bridge that they will deliver to go on the Willow trail culvert.

Concerts: All the concerts have been booked, Brian Cobby will again be in charge of sound. Bradts will have their refreshment truck available on concert Sunday's. They will also need a small amount of storage.

Financial Report: Submitted by Roger: Account Balance as of March 1 was \$39,101.65. Account Balance as of March 31 was \$43,495.04. Moved by Joe Pinsonneault, sec. by Lee Pearce financial report be accepted as given. (Carried)

Correspondence: None

Old Business:None

New Business: Rick suggested that we should somehow recognize the passing of Roger Beaupre who was one of our past treasurers.

Adjournment:Roger moved for adjounment at 6:52 pm

Phil Humphries, secretary.

10.9) Wheatley Two Creeks Association Meeting Minutes – May 5, 2022

WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of regular meeting held on May 5th 2022 at Two Creeks

Attendance: Gerry Soulliere, Bob & Jan Roth, Lee & Linda Pearce, Roger Dundas, Pauline Sample, Ken Hatt, Rick & Forest Taves, Vicki Haley, Joe Pinsonneault, Bruce & Marj Jackson, Lorna Bell.

Agenda: Moved by Lee Pearce, sec. by Joe Pinsonneault agenda be accepted as outlined.(Carried)

Minutes: Moved by Phil Humphries, sec. by Roger Dundas minutes be accepted as read. (Carried)

Memorial Groves : There are some trees that need to be removed near the Hike metal bridge. There is a Kentucky Coffee tree available to be planted in the Groves. In the April Minutes it was mistakenly stated that there is a QR code available on our website, it is not available at this time. Also the Car Barn food truck deal has not been finalized.

Prop. & Equip. : A load of gravel was delivered for the road and parking lots. The new sign put by the L.T.V.C.A. needs to be painted. The grass needs to be cut, especially in the Groves. New flags need to be bought and put on the poles.

Concerts: Volunteers will be needed for parking control and collection at all of our concerts. The lights over the stage and the pavillion need to be installed. The Scouts will again be at all of our concerts. Bradt's will be taking on all responsibility for serving alcohol at Two Creeks.The Lion's will be selling tickets.

Financial Report: Submitted by Roger. Account Balance as of March 31 was \$43,495.04. Account Balance as of April 30 was \$51,719.93. Moved by Rick Taves, sec. by Phil Financial report be accepted as given. (Carried)

Correspondence: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Adjournment: Linda Pearce moved for adjournment at 6: 55 pm.

Phil Humphries, secretary.

11. Correspondence

None

12. In Camera Session

12.1 A matter addressing one of the following:

- a) The security of the property of the Authority;
- b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including employees of the Authority;
- c) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Authority;
- d) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- e) Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals (e.g. Local Planning Appeal Tribunal), affecting the Authority;
- f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege;
- g) A matter in respect of which the General Membership, Executive Committee, Advisory Board or committee or other body may hold a closed meeting under another act;
- h) Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the Authority by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- i) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the Authority, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- j) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the Authority and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Authority.

Moved that the Board of Directors meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

Moved that the Board of Directors move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

13. Other Business

14. Adjournment
