



- Each nominee will be allowed to speak in support of his/her nomination with a time limit of 5 minutes;
- A vote will be held by secret ballot and no member may vote by proxy;

Neil asked if there were any questions, and hearing none, declared all offices vacant.

## 2. Election of Officers

### 2.1. Appoint Scrutineers

**BD12,2734**                      **MOVED BY: Susan Fielding**  
**SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

**THAT, if more than one person is nominated, Scott Peck and Matt Hall be appointed scrutineers; and further**

**THAT all voting ballots (AGM Election Procedure) be destroyed after the meeting is concluded.**

**CARRIED**

### 2.2. Election of 2020 Chair

Neil McDougall called for nominations for the 2020 Chair for the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

**Nominated: Lloyd Ferguson**

**By – Mover: Tom Jackson**

Neil called for nominations twice more. Having no further nominations, the office of Authority Chair for 2020 was declared closed with the following resolution.

**BD12,2735**                      **MOVED BY: Esther Pauls**  
**SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

**THAT nominations for the 2020 Chair of the Hamilton Conservation Authority be closed.**

**CARRIED**

Neil asked Lloyd Ferguson if he would serve. Lloyd Ferguson indicated he would. Neil declared Lloyd Ferguson Chair of the Board of Directors by acclamation.

**BD12,2736**                      **MOVED BY: Jim Cimba**



Neil McDougall called for nominations for the 2020 Chair for the Conservation Advisory Board.

**Nominated: Maria Topalovic**

**By – Mover: Santina Moccio**

Neil called for nominations a second and third time. Having no further nominations, Neil declared the office of Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board for 2020 closed with the following resolution:

**BD12,2739            MOVED BY: Susan Fielding  
                              SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

**THAT nominations for the 2020 Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board be closed.**

**CARRIED**

Neil asked Maria Topalovic if she would accept the nomination. Maria accepted the nomination. Neil declared Maria as Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board by acclamation.

**BD12,2740            MOVED BY:            Cynthia Janzen  
                              SECONDED BY:        Santina Moccio**

**THAT Maria Topalovic be confirmed as Chair of the Conservation Advisory Board 2020.**

**CARRIED**

#### 2.5. Board Representatives to Budget & Administration Committee

Neil McDougall circulated sign up sheets and asked the members if they were interested in sitting on the Budget & Administration Committee and/or the Conservation Advisory Board to declare such by signing their name to the appropriate sign-up sheet.

Neil advised that the Budget & Administration Committee consists of five (5) Board of Director members; the Chair, Vice Chair, and up to three (3) additional directors may join the Chair and Vice-Chair as sitting members of B&A.

Following a review of the sign-up sheet Neil McDougall announced that in addition to the Chair of B&A, Santina Moccio, we have board members Dan Bowman, Jim

Cimba and Maria Topalovic that are interested in sitting on the Budget & Administration Committee.

**BD12,2741**

**MOVED BY: Tom Jackson  
SECONDED BY: Brad Clark**

**THAT Dan Bowman, Jim Cimba, and Maria Topalovic be confirmed as members of the Budget & Administration Committee for 2020.**

**CARRIED**

### 2.6. Board Representatives to Conservation Advisory Board

Neil McDougall explained that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors are ex-officio to the Conservation Advisory Board and up to two additional directors may join the newly elected CAB Chair as sitting members of CAB.

Neil McDougall announced that in addition to the Chair of CAB, Maria Topalovic, we have board members Dan Bowman and Cynthia Janzen that are interested in sitting on the Conservation Advisory Board.

**BD12,2742**

**MOVED BY: Tom Jackson  
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls**

**THAT Dan Bowman and Cynthia Janzen be confirmed as members of the Conservation Advisory Board for 2020.**

**CARRIED**

### **3. Call to Order for Normal Course of Business**

Lloyd Ferguson thanked the members for their confidence in him in re-electing him as Chair. He also expressed his appreciation and admiration for staff. He highlighted the passage of HCA's strategic plan, key initiatives from 2019, and priorities for 2020 including parking improvements, visitor management, construction of cabins at Valens Lake Conservation Area and continued development of the Saltfleet Conservation Area and associated wetlands.

He also recalled his and senior staff's meeting with MECP staff where they reviewed HCA's programs and services and confirmed that HCA can continue to self generate revenue at its conservation areas, with municipal support. He noted that additional consultation is taking place and that final regulations and changes to the Conservation Authorities Act are anticipated to be released in 2020.

#### 4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were none.

#### 5. Approval of Agenda

The Chair advised that six additional items of correspondence regarding the proposed Enbridge Gas Inc. pipeline were received prior to the meeting and will be added as items 7.12 to 7.17 on the agenda. Each member was provided with copies of the correspondence.

Item 12.6, Tender for Lawn Mower Equipment, was removed from the agenda at the request of staff. Lisa Burnside indicated that some questions had arisen regarding the specifications in the tender and that staff would like to test different models in our conservation areas this summer before moving forward with a bulk model purchase.

**BD12,2743**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

**THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.**

**CARRIED**

#### 6. Delegations

##### 6.1. Proposed Enbridge Gas Pipeline – Don McLean, Hamilton 350 Committee

Don McLean from Hamilton 350 Committee presented a summary of the proposed pipeline expansion by Enbridge Gas Inc. from the Kirkwall Valve to Hamilton Valve sites, in Flamborough. He explained that an easement to widen an existing easement will be required from landowners along the proposed pipeline, including HCA. He discussed the methodology for installing the pipeline and the potential environmental impacts of the methods. Hamilton 350 has significant concerns with the continued use of fossil fuels and building new pipelines as they relate to climate change and proposed that HCA should not support the proposed construction or easement.

Mr. McLean advised that the proposed pipeline requires an additional 16 metres of easement width to an existing easement for spacing requirements. He also calculated that 2.089 ha of additional lands would be required from HCA for a temporary construction access easement, in addition to 2.064 ha for the permanent easement. He noted that the expanded easement passes through a significant groundwater aquifer as per local source water protection reports.

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) released a procedural order on January 30, 2020 regarding the application by Enbridge Gas Inc. to construct the natural gas pipeline and request for review of the Integrated Resource Plan Proposal, due to the number of requests received for intervenor status and the numerous comments from citizens and citizen groups and organizations. The OEB is requesting written submissions on a Draft Issues List for the project and whether the scope of the Leave to Construct proceeding should include: impacts related to the methods of upstream natural gas extraction (such as hydraulic fracturing) for natural gas that will be transported through the pipeline and impacts related to the ultimate downstream consumption of the natural gas transported through the pipeline.

Mr. McLean suggested that action by HCA was needed. He suggested HCA consult its members, donors and public at large for input. He also suggested HCA send a letter to the OEB by the deadline outlined in the procedural order requesting an oral hearing on the application.

Brad Clark requested further information regarding the suggestion that HCA could request an oral hearing. Mr. McLean advised that in written hearings, questions are posed back and forth in writing and the OEB bases its decision on the written submissions. Oral hearings are public processes where questions are posed back and forth. Questions are limited to those that are intervenors.

Brad Clark also sought Mr. McLean's thoughts regarding how HCA may participate in the process with its limited scope and mandate. Mr. McLean advised that HCA can write a letter of comment on the application. He also suggested HCA could say no to the easement. Mr. Clark asked if it would be prudent for HCA to require a peer review of the environmental report prepared by Enbridge. Mr. McLean advised that the environmental field studies have not yet been completed in the environmental review. He added that a peer review of the report would be reasonable.

The Chair thanked Mr. McLean for attending and his presentation.

**BD12,2744**

**MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic**  
**SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding**

**THAT the presentation on the Proposed Enbridge Gas Pipeline by Don McLean of the Hamilton 350 Committee, be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

## **7. Consent Items for Applications, Minutes and Correspondence**

Tom Jackson requested item 7.3 be brought out of the consent agenda for discussion, seeking clarification from staff as to the intent of the municipality's

letter to exit their local conservation authority. Lisa affirmed that yes, the municipality is requesting an exit clause be added to the Conservation Authorities Act as they feel they can offer the programs and services themselves. She added there is a movement in some eastern areas of the province toward opting out of participating in local conservation authorities, however, that there are over 400 municipalities and only a very small number are advocating for the exit clause. The majority of municipalities support their conservation authorities.

The members expressed concern about the requests and discussed writing a letter to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks supporting conservation authorities and opposing any exit clause, particularly given the mandate of conservation authorities is to protect the public from flooding.

The Chair suggested the item be added to the March agenda once staff have had an opportunity to attend an upcoming stakeholder engagement session for the proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act as new information may be available.

Tom Jackson acknowledged the letter from Brian McHattie, former City of Hamilton Councillor and Chair of HCA's Board of Directors, regarding the Enbridge Pipeline.

**BD12,2745**

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark**

**SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding**

**THAT all items 7.1 to 7.17 of the consent agenda be received and the writing of a letter of support for Conservation Authorities to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks be brought forward to the March 5, 2020 meeting.**

**CARRIED**

## **8. Member Briefing**

There was none.

## **9. Business Arising from the Minutes**

### **9.1. Board direction to Staff October 3, 2020 regarding carbon sequestration analysis of HCA Lands**

Scott Peck advised that discussions have taken place with McMaster University and Brock University regarding how to approach this issue. Moving forward as



part of the HCA's work to update our Climate Change Strategy, direction will be considered in the strategy to work with area universities to further study carbon sequestration and climate change and how it may relate to HCA lands. It was noted that university and college involvement will require interested students with a specific proposal and data and there may be challenges for such work relating to funding and lead time for students as it relates to their school year.

**BD12,2746**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

**THAT the verbal update be received as  
information.**

**CARRIED**

9.2. Board direction to Staff October 3, 2020 regarding consultation with other Conservation Authorities on pipeline proposal review processes

Scott Peck provided an update as it relates to HCA procedures for reviewing pipelines. Similar to HCA, Grand River Conservation Authority has no specific policy for reviewing pipeline applications. These applications are reviewed through their regulatory review process. Conservation Halton indicated the same, however, added that within their policy document there is a policy to investigate/consider alternative suitable locations beyond regulated areas. HCA has noted Conservation Halton's policy direction and will consider it as part of any future policy update.

**BD12, 2747**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Esther Pauls**

**THAT the verbal update be received as  
information.**

**CARRIED**

9.3. Board direction to Staff October 3, 2020 regarding provision of firewood to Haudenosaunee First Nation

Gord Costie advised the members that staff have made the firewood available and are waiting for a response from the Haudenosaunee to arrange for delivery.

**BD12, 2748**

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding  
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba**

**THAT the verbal update be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

## **10. Other Correspondence**

There was none.

## **11. Reports from Budget & Administration Committee, Conservation Advisory Board, and the Foundation**

### **11.1. Foundation Chairman's Remarks**

Margaret reported the Foundation received a total of **\$119,726** in donations in December and January. They break down as follows:

- \$32,200 for Westfield Heritage Village
- \$31,329 for the Area of Greatest Need Fund
- \$18,748 for Outdoor Environmental Education
- \$16,231 for our new Tribute Tree planting fund
- \$13,500 for the Hamilton Watershed Stewardship Program
- \$3,040 for the Dundas Valley Trails Fund
- \$1,600 for the Dundas Valley Fund
- \$1,060 for the Canal Park Fund
- The remaining \$2,018 came in donations for Land Securement, Species at Risk, Saltfleet CA, Valens Lake CA and Trail Development.

**BD12, 2749**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

**THAT the Foundation Chairman's Report be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

## **12. Other Staff Reports/Memorandums**

### **12.1. 2020 Schedule of Meetings**

Lisa Burnside presented a summary of the memorandum.

**BD12,2750****MOVED BY: Dan Bowman  
SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen****THAT the memorandum entitled 2020 Schedule of Meetings be received as information.****CARRIED****12.2. Voting Representatives to Conservation Ontario**

Lisa Burnside presented a summary of the report.

**BD12,2751****MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic  
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba****THAT the following members be appointed to Conservation Ontario for 2020:****Designate: Chair  
Alternate: Vice-Chair  
Second Alternate: Chief Administrative Officer  
Third Alternate: Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; and further****THAT Conservation Ontario be advised of these appointments.****CARRIED****12.3. Appointment of the Auditor**

Lisa Burnside presented a summary of the report, noting this is the final year of HCA's contract with Grant Thornton and we will be going to tender later in the year to obtain a contract for the next five years.

**BD12,2752****MOVED BY: Susan Fielding  
SECONDED BY: Cynthia Janzen****THAT the audit firm of Grant Thornton is appointed as the auditors for Hamilton Conservation Authority for the year 2020****CARRIED**

#### 12.4. Retirement of Diane Bloomfield – Manager, Source Water Protection

Lisa advised HCA has received official notice that Diane Bloomfield will be retiring at the end of March, 2020. Diane has held the position of Manager of Source Water Protection for eleven years and has done a tremendous job. Conservation Halton is the lead agency on our joint Source Water Protection Region and will coordinate the recruitment for a replacement.

The members suggested staff send a letter of acknowledgment and appreciation for her service. Lisa advised that staff had already taken the initiative to do so.

**BD12,2753**

**MOVED BY: Maria Topalovic  
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

**THAT the memorandum entitled Retirement of Diane Bloomfield, Manager of Source Water Protection be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

#### 12.5. Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding Report

Lisa Burnside presented a summary of the report, highlighting that last year, the MNRF named Doug McNeil as the Special Advisor on Flooding and charged him with conducting an independent review of flood management and flooding events in Ontario in 2019. The review and recommendations were released at the end of November, 2019. A total of 66 recommendations were made to strengthen flood resiliency, with fifteen directly referencing conservation authorities, underscoring the importance of our work and the value of the watershed model. Conservation Ontario has submitted comments to the province on the report. The comments speak to urging the province to continue to rely on the experience and expertise of conservation authority's programs, stress no further cuts to CA transfer payments, and reinstatement of the 50% funding cut from 2019. HCA staff contributed comments to Conservation Ontario.

**BD12,2754**

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding  
SECONDED BY: Maria Topalovic**

**THAT the memorandum entitled Conservation Ontario's Comment Letter Re.**

**Ontario's Special Advisor on Flooding  
Report be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

12.6. Tender for Lawn Mower Equipment

This report was removed from the agenda.

12.7. Current Watershed Conditions January 22, 2020

Jonathan Bastien presented a summary of the memorandum and answered the members questions, including a summary of the flood forecasting program at the request of the members. At the time of the report there were no expectations of significant watercourse flooding or Lake Ontario shoreline erosion or flooding. However, Lake Ontario water levels are likely to continue a seasonal rise as we head further into winter. Water levels of Lake Ontario are expected to remain near seasonal highs for at least the next several weeks.

The members inquired about the localized flooding over Middletown Road on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Jonathan explained the flooding was the result of significant rainfall and the need to balance the erosive forces and water levels in Lower Spencer Creek in Dundas with the water levels in the Christie Lake reservoir. A link between the work currently being done on the Christie Lake dam and the flooding of the road was also posed. Jonathan advised that the flooding was not linked to the work on the dam gates. When planning for refurbishing the gates, the work was designed that staff would be able to manage the flows by using the two gates alternately.

**BD12,2755**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

**THAT the memorandum entitled Current  
Watershed Conditions as of January 22, 2020 be  
received as information.**

**CARRIED**

12.8. Upcoming HCA and Partner Events

Gord Costie presented a summary of the memorandum, highlighting winter camping and the ice fishing derby at Valens Lake Conservation Area, with there being 8 inches of ice currently and cold weather in the forecast. Gord added that he

and staff are looking forward to the Maple Syrup Festival at Westfield Heritage Village.

**BD12,2756**

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding  
SECONDED BY: Dan Bowman**

**THAT the memorandum entitled Upcoming HCA and Partner Events be received as information.**

**CARRIED**

### **13. New Business**

There was none.

Esther Pauls left the meeting.

### **14. In-Camera Items for Matters of Law, Personnel and Property**

**BD12,2757**

**MOVED BY: Santina Moccio  
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding**

**THAT the Board of Directors moves *in camera* for matters of law, personnel and property.**

**CARRIED**

#### **14.1. Confidential Report – BD/Feb 01-2020**

Scott Peck provided a summary of the report regarding a property matter and answered the members' questions.

**BD12,2758**

**MOVED BY: Jim Cimba  
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding**

**THAT the confidential report entitled BD/Feb 01-2020 be approved and remain in camera.**

**CARRIED**

#### **14.2. Confidential Report – BD/Feb 02-2020**

Scott Peck provided a summary of the report regarding a property matter and answered the members' questions.

**BD12,2759**

**MOVED BY: Dan Bowman  
SECONDED BY: Santina Moccio**

**THAT the Board of Directors moves out of *in camera*.**

**CARRIED**

14.3. The meeting reconvened in open session and the following resolution related to Confidential Report – BD/Feb 02-2020 was passed.

**BD12,2760**

**MOVED BY: Brad Clark  
SECONDED BY: Jim Cimba**

**THAT the Hamilton Conservation Authority acknowledges our limited mandate as outlined in Section 20 of the Conservation Authorities Act R.S.O. 1990 in regard to gas, oil, coal and minerals;**

**THAT the Board of Directors direct staff to advise Enbridge Gas Inc. that the HCA opposes the easement request pending the results of an ecological study, independent peer review of the same study and the pending Ontario Energy Board's decision regarding the proposed natural gas pipeline, specifically a decision approving the project;**

**THAT staff be directed to advise the Ontario Energy Board that the Hamilton Conservation Authority encourages the Ontario Energy Board to take climate change considerations into account when determining if the natural gas pipeline is in the public interest as they consider Enbridge Gas Inc.'s Leave to Construct Application; and,**

**THAT the Hamilton Conservation Authority requests that the Ontario Energy Board conduct oral hearings.**

**THAT the Ontario Energy Board be advised that the Hamilton Conservation Authority supports**

**including within the scope of the Leave to Construct proceeding the following:**

- 1. impacts related to the methods of upstream natural gas extraction (such as hydraulic fracturing) for natural gas that will be transported through the pipeline**
- 2. impacts related to the ultimate downstream consumption of the natural gas transported through the pipeline.**

**CARRIED**

Staff were directed to share this motion with City of Hamilton staff for their information.

**15. Next Meeting – Thursday, March 5, 2020**

**16. Adjournment**

On motion, the meeting adjourned.



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Neil McDougall  
Secretary-Treasurer