

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

Confidential Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

June 4, 2026

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Thursday, June 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., at the HCA main office, 838 Mineral Springs Road, in Ancaster, and livestreamed on YouTube.

PRESENT:

Brad Clark – in the Chair	
Jeff Beattie	Craig Cassar
Elise Copps - virtual	Lisa DiCesare
Susan Fielding	Matt Francis - virtual
Wayne Terryberry - virtual	Alex Wilson - virtual
Maureen Wilson - virtual	

Graham Reid – Foundation Vice Chair

REGRETS: **Mike Spadafora**

STAFF PRESENT: **Jonathan Bastien, Lisa Burnside, Nauman Chaudhry, Marlene Ferreira, Scott Fleming, Liam Fletcher, Brandon Good, Rob Gray, Amanda Martin, Scott Peck, Jaime Tellier, Sandra Winninger**

OTHERS: **None**

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. HCA's Indigenous Land Acknowledgement was read.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts under the Board's Governance Policy. There were none.

3. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda. Lisa Burnside advised that an addendum was circulated containing the following items:

- Under item Number 5, Consent Items for Applications, Minutes and Correspondence, approved minutes from the Budget & Administration Committee meeting, March 19, 2026;
- Under item Number 9, Reports from Budget & Administration Committee and Conservation Advisory Board, two items for recommendation:
 - 2025 Report by the Auditors, which will appear on the agenda as item 9.1.1,
 - 2025, 12-month Financial Results – Audited Financial Statements, which will appear at 9.1.2 on the agenda
- Additionally, there are two Confidential Verbal Updates to be added to the agenda as items 12.1 and 12.2.

BD12, 3640

**MOVED BY: Craig Cassar
SECONDED BY: Jeff Beattie**

THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

4. Delegations

There were none.

5. Consent Items for Applications, Minutes and Correspondence

The following consent items were adopted:

- 5.1. Permit Applications Summary Report
- 5.2. Approval of Board of Directors Minutes – May 7, 2026
- 5.3. Approved – March 19, 2026 Budget & Administration Committee Meeting Minutes – for receipt only

6. Foundation Briefing

Graham Reid, Vice Chair of the Foundation reported that the Foundation received \$1,906,265 in donations from May 1 to May 31, 2026. The most significant gift to highlight is the first installment of \$1,875,000 from the Heritage Green Community Trust in support of Saltfleet. This gift was announced at the Foundation's Annual General Meeting on May 11, 2026 as well as the Heritage Green AGM on May 26th, and a press release on May 27th.

Graham Reid expressed a sincere thank-you to HCA staff for their work in facilitating the gift announcement and helping to secure and steward this important gift.

Other gift highlights include:

- \$6,000 from the Ancaster Rotary in support of Dundas Valley Trails.
- \$5,000 from the Hamilton Industrial Environmental Association for Outdoor Education.
- \$2,500 from RBC for the Corporate Volunteer program
- \$4,200 in sponsorships for the Christie Lake Disc Golf Course

This brings the fiscal year-to-date fundraising total to \$2,321,000.

At the Foundation's AGM, three new Directors were officially elected for four-year terms. The election of officers will take place June 8th, at the June Board Meeting

Graham Reid introduced a video that was produced by HCA's Marketing and Communication's group for the Foundation to acknowledge the transformation gift from the Heritage Green Community Trust.

BD12, 3641

MOVED BY: Matt Francis

SECONDED BY: Elise Copps

THAT the Foundation Briefing be received.

CARRIED

7. Member Briefing

There was none.

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

9. Reports from Budget & Administration Committee and Conservation Advisory Board

9.1. Budget & Administration Committee – May 29, 2026
(Recommendations)

9.1.1 BA 2608 2025 Report by the Auditors

Susan Fielding provided an overview of the Report by the Auditors, KPMG, who

presented the report at to the May B&A Committee meeting. KPMG noted that there weren't any irregularities found during the audit process and the Audit Report indicated a clean audit.

BD12, 3642

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding
SECONDED BY: Craig Cassar**

**THAT the Budget & Administration Committee
recommends to the Board of Directors:**

THAT the 2025 Report by the Auditors be approved

CARRIED

9.1.2 BA 2609 2025 12-month Financial Results – Audited Financial
Statements

Susan Fielding provided a summary of the results of the 2025 Audited Financial Statements that were provided by KPMG, who indicated that the HCA is in sound financial position having generated a \$1.6M surplus on the year, with an unallocated accumulated surplus of \$913,803. It was noted that a report will come to the June B&A meeting recommending reserve allocation for this accumulated surplus.

Additionally, the Financial Statements from Confederation Beach Park were reviewed, which indicated an annual deficit of \$25,893 for 2025. These financial statements will be provided to the City of Hamilton and Park management review team.

BD12, 3643

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding
SECONDED BY: Maureen Wilson**

**THAT the Budget & Administration
Committee recommends to the Board of Directors:**

**THAT the 2025 Twelve-Month Audited Financial Statements
for Hamilton Conservation Authority and Confederation
Beach Park be approved**

CARRIED

10. Other Staff Reports/Memoranda

10.1. Watershed Conditions Memorandum

Jonathan Bastien presented a summary of the memorandum, highlighting noting that

during the period of April 27th to May 25th 2026, there were no significant flooding or water safety concerns, related to area watercourses or the Lake Ontario shoreline. Currently, there are no observations, reports, or expectations of significant watercourse flooding, localized watercourse flooding of low-lying areas that typically flood during higher water levels, or significant water safety concerns. Current flows are estimated to range from slightly elevated above baseflow conditions in some watercourses to just below thresholds for significant water safety concerns (in Upper and Lower Spencer Creek).

The water level of Lake Ontario has dropped 3 cm due to drier conditions but is still approximately 30 centimeters above the average. Christie Lake is also lower than average due to the drier conditions.

In response to a question posed by Matt Francis, Jonathan indicated that the Lake Ontario water level should be declining steadily during the summer months.

BD12, 3644

MOVED BY: Elise Copps

SECONDED BY: Wayne Terryberry

THAT the memorandum entitled Watershed Conditions Report be received.

CARRIED

10.2. Conservation Areas Services Update

Liam Fletcher provided a summary of the memorandum indicating that:

- Hamilton and Niagara Public beach monitoring programs are underway with weekly water quality testing at Valens Lake, Christie Lake, Fifty Point and Confederation Beach Park waterfronts;
- Boat rentals are open for the season at Valens Lake and Christie Lake conservation areas and fishing officially opens in the reservoirs as of June 27, 2026 for the season.
- The spring boat launch at Fifty Point Marina has successfully been completed; 260 boats were launched and, a total of 230 bags of shrink wrap were recycled.

BD12, 3645

MOVED BY: Jeff Beattie

SECONDED BY: Lisa DiCesare

THAT the memorandum entitled Conservation Areas Services Update be received.

CARRIED

11. New Business

There was none.

12. In-Camera Items**BD12, 3646**

**MOVED BY: Jeff Beattie
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding**

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

CARRIED

During the *in-camera* session, two property matters were discussed.

**12.1. Confidential Verbal Update – BD/June 01-2026
(Property Matter)**

Scott Peck provided a verbal update regarding a property matter and answered the members' questions.

BD12, 3647

**MOVED BY: Maureen Wilson
SECONDED BY: Alex Wilson**

THAT the confidential verbal update entitled BD/June 01-2026 be received and remain in camera.

CARRIED

**12.2. Confidential Verbal Update – BD/June 02-2026
(Property Matter)**

Scott Peck provided an update on a property matter and answered members' questions.

BD12, 3648

**MOVED BY: Jeff Beattie
SECONDED BY: Elise Copps**

That the Confidential Verbal Update, BD/June 02-2026 be received and remain in camera

BD12, 3649

**MOVED BY: Susan Fielding
SECONDED BY: Jeff Beattie**

THAT the Board of Directors moves out of closed session.

CARRIED

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, July 2, 2026, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the HCA Main Administration Office – Woodend Auditorium, 838 Mineral Springs Road, Ancaster, Ontario.

14. Adjournment

On motion, the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Fleming", is written over a horizontal line.

Scott Fleming
Secretary-Treasurer