



02-25-BOD Amended Agenda Minutes  
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority  
Friday February 28, 2025 9:00 AM EST

**Attendance**

**Present:**

Cllr. Joe Belanger, Wasaga Beach (Town); Cllr. June Porter, The Blue Mountains (Town); Vice-Chair Jonathan Scott, Bradford West Gwillimbury (Town); Cllr. Joel Loughhead, Grey Highlands (Municipality); Cllr. Pieter Kiezebrink, Essa (Township); Mayor Scott W. Anderson, Adjala-Tosorontio (Township); Cllr. Christopher Baines, Collingwood (Town); Cllr. Nicole Cox, New Tecumseth (Town); Cllr. Richard Schell, Oro-Medonte (Township); Deputy Mayor Paul Van Staveren Clearview (Township) – *departed at 11:00am*; Cllr. Kevin Eisses, Innisfil (Town); Mayor Darren White, Melancthon (Township); (Town); Cllr. Ralph Manktelow, Mono (Town); Cllr. Kyle Fegan, Shelburne (Town); Cllr. Gary Harvey, Barrie (City); Cllr. Patricia Clark, Mulmur (Township) – *departed at 10:20am*; Chair Gail Little, Amaranth (Township)

**NVCA Staff:**

Sheryl Flannagan, Interim CAO/Director, Corporate Services; Chris Hibberd, Director, Watershed Management Services; Kyra Howes, Director, Conservation Services; Ian Ockenden, Manager, Watershed Science; Dalia Al-Ali, Manager, Engineering Services; Tyler Mulhall, Planner; Ben Krul, Manager, Development Planning & Permits; Naomi Saunders, Manager, Environmental Education – *departed at 10:20am*; Kerry Jenkins, Administrative Assistant/Recorder

**Absent:**

Cllr Phil Fisher, Springwater (Township)

**1. Events**

**March Break Camp Tiffin**

Led by NVCA's environmental educators, Camp Tiffin is an outdoor camp designed to enhance your child's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the natural world and our amazing planet.

Activities may include wilderness survival skills, kick sledding, wildlife discovery and learning how maple syrup is made!

Our staff have been excited to plan some winter camp activities which will be full of outdoor adventures.

**Date:** March 10 – 14, 2025

**Location:** Tiffin Centre for Conservation

### **Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival**

Hosted in partnership with the Rotary Club of Barrie, the Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival at the Tiffin Conservation Area is a tradition spanning more than three decades.

Visitors will take a trip back in time to explore how maple syrup was made in the past. After that, they will return to current times and see how maple syrup is made today! End your tour with a pancake and sausage breakfast with fresh maple syrup. Prices for most activities are included in the admission fees.

**Date:** April 5 – 6, 2025

**Location:** Tiffin Centre for Conservation

### **Tiffin Nature School**

At Tiffin Nature School, children aged 2.5 to 10 are invited to explore and connect with the natural world. We nurture their innate curiosity, offering immersive outdoor experiences that inspire discovery and growth.

**Dates:** Tuesdays & Thursdays until May 29, 2025

**Location:** Tiffin Centre for Conservation

## **2. Call to Order**

Chair Scott called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

## **3. Land Acknowledgement**

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Board acknowledges that we are situated on the traditional land of the Anishnaabeg people. The Anishnaabeg include the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Pottawatomi nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture and committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect with all First Nation, Métis and Inuit people.

## **4. Declaration of Pecuniary and Conflict of Interest**

## **5. Motion to Adopt the Agenda**

Recommendation:

*RES: 12-25*

Moved by: Cllr. Joe Belanger

Seconded by: Cllr. Nicole Cox

**RESOLVED THAT:** the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting #02-25-BOD dated on February 28, 2025 be approved as amended.

**Carried;**

## **6. Chair's Update**

Chair Scott shared his updates.

## **7. Announcements**

## **8. Presentations**

### **8.1. Environmental Education Program from Naomi Saunders, Manager, Environmental Education**

Naomi Saunders, Manager, Environmental Education conducted a presentation regarding NVCA's Environmental Education Program.

Recommendation:

*RES: 13-25*

Moved by: Cllr. Christopher Baines

Seconded by: Mayor Darren White

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Board of Directors receive this presentation as presented.

**Carried;**

### **8.2. Program Overview from Chris Hibberd, Director, Watershed Management Services**

Chris Hibberd, Director, Watershed Management Services conducted a presentation regarding Program Overview.

Recommendation:

*RES: 14-25*

Moved by: Mayor Scott W. Anderson

Seconded by: Cllr. Pieter Kiezebrink

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Board of Directors receive this presentation as presented.

**Carried;**

## **9. Deputations**

There were no deputations at this time.

## **10. Hearings**

There were no hearings at this time.

## **11. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion**

Board members are requested to identify items from the Consent List that they wish to have considered for separate discussion.

## **12. Adoption of Consent List and Identification of Items Requiring Separate Discussion**

Recommendation:

*RES: 15-25*

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Paul Van Staveren

Seconded by: Cllr. Joel Loughead

**RESOLVED THAT:** agenda item number(s), 13.2, 13.5.1, 13.5.2, 13.5.4 and 13.5.5 was identified as requiring separate discussion, be referred for discussion under Agenda Item #13; and

**FURTHER THAT:** all Consent List Agenda Items not referred for separate discussion be adopted as submitted to the board and staff be authorized to take all necessary action required to give effect to same; and

**FURTHER THAT:** any items in the Consent List not referred for separate discussion, and for which conflict has been declared, are deemed not to have been voted on or discussed by the individual making the declaration.

**Carried;**

### **13. Consent List**

#### **13.1. Adoption of Minutes**

Recommendation:

*Approved by Consent*

**RESOLVED THAT:** the minutes of the Board of Directors meetings 10-24-BOD and 01-25-BOD dated on January 24, 2025 be approved.

#### **13.2. Correspondence**

Correspondence dated January 22, 2025 provided by Township of Oro-Medonte regarding a resolution that was passed at Council regarding amalgamation between NVCA and LSRCA.

#### **13.3. In-Camera**

Recommendation:

*RES: 16-25*

Moved by: Cllr. Nicole Cox

Seconded by: Cllr. Ralph Manktelow

**RESOLVED THAT:** this meeting of the Board of Directors No. 02-25-BOD move into closed session at 10:25am to address matters pertaining to:

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; and,

**FURTHER THAT:** Interim CAO/Director, Corporate Services Sheryl Flannagan; Director, Watershed Management Services Chris Hibberd; Director, Conservation Services Kyra Howes and Administrative Assistant, Kerry Jenkins to remain for discussion and recording purposes.

**Carried;**

#### **13.4. Out of In-Camera**

Recommendation:

*RES: 17-25*

Moved by: Cllr. Kyle Fegan

Seconded by: Cllr. Christopher Baines

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Board of Directors rise from in-camera at 11:35am and report progress.

**Carried;**

**13.4.1. Out of In-Camera**

Recommendation:

*RES: 18-25*

Moved by: Cllr. June Porter

Seconded by: Cllr. Gary Harvey

**WHEREAS:** the Board of Directors is in receipt of correspondence from Oro-Medonte Council that seeks to start the amalgamation process between the NVCA and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) as outlined in Section 11 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*; and

**WHEREAS:** NVCA and LSRCA serve distinct and separate watersheds, each with unique ecological, planning and regulatory considerations, including LSRCA's additional responsibilities under the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act*; and

**WHEREAS:** no independent, expert analysis has been conducted to determine whether an amalgamation would improve efficiency and service delivery or whether it may instead result in increased costs, governance challenges, operational inefficiencies or dilution of focus on the needs of the individual watersheds; and

**WHEREAS:** Conservation Ontario has generally supported maintaining the current structure of thirty-six Conservation Authorities across Ontario, recognizing the value of locally focused watershed management; and

**WHEREAS:** the NVCA is actively collaborating with other Conservation Authorities and through a customer centric focus, has been making improvements to processes and procedures, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the NVCA Board of Directors opposes the proposed amalgamation of NVCA and the LSRCA, as it has not been demonstrated that such a change would benefit watershed management, municipalities or the public; and

**FURTHER THAT:** the Board supports continued and enhanced collaboration between NVCA and LSRCA to standardize processes and procedures where feasible, particularly to assist development and permit applicants whose activities fall within municipalities that straddle both watersheds; and

**FURTHER THAT:** remains committed to working constructively with Oro-Medonte and all NVCA member municipalities to address and resolve any challenges, including planning and permitting, in a fair, transparent and efficient manner; and

**FURTHER THAT:** a copy of this resolution with a letter from the Chair be sent to all NVCA and LSRCA member municipalities, the LSRCA Board and Conservation Ontario Council.

**Carried;**

### **13.5. Staff Reports**

#### **13.5.1. Staff Report No. 01-02-25-BOD from Tyler Mulhall, Planner regarding Permits**

Recommendation:

*RES: 19-25*

Moved by: Cllr. Ralph Manktelow

Seconded by: Cllr. Kyle Fegan

**RESOLVED THAT:** NVCA Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 01-02-25-BOD that summarizes the permits issued by staff for the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

**Carried;**

#### **13.5.2. Staff Report No. 02-02-25-BOD from Ian Ockenden, Manager, Watershed Science regarding 2022-2025 NVCA Climate Action Plan**

Recommendation:

*RES: 20-25*

Moved by: Mayor Darren White

Seconded by: Mayor Scott W. Anderson

**RESOLVED THAT:** The Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 02-02-25-BOD regarding the 2022-2025 NVCA Climate Change Action Plan summary of progress in 2023 and 2024 goals for information.

**Carried;**

#### **13.5.3. Staff Report No. 03-02-25-BOD from Tyler Boswell, Planner and Ben Krul, Manager, Development Planning and Permits regarding Procedures for the Implementation of Ontario Regulation 41/24 Update**

Recommendation:

*Approved by Consent*

**RESOLVED THAT:** The Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 03-02-25-BOD regarding proposed updated policies for *Procedures for the Implementation of Ontario Regulation 41/24*.

#### **13.5.4. Staff Report No. 04-02-25-BOD from Sheryl Flannagan, Interim CAO/Director, Corporate Services regarding Interim CAO Workplan**

Recommendation:

*RES: 21-25*

Moved by: Cllr. June Porter

Seconded by: Cllr. Patricia Clark

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 04-02-25-BOD regarding the Interim CAO workplan.

**Carried;**

**13.5.5. Staff Report No. 05-02-25-BOD from Tyler Boswell, Planner and Ben Krul, Manager, Development Planning and Permits regarding Planning and Regulations**

Recommendation:

*RES: 22-25*

Mover: Cllr. Gary Harvey

Seconded: Mayor Scott W. Anderson

**RESOLVED THAT:** The Board of Directors receive Staff Report No. 05-02-25-BOD regarding the proposed NVCA Planning and Regulation Guidelines Update, as information.

**Carried;**

**13.5.6. Staff Report No. 06-02-25-BOD from Maria Leung, Senior Communications Specialist regarding Communications Report**

Recommendation:

*Approved by Consent*

**RESOLVED THAT:** Staff Report No. 06-02-25-BOD regarding NVCA Communications – January 10, 2025 – February 14, 2025, be received.

**14. Other Business**

**15. In-Camera**

Recommendation:

*RES: 23-25*

Moved by: Cllr. Joe Belanger

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Paul Van Staveren

**RESOLVED THAT:** this meeting of the Board of Directors No. 02-25-BOD move into closed session at 11:47am to address matters pertaining to: Labour relations or employee negotiations and;

**FURTHER THAT:** no NVCA Authority staff be in attendance.

**Carried;**

**16. Out of In-Camera**

Recommendation:

*RES: 24-25*

Moved by: Cllr. Christopher Baines

Seconded by: Cllr. Joe Belanger

**RESOLVED THAT:** the Board of Directors rise from in-camera at 11:51am and report progress.

**Carried;**

**17. Adjourn**

Recommendation:

*RES: 25-25*

Moved by: Cllr. Gary Harvey

Seconded by: Mayor Darren White

**RESOLVED THAT:** this meeting adjourn at 11:52am to meet again on March 28, 2025 or at the call of the Chair.

**Carried;**