

**Board of Directors Meeting #2/16
Annual Meeting**

Location: The Harriston Public Library in Harriston, Ontario

February 17, 2016

- DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Art Versteeg, Jim Campbell, Deb Shewfelt, Wilf Gamble, Alvin McLellan, David Turton, Bob Burtenshaw, Paul Gowing, Roger Watt
- ABSENT WITH REGRETS:** Alison Lobb
- ABSENT:** Matt Duncan
- STAFF PRESENT:** Phil Beard, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Danielle Livingston, Admin/Financial Services Coordinator
Jayne Thompson, Communications Coordinator
Stephen Jackson, Flood/Erosion Safety Coordinator
Donna Clarkson, ABCA Source Protection Technician
- COMMUNITY MEMBERS, PRESENTORS, PRESS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Francis Hogan, Joe Vulders, Kriss Snell, Mitch Twolan, George Bridge, Jared James, Mark Van Patter, Wayne Brohman, Paul Day, Terry Fisk, Judy Dirksen, Robert Clarkson, Jenny Versteeg, Dave Burns, Jackie Riggs, Brian Schlosser, Mert Schneider, Pat Raftisi Bert von Westerholt, Gordon Young, Rob Johnson

1. Welcome and Call to Order from MVCA Chair

Chair Art Versteeg, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and welcomed everyone attending.

Art introduced Mr. George Bridge the Mayor of the Town of Minto and Warden of the County of Wellington and asked him to bring greetings on behalf of the Municipality.

2. Welcome from Mayor George Bridge

Mayor Bridge welcomed everyone saying it was a privilege to have been invited to the Annual Meeting by the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and that the Town of Minto is proud to be hosting this event at the Harriston Library.

Art Versteeg, Chair thanked Mayor Bridge and his Council for hosting Maitland Valley Conservation Authority's Annual Meeting.



3. Introduction of MVCA Directors and Guests – Art Versteeg, MVCA Chair

Chair Art Versteeg introduced each of the Director's of MVCA and noted that the Warden's for all 4 counties in the watershed were in attendance.

Art extended greetings from MPP Lisa Thompson who wasn't able to attend the Annual Meeting.

4. Opening Remarks from Art Versteeg, MVCA Chair

Thank you to the Board for the efforts that you have put into the success of our organization over the past year and I particularly wish to thank you for the support you have given me as chair resulting in both a productive and enjoyable year.

I also wish to thank staff, led very capably by Phil. We are a small organization with a limited budget and yet we have attracted some of the brightest and best. Thank you for your loyalty, commitment and hard work on behalf of our watershed.

At our last meeting in January the Board reviewed last year's work plan and were genuinely pleased with the amount of work we were able to accomplish in 2015. We have a highlights presentation planned for you later in this meeting. Over the past two years we have had to make a lot of changes to our services and these changes will be highlighted later in the meeting.

One thing I will mention and emphasize is our tree planting efforts. In the past year, Maitland Valley provided 54,000 trees to be planted across our watershed. This is something we have seen a big increase in the last few years. It is an endeavor near and dear to my heart. Each year Jenny and I order a pickup truck load of large stock trees to plant on our farm. I am convinced that adding to the naturalized area is one of the best things we can do environmentally. And we can do it without hurting or impeding agriculture or any of the other economic and cultural activities that we want to do in our watershed.

Looking ahead to 2016, MVCA is committed to two areas of service: strengthening our Flood and Erosion Safety Services and strengthening our Watershed Stewardship Services. At the same time we are developing a more stable financial base in order to do these things. This is a narrower focus than we have had historically, but the board has realized we must focus our limited resources on the most important things and do those very well.

In the coming year specifically we will be looking at our aging infrastructure at Falls Reserve and our mills in Brussels and Gorrie.

Also we are actively involved in Conservation Ontario and participated in strategic planning last year and are working to bring about some governance changes there that would make it more effective. Finances will continue to be a challenge. It has been a long time since the Province has been a meaningful partner in conservation and we need to keep reminding them that there is a part for them to play here. Our municipalities have been very supportive and understanding but they shouldn't be expected to carry a load to this degree.

Again thank you for coming tonight, enjoy the rest of the evening.

Chair Art Versteeg then introduced speaker Mitch Twolan, Chair of the Great Lakes Cities Initiative.

5. The Paris Climate Agreement and Municipalities from Mitch Twolan, Mayor of Huron-Kinloss

Mayor Mitch Twolan attended the Climate Summit in Paris on behalf of the Great Lakes Cities Initiative. Mitch outlined what he learned from attending the summit and how we all can lead the way toward reducing greenhouse gases.

Chair Art Versteeg thanked Mitch for his presentation and introduced speaker Phil Beard.

6. Changing Climate, Changing Services from Phil Beard, MVCA GM/ST

Phil Beard MVCA GM/ST outlined the services Maitland Valley Conservation Authority provides and how it has restructured services to help landowners, municipalities and community groups to develop and implement projects that will help them to improve the health of our rivers, soil and forests as well as to deal with the impacts of a rapidly changing climate.

Chair Art Versteeg thanked Phil for his presentation and introduced speaker Stephen Jackson.

7. Projects in Minto

- a) Harriston Hydrology Project from Stephen Jackson, MVCA Flood/Erosion Safety Coordinator

Stephen Jackson, Flood/Erosion Safety Coordinator provided a progress report on the Harriston Hydrology Project which is a joint project between MVCA and the Town of Minto. The purpose of the project is twofold:

1. To improve our understanding of the hydrology of the North Maitland river so that Maitland Valley Conservation Authority can use this information to update the flood plain mapping for the Town of Harriston.
2. Develop a master drainage plan for the lands upstream of Harriston to help guide the design of future drainage proposals.

Chair Art Versteeg thanked Stephen for his presentation and introduced speaker Jared James.

- b) Trees for Minto Project from Jared James, Trees for Minto Chair

Jared James explained that the Trees for Minto project was started by the Town of Minto to encourage landowners to plant more windbreaks, buffer strips and to reforest more marginal farmland. Maitland Valley Conservation Authority is providing technical support to this project along with staff from the County of Wellington.

Chair Art Versteeg thanked Jared for his presentation and introduced speaker Mark Van Patter.

- c) The Green Legacy Programme from Mark Van Patter, County of Wellington Manager of Planning and Environment

Mark Van Patter provided an overview of the Green Legacy Programme. The County has established two nurseries so that they can provide their residents with trees and shrubs. The nurseries are operated by volunteers and students from the schools in the County. The County of Wellington and MPP Ted Arnott have proposed that the Province develop a program to plant 150 million trees across Ontario starting in 2018.

Chair Art Versteeg thanked Mark for his presentation.

8. Election of Officers for 2016

- a) Appointment of Presiding Officer (appointed by the MVCA Board)

MVCA Chair Art Versteeg called for an appointment of a Presiding Officer for the election of Chair.

Motion FA #18/16

Moved by: Paul Gowling

Seconded by: David Turton

THAT George Bridge act as the Presiding Officer for the election of Chair for the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and the Maitland Source Protection Authority for 2016.

(carried)

- b) Appointment of Scrutineers (appointed by Presiding Officer)

Presiding Officer George Bridge declared all offices vacant and called for a motion to appoint two Scrutineers.

Motion FA #19/16

Moved by: Art Versteeg

Seconded by: Deb Shewfelt

THAT Mark Van Patter and Wayne Brohman be Scrutineers for the election of officers; **AND THAT** the Scrutineers be responsible for destroying ballots after the election if needed.

(carried)

- c) Election of MVCA and MSPA Chair for 2016

Presiding Officer George Bridge called for nominations for the position of Chair for the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and the Maitland Source Protection Authority for 2016.

Motion FA #20/16

Moved by: David Turton

THAT Art Versteeg is nominated for Chair of the MVCA and the MSPA for 2016.

Presiding Officer George Bridge called for nominations for the Chair position two more times. With no further nominations, the position of Chair for 2016 was then closed.

Art Versteeg agreed to stand for the Chairs position in 2016.

Presiding Officer George Bridge declared Art Versteeg, representative for the Township of Howick, as the Chair of the MVCA and MSPA for 2016.

Chair Art Versteeg then presided over the election for the Vice and Second Vice positions and the remainder of the meeting.

- d) Election of MVCA and MSPA Vice Chair for 2016

Chair Art Versteeg called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and Maitland Source Protection Authority for 2016.

Motion FA #21/16

Moved by: David Turton

THAT Jim Campbell is nominated for Vice Chair of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and Maitland Source Protection Authority for 2016.

Chair Art Versteeg called for further nominations for Vice Chair two more times and no others were made. Art then closed the nominations for Vice Chair for 2016.

Jim Campbell accepted the Vice-Chair position.

Chair Art Versteeg declared Jim Campbell as Vice-Chair of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and Maitland Source Protection Authority for 2016.

- e) Election of Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and Maitland Source Protection Authority Second Vice Chair for 2016

Nominations were called for the position of Second Vice-Chair for 2016 by Chair Art Versteeg.

Motion FA #22/16

Moved by: Roger Watt

THAT Deb Shewfelt is nominated for Second Vice-Chair of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and Maitland Source Protection Authority for 2016.

Chair Art Versteeg called twice for further nominations for Second Vice-Chair and no others were made. Art then closed the nominations for Second Vice-Chair for 2016.

Deb Shewfelt accepted the Second Vice-Chair position.

Chair Art Versteeg declared Deb Shewfelt as Second Vice-Chair of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and Maitland Source Protection Authority for 2016.

- f) Destruction of Ballots

There were no ballots to be destroyed.

9. Closing Remarks from the 2016 MVCA/MSPA Chair

In closing, Chair Art Versteeg thanked everyone for attending the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority Annual General Meeting and invited them to stay for snacks and refreshments.

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10. Adjournment

Motion FA #23/16

Moved by: Deb Shewfelt

Seconded by: Roger Watt

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

(carried)

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Art Versteeg
Chair

Danielle Livingston
Admin/Financial Services Coordinator