

**Board of Directors Meeting #2/15  
Annual Meeting**

**Location: The Municipality of North Perth Council Chambers in Listowel, Ontario**

**February 25, 2015**

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Deb Shewfelt, Art Versteeg, Jim Campbell, Wilf Gamble, Alison Lobb, Alvin McLellan, Gordon Young, David Turton, Bob Burtenshaw, Paul Gowing, Matt Duncan

**ABSENT WITH REGRETS:** Roger Watt

**STAFF PRESENT:** Phil Beard, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer  
Danielle Livingston, Financial Services Coordinator  
Stephen Jackson, Flood/Erosion Safety Coordinator  
Jayne Thompson, Communications Coordinator  
Geoff King, Stewardship Services Coordinator  
Erica Magee, Administrative Assistant  
Erin Dolmage, Community Education Technician

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
IN ATTENDANCE:** Terry Fisk, Ivan Suggitt, John Grace, Dorothy Kelly,  
Joe Vuldurs, Vince Judge, Frances Hale, Les Tervit, Julie Behrns,  
Jenny Versteeg, Richard Keeso, Doug Grant, Steve Hardie, Kriss  
Snell, Jamie Morgan, Pat Berfelz, Terry Seiler, Rosemary  
Galloway, Howard Mitchell, Matt Richardson, Greg Scott, David  
Ludington, Paul Horn, Matt Richardson

**1. Welcome and Call to Order from MVCA Chair**

Deb Shewfelt, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:29 pm and thanked Mayor Julie Behrns and her Council for hosting MVCA's Annual Meeting and welcomed everyone attending. Deb explained having the annual meeting in North Perth was fitting because of the flood control and infrastructure projects that have been constructed in Listowel. Deb noted that the 2013 ice storm resulted in over \$250 000.00 in damages in the Listowel area and the need to focus on prevention of damage during intense rainfall periods and maintain flood control works. "Business as usual is not an option for any of us as we plan for the future". Deb acknowledged John Grace, Chair of SWEA who was in attendance.

Following his remarks, Deb introduced Host Mayor Julie Behrns from the Municipality of North Perth and asked her to bring greetings on behalf of the Municipality of North Perth.



## **2. Welcome from Mayor Julie Behrns**

Julie welcomed everyone saying it was a pleasure to host the MVCA annual meeting and thanked the staff and Directors for all the great work that MVCA does. Julie introduced the North Perth Councillors and asked everyone to enjoy the evening.

## **3. Introduction of MVCA Directors and Guests - Deb Shewfelt, MVCA Chair**

Each of the Directors introduced themselves and noted the Municipalities that they represent within the MVCA. Deb introduced the new Directors, Bob Burtenshaw, representing West Perth and Perth East as well as retiring Directors, Gordon Young and Terry Fisk.

## **4. MVCA Formation and Purpose**

Vince Judge, North Perth Councillor and former MVCA and MCF Chair provided some background on the formation of the MVCA by the former municipalities of Listowel and Wallace back in 1951. The initial interests and concerns were with soil conservation and flood control that were first discussed in June of 1951. On October 30, 1951 the first meeting was held with representatives from 10 municipalities in attendance. The first decade of work focused on soil conservation and reforestation. Vince noted the importance of building partnerships to gain funding opportunities to continue this work and help the community.

## **5. Developing a Climate Adaptation Template for Rural Municipalities in the Maitland Watershed**

This was a joint presentation by Kriss Snell, CAO of the Municipality of North Perth and Stephen Jackson, MVCA Flood and Erosion Safety Services Coordinator.

MVCA and North Perth have developed a strong relationship that is significant in dealing with the challenges that severe weather presents and the effects it has on infrastructure. Together, we will continue to focus on emergency planning, evaluating storm water management design, provide windbreaks, protect farm land during drought periods and maintain tree canopy. Providing good service and minimizing fossil fuels in a cost effective way are main goals at this time. MVCA would like to work with North Perth on the development of a template for developing a process that outlines how municipal services need to change to deal with the impacts of a rapidly changing climate.

## **6. Overview of Joint Projects in the Middle Maitland River Watershed**

### **a) Maitland Watershed Resiliency Leadership Team – Les Tervit**

Deb introduced Les Tervit, recently retired Vice President of BTE Enterprises and former CAO of North Perth and GM of MVCA. Les provided an overview of the Maitland Watershed resiliency challenge and the leadership team that has been developed to lead the challenge. The main purpose is to encourage community partners and companies to set an example and to support community projects that involve restoring natural infrastructure, soil and water conservation, reforestation and get people helping our local environment. Partnerships have failed between the Provincial Government and local Municipalities therefore we need to look toward other methods to help accomplish our goals because it is beneficial to our watershed. There is a lot of good work to come from this Leadership Team and Les noted projects like the Scott Municipal Drain, Carbon Footprints to Forest, Middle Maitland, Listowel Memorial Park, Dupont Pioneer, and Stormwater Naturalization that the committee is working on.

Deb thanked Les for his remarks and introduced Geoff King, MVCA Stewardship Services Coordinator and Jamie Morgan, North Perth Public Works Superintendent.

b) Middle Maitland River Headwaters Restoration Project.

Together, Geoff and Jamie provided an overview of the Middle Maitland Headwaters Restoration project that is starting in 2015 upstream of Listowel and involves Koobs Municipal Drain, Martin, McIlroy and Tenhove properties. The goal is to improve water quality, stream flow and forest cover upstream of Listowel by planting trees in the flood plain. This project provides an opportunity to educate farmers and involve children in planting through funding supports from the community and Maitland Conservation Foundation.

Deb thanked Geoff and Jamie for their presentation and introduced Steve Jackson, MVCA Flood/Erosion Safety Services Coordinator and Jamie Morgan, North Perth Public Works Superintendent.

c) Flood Emergency Risks and Flood Control Works in North Perth

Steve and Jamie provided an overview of the flood control works that have been put in place in Listowel by MVCA, the Province and the former Town of Listowel. These flood control works help to reduce the potential for flood damages, loss of life and social disruption. This flood control infrastructure would cost upwards of \$30 million dollars today. It is important that the Municipality and MVCA work together to maintain this infrastructure so that it will last as long as possible.

Deb thanked Steve and Jamie for their presentation.

**7. Election of Officers for 2015**

**a) Appointment of Presiding Officer (appointed by the Board)**

Deb called for an appointment of a Presiding Officer for the election of Chair.

**Motion FA #13/15**

**Moved by: Alvin McLellan**

**Seconded by: Matt Duncan**

**THAT** Julie Behrns act as the Presiding Officer for the election of Chair.

(carried)

Deb Shewfelt, Chair and Art Versteeg, Vice Chair stepped down from their positions. Deb vacated the Chair at this time.

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

Julie Behrns declared all offices vacant and called for an appointment of Scrutineers.

**Motion FA #14/15**

**Moved by: Alison Lobb**

**Seconded by: Matt Duncan**

**THAT** Les Tervit and Ivan Suggitt be Scrutineers for the election of officers; **AND THAT** they be responsible for destroying ballots after the election as required.

(carried)

**c) Election of MVCA and MSPA Chair for 2015**

Julie Behrns called for nominations for the position of Chair of the MVCA and MSPA.

**Motion FA #15/15**

**Moved by: Wilf Gamble**

**THAT** Art Versteeg is nominated for Chair of the MVCA and the MSPA for 2015.

(carried)

Julie Behrns called for nominations for the Chair position two more times. With no further nominations, the position of Chair for 2015 was then closed.

**Motion FA #16/15**

**Moved by: Deb Shewfelt**

**Seconded by: Wilf Gamble**

**THAT** nominations for the position of Chair of the MVCA and MSPA for 2015 be closed.

(carried)

Julie Behrns declared Art Versteeg, representative for the Township of Howick, as the Chair of the MVCA and MSPA for 2015.

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

**d) Election of MVCA and MSPA Vice Chair for 2015**

Nominations were called for the position of Vice Chair for 2015.

**Motion FA #17/15**

**Moved by: Deb Shewfelt**

**THAT** Jim Campbell is nominated for Vice Chair of the MVCA and MSPA for 2015.

(carried)

Art called further nominations for Vice Chair two more times and no others were made. Art then closed the nominations for Vice Chair for 2015.

**Motion FA #18/15**

**Moved by: Alison Lobb**

**Seconded by: Matt Duncan**

**THAT** nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the MVCA and MSPA for 2015 be closed.

(carried)

Art declared Jim Campbell Vice Chair of the MVCA and the MSPA for 2015. Jim accepted the appointment.

**e) Election of MVCA and MSPA Second Vice Chair for 2015**

Nominations were called for the position of Second Vice Chair for 2015.

**Motion FA #19/15**

**Moved by: Jim Campbell**

**THAT** Deb Shewfelt be nominated for Second Vice Chair of the MVCA and MSPA for 2015.

(carried)

Art called twice for further nominations for Second Vice Chair and no others were made. Art then closed the nominations for Second Vice Chair for 2015.

**Motion FA #20/15**

**Moved by: Paul Gowing  
Turton**

**Seconded by: David**

**THAT** nominations for the position of Second Vice Chair of the MVCA and MSPA for 2015 be closed.

(carried)

Art declared Deb Shewfelt Second Vice Chair of the MVCA and the MSPA for 2015. Deb accepted the appointment.

**f) Destruction of Ballots**

There were no ballots to be destroyed.

**8. Remarks from the 2015 MVCA/MSPA Chair, Vice Chair and Second Vice Chair**

Art Versteeg, 2015 MVCA/MSPA Chair thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and acknowledged that it will be hard to follow in Deb Shewfelt's footsteps as Deb has a great passion for the environment and a strong commitment to the conservation authority. Art explained that Deb is a great mentor and he looks forward to Deb's continued participation as 2015 Second Vice Chair of the MVCA/MSPA. Art noted that we can't do everything so we will try to do a few important things well such as strengthen flood/erosion safety and watershed stewardship services and continue to develop a stable financial base. Art expressed the need to take care of what has been given to us and make improvements in the watershed as it is important to leave it in better shape than when we received it.

**9. Presentations to retiring MVCA Directors**

Art thanked Gordon Young, Terry Fisk, Doug Miller (not able to attend) and Jason Breckenridge (not able to attend) for their years of services and contributions to the MVCA and invited any remarks they would like to make after the presentation.

Gordon enjoyed working on the Board and gave well wishes noting it is time to pass the opportunity on to someone else.

Terry explained that he has been involved in many organizations over the years and he has enjoyed the MVCA Board the most of any he has served on. Terry noted that the MVCA accomplished the most with the fewest dollars and wished the Board the best with future endeavours.

**10. Adjournment**

**Motion FA #21/15**

**Moved by: Matt Duncan**

**Seconded by: Alison Lobb**

**THAT** the meeting be adjourned.

(carried)

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm and Art thanked everyone in attendance and invited them to join the Directors and staff for refreshments following the meeting.



Art Versteeg  
Chair



Danielle Livingston  
Admin/Financial Services Coordinator