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Town of Aurora  
**Memorandum**  
Councillor's Office

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**Re:** Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of March 28, 2025

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Councillor Michael Thompson

**Date:** May 13, 2025

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## **Recommendation**

- 1. That the memorandum regarding Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of March 28, 2025, be received for information.**

## **Attachments**

1. Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights of March 28, 2025

## Board Meeting Highlights

March 28, 2025

### Announcements

- a) CAO Rob Baldwin updated on some Development Services and Engineering Department changes, where Ken Cheney's is now the Director, Flood Management, Chris Currie is now Manager, Regulations, and Ashlea Brown is now Senior Director, Development Services and a member of the Executive Leadership Team.
- b) CAO Rob Baldwin advised of a recent Federal announcement where the Conservation Authority received approximately \$412K over three years for a project exploring the reduction of phosphorus loads to Lake Simcoe by prioritizing agricultural best practices and assessing their effectiveness under a changing climate.
- c) CAO Rob Baldwin advised that with Premier Ford's cabinet announcement, conservation authorities have returned to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, under Minister Todd McCarthy, who is also an MPP in the Lake Simcoe watershed.
- d) CAO Rob Baldwin reminder Board members of the Scanlon Creek Nature Centre Groundbreaking Ceremony taking place in the afternoon of March 28th.
- e) CAO Baldwin advised that the Staff Chili Contest is back on this spring, with Mabel Davis and Scanlon Creek staff hosting office contests, with the two office winners bringing their creations to the Board following the May meeting for a winner to be chosen.

### Presentations:

#### a) **Fourth Quarter 2024 Draft Unaudited Financial Report**

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, provided a presentation on the Fourth Quarter 2024 Draft Unaudited Financial Report, noting there was an operational surplus position of \$1,160K at year-end, which is lower than the \$1,300K provided at Q3. He advised that the main drivers of this surplus include open positions in the Corporate Services area, and salary gapping and a decrease in legal expenses in the Planning and Development area. He reviewed the reserve activity for 2024, noting that reserve draws were lower than budgeted as anticipated at Q3. GM Critch noted the 2024 Audited Financial Statements will require Board of Directors' approval at their May 2025 meeting.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [Fourth Quarter 2024 Financial Report Presentation](#)

## **Deputations**

### **a) Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition**

Ms. Claire Malcolmson made a deputation on behalf of the Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition regarding their work with the Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition on limited liability for winter road maintenance. Ms. Malcolmson noted that the group is asking municipalities to pass a resolution urging the Province of Ontario to develop limited liability legislation and to create and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee for the purposes of advising the province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution.

Councillor Eek noted that Conservation Authority staff have been leading this initiative for years and asked for staff to provide some guidance on this matter, including the requested resolution. CAO Baldwin advised that staff have brought this matter before the Board a few times in recent years and in 2023 circulated a template resolution for consideration. CAO Baldwin offered for staff to bring to the next meeting a presentation and staff report on the Conservation Authority's involvement to date on the issue of salt and winter road maintenance, as well as an updated template resolution for use by municipalities.

## **Correspondence and Staff Reports:**

### **Correspondence**

The Board received two pieces of correspondence:

- a) A January 22<sup>nd</sup> Council Resolution from the Township of Oro-Medonte regarding amalgamation of conservation authorities; and
- b) A February 25<sup>th</sup> letter from Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Chair to the Conservation Authority's Chair regarding the Township of Oro-Medonte's January 22<sup>nd</sup> resolution proposing the amalgamation of conservation authorities.

### **Fourth Quarter 2024 Draft Unaudited Financial Report**

The Board received Staff Report No. 07-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's Fourth Quarter 2024 Draft Unaudited Financial Report.

### **Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: 2024 Annual Statistical Report**

The Board received Staff Report No. 08-25-BOD regarding the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act 2024 Statistical Report.

### **2025 Conservation Awards Program and Ceremony**

The Board received Staff Report No. 09-25-BOD regarding the 2025 Conservation Awards Program and Ceremony.

**Delegation of Power - Conservation Authorities Act (Part VI, s. 28.4)**

The Board received Staff Report No. 10-25-BOD regarding the delegation of power for the issuance of permits, made pursuant to the Conservation Authorities Act. The Board delegated the authority for the Manager, Regulations and the Manager, Development Engineering and Infrastructure to approve permits in accordance with Part VI, s. 28.4 of the Conservation Authorities Act effective March 31, 2025. The Board endorsed the updating of the signing authorization to reflect a title change for the position of Senior Director, Development Services effective March 31, 2025.

**2025 Budget Companion Document**

The Board received Staff Report No. 11-25-BOD regarding the Conservation Authority's 2025 Budget Companion Document.

**2024 Enabling Services Internal Customer Satisfaction Survey Results**

The Board received Staff Report No. 12-25-BOD regarding the 2024 Enabling Services Internal Customer Satisfaction Survey Results.

**Confidential Legal Matter**

The Board received Confidential Staff Report No. 13-25-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter.

**Confidential Human Resources Matter**

The Board received an update regarding a confidential human resources matter and provided direction to the Senior Director, Human Resources.

**Confidential Human Resources Matter**

The Board received Confidential Staff Report No. 14-25-BOD regarding a confidential human resources matter be received and approved the recommendations contained within the report.

For more information or to see the full agenda package, visit [LSRCA's Board of Directors' webpage](#).