



Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: Thursday March 6, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
Location: Electronic via Zoom
Chair: Tom Hutchinson
Members present: Paul Allen, Barbara Dobreen, Greg McLean, Kevin Eccles
Others present: Adam Chalmers, Erik Downing, Janice Hagan

Chair Hutchinson called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion #EC25-05

Moved by Barbara Dobreen

Seconded by Paul Allen

THAT the agenda for the Executive Committee meeting, March 6, 2025, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Executive Committee – February 12, 2025

Motion #EC25-06

Moved by Paul Allen

Seconded by Barbara Dobreen

THAT the minutes for the Executive Committee meeting, February 12, 2025, be adopted as circulated.

Carried

New Business

GM2025-06: SVCA Operational Workplan

The General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer (GM/S-T) summarized the items on the 2025 workplan and highlighted the completed items. He noted the progress made and added that staff are actively working towards achieving the remaining goals.

Discussion: SVCA's involvement in the Walkerton Water Crisis Commemoration

Director Greg McLean inquired about SVCA's planned involvement in the 25-year commemoration of the Walkerton Water Crisis. He emphasized that the situation is sensitive for Walkerton residents and stressed the importance of choosing language carefully. The GM/S-T assured the Committee that SVCA's participation will be limited to supporting Conservation Ontario and Drinking Water Source Protection in their consultation with the Municipality of Brockton.

COR-2025-07: Transitioning SVCA Agenda Practices for Accessibility Compliance and Organizational Efficiency

Adam Chalmers, the Manager of Corporate Services, proposed publishing only the Order of Business section of the agenda on the public website, while continuing to circulate the full agenda package to the Board of Directors to save preparation time. He explained that ensuring document accessibility in accordance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA) is a time-consuming process. This approach would bypass the need to make the entire content accessible. However, the Committee was not in favour of this approach, expressing concerns about transparency and the inability of the public to provide feedback to their appointed members prior to the meeting. The Committee directed staff to explore various meeting software options that could help save time.

Other Business

Kevin Eccles asked for a report to be presented at the next Executive Committee meeting that details the budget vote process. He emphasized the importance of clarity and transparency in understanding the voting procedures. Additionally, he requires clarification on the passing of the budget in January

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM with a motion from Barbara Dobreen and Kevin Eccles.

Tom Hutchinson
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary