

# **INFORMATION ITEMS**

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**Week Ending April 8, 2016**

## **REPORTS**

1. None

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Regional Municipality of Peel re: Ambulance Communications and Dispatch Services Advocacy

## **BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

1. GRCA Annual General Meeting Minutes – February 26, 2016

## **ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE**

1. None



## Office of the Chair

March 18, 2016

Resolution Number 2016-144

The Honourable Eric Hoskins  
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
10th Floor, Hepburn Block, 80 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister:

**Subject: Ambulance Communications and Dispatch Services Advocacy**

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I am writing to advise that Regional Council approved the following resolution at its meeting held on Thursday, February 25, 2016:

Resolution 2016-144:

That the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care be requested to expedite the improvements related to the ambulance dispatch system by implementing the Medical Priority Dispatch System, as described in the report of the Commissioner of Health Services titled "Ambulance Communications and Dispatch Services Advocacy", across the Province of Ontario;

And further, that the Mississauga Dispatch Centre, given the call volumes, be given priority for implementation;

And further, that a copy of the subject report be sent to all designated delivery agents for land ambulance in Ontario, the boards and CEO's of the Local Health Integration Networks, the Community Care Access Centres and hospitals serving Peel, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Association of Paramedics Chiefs, for endorsement.

A copy of the subject report is enclosed.



## Office of the Chair

Frank Dale  
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer

FD:hg

c: Janette Smith, Commissioner, Health Services, Region of Peel

**Also sent to:**

James Price, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs  
Scott McLeod, Central West Local Health Integration Network, Chief Executive Officer  
Bill MacLeod, Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network, Chief Executive Officer  
Cathy Hecimovich, Central West Community Care Access Centre, Chief Executive Officer  
Caroline Brereton, Mississauga Halton Community Care Access Centre, Chief Executive Officer  
Pat Vanini, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Michelle DiEmanuele, Trillium Health Partners, President and Chief Executive Officer  
Matthew Anderson, William Osler Health System, President and Chief Executive Officer  
Municipality of Chatham-Kent  
Northumberland County  
Lanark County  
Elgin County  
City of Thunder Bay  
Brant County  
Rama First Nation  
Middlesex County  
City of London  
City of Hamilton  
City of Niagara Falls  
Oxford County  
City of Ottawa  
Halton Region  
Town of Rainy River  
City of Toronto  
Bruce County  
Beausoleil First Nation  
York Region  
Frontenac County  
Essex County  
Town of Cochrane



## Office of the Chair

Hastings County  
Renfrew County  
Grey County  
Town of Parry Sound  
City of Kawartha Lakes  
City of Timiskaming Shores  
City of Guelph  
Norfolk County  
Durham Region  
Haldimand County  
Huron County  
ORNGE  
Lambton County  
Dufferin County  
Perth County  
City of Thunder Bay  
City of Greater Sudbury  
The District Municipality of Muskoka  
Algoma Township  
City of Cornwall  
Manitoulin-Sudbury  
Peterborough County  
City of Sault Ste. Marie  
City of Kenora  
Simcoe County  
County of Lennox Addington  
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville  
Haliburton County  
United Counties of Prescott Russell

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DATE: January 22, 2016

REPORT TITLE: **AMBULANCE COMMUNICATIONS AND DISPATCH SERVICES  
ADVOCACY**

FROM: Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care be requested to expedite the improvements related to the ambulance dispatch system by implementing the Medical Priority Dispatch System, as described in the report of the Commissioner of Health Services titled “Ambulance Communications and Dispatch Services Advocacy”, across the Province of Ontario;**

**And further, that the Mississauga Dispatch Centre, given the call volumes, be given priority for implementation;**

**And further, that a copy of the subject report be sent to all designated delivery agents for land ambulance in Ontario, the boards and CEO’s of the Local Health Integration Networks, the Community Care Access Centres and hospitals serving Peel, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Association of Paramedics Chiefs, for endorsement.**

### **REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Since 2010, the Region of Peel has taken leadership on Council-endorsed advocacy directed at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to improve ambulance dispatch.
- Implementing a better dispatch system would allow Peel Regional Paramedic Services and Greater Toronto Area (GTA) partners to reassess how it allocates resources across its ambulance fleet, further improving response times for those calls prioritized as life-threatening, and ensuring patients receive care within a time period that more accurately reflects their condition.
- The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has stated its intention to improve ambulance dispatch by the year 2018; while this indicates progress, the Region will continue to advocate that improvements need to be expedited, and that the Mississauga Dispatch Centre, given the call volumes, should be a priority for implementation.

**AMBULANCE COMMUNICATIONS AND DISPATCH SERVICES ADVOCACY****DISCUSSION****1. Background**

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is responsible for oversight of land ambulance in Ontario, sharing land ambulance operating costs on a 50:50 basis with municipalities. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care also funds all 22 ambulance dispatch centres in Ontario and directly operates approximately half of these dispatch centres, with four operated by municipalities. The provincially-operated Mississauga Central Ambulance Communication Centre (dispatch centre) deploys and coordinates ambulances operated by Peel Regional Paramedic Services and some neighbouring ambulance services. An overview of oversight and funding of paramedic services is provided in Appendix I.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's 'Action Plan for Health Care' that was released in 2012, and updated in 2015, set out the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's priorities for the health system, including implementing reforms to improve patient care, in part by ensuring patients receive the 'right care, at the right time, in the right place'. However, the Action Plans did not specify details for paramedic services, a contributor to the health system.

**2. Findings**

Pressures from population growth and a growing seniors population in Peel are increasing ambulance call volume by 4.7% annually, from a current 103,771 calls (2014) to an estimated 227,000 calls by 2031. Similar demands are being made on other parts of the health system, such as increases in hospital emergency department visits and growing demand for home and community care.

As reported to Council in 2010, in a report entitled "Greater Toronto Areas Ambulance Communication and Dispatch Services Review" the provincially-operated Mississauga dispatch centre uses technology that does not accurately prioritize ambulance calls. This continues to be true today as this dispatch centre, in 2014, dispatched 72 per cent of all calls as life-threatening (requiring lights and sirens response) while upon patient assessment, paramedics only transported about 20 per cent of these responses on a life-threatening basis to hospital as reported in the Paramedic Services 2014 Annual Performance Report. This is a problem, as continued over-prioritizing of emergency calls places increased demands on the system by assigning more ambulances to life-threatening emergency response than what is necessary. This can leave fewer or no ambulances to respond to new calls that are truly urgent. This issue has been identified in several external reports and has been reported to Regional Council over the past five years.

**a) Review of Ambulance Dispatch**

By way of history, the Region of Peel along with the Regions of Durham, Halton, and York, and the County of Simcoe commissioned a review of ambulance dispatch centres serving their municipalities. The Pomax review and findings (2009) were reported to, and endorsed by Regional Council on September 9, 2010 in the report titled "Greater Toronto Area Ambulance Communication and Dispatch Services Review". The Pomax report recommendations to improve ambulance dispatch included:

- Adopting patient triaging technology that more appropriately and accurately triages ambulance calls; and

## AMBULANCE COMMUNICATIONS AND DISPATCH SERVICES ADVOCACY

- Adopting communications and dispatch systems to provide real-time business intelligence about the location and call status of ambulances so that ambulance resources can be allocated more efficiently.

Additionally, in 2013 the Auditor General recommended that the province assess the effectiveness of the two communications dispatch protocols in use in Ontario, and adjust protocols to reduce over-prioritization of patients. Most recently, research directed by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, completed by the Sunnybrook Centre for Pre-Hospital Medicine, and reported in the 2015 Auditor General's report, concluded that the Medical Priority Dispatch System is the more accurate dispatch system. In dispatch centres where Medical Priority Dispatch System is used, approximately 40 per cent of calls are triaged as life-threatening (as opposed to 72 per cent in Peel). The Medical Priority Dispatch System is already used in dispatch centres operated by the City of Toronto and Niagara Region, and has enabled ambulance dispatch centres to build in options, such as diverting low-acuity 9-1-1 calls to Telehealth Ontario. The Mississauga dispatch centre operated by the province does not use Medical Priority Dispatch System.

Implementing Medical Priority Dispatch System in the Mississauga dispatch centre would allow Peel Regional Paramedic Services to reassess how it allocates resources across its ambulance fleet, further improving response times for those calls prioritized as life-threatening, and ensuring patients receive care within a time period that more accurately reflects their condition. Confirmation that Medical Priority Dispatch System is a more accurate system is promising. However, as reported in the Auditor General's report, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care reports that implementation of improvements will take up to three years to complete.

### b) Regional Advocacy

In 2010, after endorsement of the Pomax recommendations, Regional Council directed the Regional Chair and senior staff to work with the province and GTA Regional Chairs and Warden to ensure the findings from the Pomax report were included in the provincial government's agenda. Since then, the Region and its GTA partners have been active in engaging the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care on the dispatch issue. Since 2010, the Region of Peel has led these advocacy efforts by engaging senior Ministry staff and the Minister of Health in meetings and briefings to outline the need for dispatch reform.

As a result of this advocacy, a Dispatch Working Group was formed by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care in 2014, whose membership included the Chief and Director of Peel Regional Paramedic Services. In 2015, the Dispatch Working Group provided a confidential report to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care which included recommendations to improve the dispatching of ambulance services and the prioritization of emergency calls.

In a letter to the Region, received in the Fall of 2015, Health Minister Hoskins indicated his Ministry's commitment to improve ambulance services. With respect to dispatch reform, he notes that any changes must be evidence-based and contribute to improving patient outcomes, financial sustainability and government priorities. However, as noted above, according to the Auditor General, the Ministry has indicated that it will take until late 2018 to plan and complete improvements and there has been no response to the Dispatch Working Group's recommendations.

## AMBULANCE COMMUNICATIONS AND DISPATCH SERVICES ADVOCACY

### CONCLUSION

It is encouraging that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has stated its intention to improve ambulance dispatch. While this indicates progress, the Region will continue to advocate that improvements need to be expedited and that the Mississauga Dispatch Centre, given the call volumes, should be a priority for implementation.

Improvements to ambulance dispatch will see better patient outcomes, and contribute to solutions which will help to enhance the overall health system, including hospital emergency department wait times and paramedic demands. This would ultimately provide the 'right care, at the right time, in the right place' thereby helping to fulfill the overall objectives of the Ministry's discussion paper, "Patients First: A Proposal to Strengthen Patient-Centred Health Care in Ontario."



Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services

### Approved for Submission:



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D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer

### APPENDICES

1. Appendix I – Oversight and Funding of Paramedic Services in Peel Region: A Region of Peel Perspective

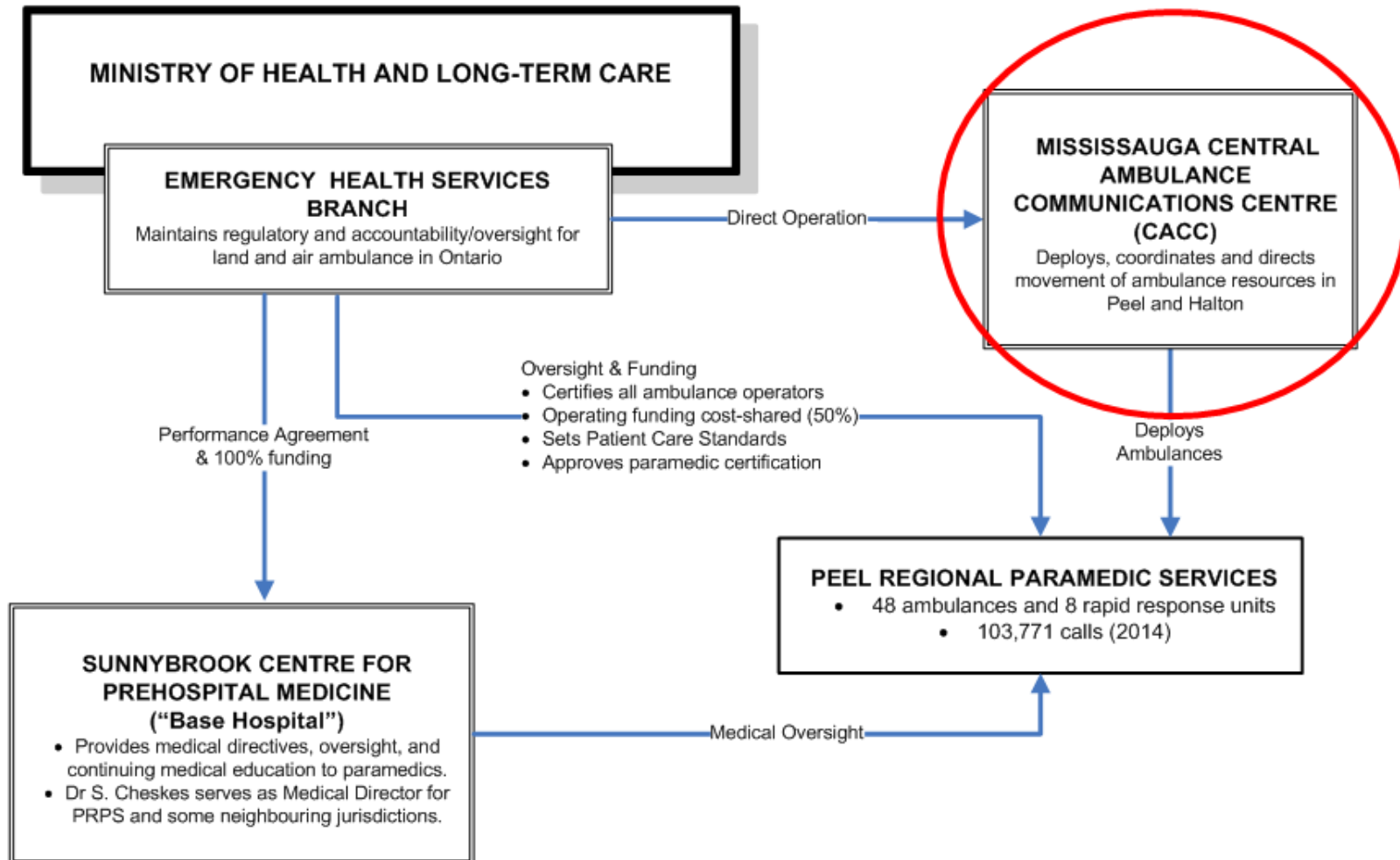
*For further information regarding this report, please contact Dawn Langtry, Strategic Policy, Planning and Initiatives Ext. 4138.*



AMBULANCE COMMUNICATIONS AND DISPATCH SERVICES ADVOCACY

Appendix I

OVERSIGHT AND FUNDING OF PARAMEDIC SERVICES IN PEEL REGION  
A Region of Peel Perspective



May 2015



# Grand River Conservation Authority

## Minutes - Annual General Meeting

Date: February 26, 2016  
Time: 9:30 am  
Location: Auditorium  
Grand River Conservation Authority  
400 Clyde Road, Box 729  
Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6

Members Present Les Armstrong, Bruce Banbury, Robert Bell, Elizabeth Clarke, Bernie Corbett, Susan Foxton, Guy Gardhouse, Helen Jowett, Geoff Lorentz, Cindy Lunau, David Neumann, Joe Nowak, Vic Prendergast, Wayne Roth, Mike Salisbury, Pat Salter, Shirley Simons, George Stojanovic, Warren Stauch, Chris White, George Wicke

Members Absent Brian Coleman, Kelly Linton, Jane Mitchell, Fred Morison, Sandy Shantz

Staff Karen Armstrong, Dave Bennett, Dwight Boyd, Nancy Davy, Joe Farwell, Samantha Lawson, Keith Murch, Jack Griffin, Sonja Radoja, Tracey Ryan, George Sousa, Lisi Stocco, Sara Wilbur, Martin Keller, Bev Parrott, Dave Schultz, Matt Amy, Nathan Munn, Crystal Allan, Sandra Cooke, Fred Natolochny

Others Ray Martin, Cambridge Times; Brian May, MPP, Cambridge; Ken Seiling, Chair, Region of Waterloo; Bill Mackie, Chair, Kettle Creek

Conservation Authority, Grant Hughes and Robert Putnam, Belwood  
Lake Cottagers' Association

**1. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 9:30 a.m.

**2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – 13 Members constitute a quorum (1/2 of Members appointed by participating Municipalities)**

The Secretary-Treasurer called the roll and certified a quorum with 21 Members present.

**3. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed visitors, members and staff and introduced Bryan May, MP, Cambridge; Ken Seiling, Chair, Regional Municipality of Waterloo and Bill Mackie, Chair, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority. The Chair then made the following remarks:

On January 25, Helen Jowett, Joe Farwell and Keith Murch presented the draft Budget to City of Hamilton council. George Stojanovic also attended. He thanked staff for their very thorough presentation.

On February 12, 2016 the Heritage Day Workshop and Celebration was held. Members in attendance included Helen Jowett, Shirley Simons, Sue Foxton, Warren Stauch, Elizabeth Clarke, Jane Mitchell and Pat Salter.

On February 17, 2016 Guy Gardhouse, Joe Farwell and Keith Murch presented the draft Budget to the Township of Amaranth council.

On March 5, 2016 Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) will host a Managing Trees on Your Property Workshop at the Administration Centre in Cambridge. GRCA forestry staff together with experts from Pollination Guelph and the Invasive Plan Council of Ontario will cover various topics. Registration is free and can be done on the GRCA website.

Also on March 5, 2016 GRCA staff will participate in a Sharing Experiences Workshop at the Puslinch Community Centre. The Workshop is organized by local Conservation Authorities and environmental organizations and will feature a keynote address by Gord Miller, Ontario's former Environmental Commissioner. Registration is free and can be done on-line at [www.conservationhamilton.ca](http://www.conservationhamilton.ca)

Each of the members has been provided with a copy of the 2016 publication "Your Guide to Grand River Parks". Members were encouraged to use the Membership Pass given to them to visit GRCA parks.

**4. Review of Agenda**

There were two additional reports circulated on the addendum to the Agenda: a copy of the Pre-Budget Submission from Conservation Ontario to the Federal Minister of Finance, which has been added to C.A.O.'s report, and the late starter Current Watershed Conditions report.

**Moved By** Bruce Banbury

**Seconded By** Les Armstrong

THAT the agenda for the Annual General Meeting be approved as amended.

**Carried**

**5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests made in relation to the matters to be dealt with.

**6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - January 22, 2016**

There were no questions or comments with respect to the Minutes of the previous meeting.

**Moved By** Susan Foxtton

**Seconded By** Bernie Corbett

THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of January 22, 2016 be approved as circulated.

**Carried**

**7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

**8. Hearing of Delegations**

**8.1 Hearing of Delegations**

The Chair advised the members that Grant Hughes, Belwood Lake Cottagers' Association wished to take the place of Keith McKee with permission of the members. The members approved having Grand Hughes appear as a delegate before them.

Grant Hughes thanked the members for allowing him to speak. He introduced Robert Putnam and indicated that they represented the Belwood Lake Cottagers' Association. He provided background information with respect to Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) inspections of cottage lot septic systems at Conestogo and Belwood Lakes. He said that MOECC wants every septic system certified and this is an expensive process. The cottagers have objected and have been meeting since last summer. GRCA is involved because it is the landowner. He said cottagers do not want to pollute the lakes. He took the opportunity to thank Samantha Lawson, Property Manager and her staff for their assistance in dealing with MOECC.

Sue Foxtan said it is legislated that all municipalities inspect septic systems and not just at lakes. Grant Hughes responded that the first thing the Ministry wanted to conduct inspections was a cheque.

Helen Jowett thanked the delegate for recognizing GRCA staff's assistance.

## **9. Presentations**

### **9.1 New Website - GRCA and Lake Erie Source Protection Region**

The Chair introduced David Schultz, former Manager of Communications and George Sousa, Manager of Manager of Information Systems and Technology.

David Schultz advised the members that development of the new website began two years ago. Throughout the process staff have learned about what people want from the GRCA's website. Staff worked with eSolutions which is a firm that many municipalities work with. He displayed the various menus and the prominent search box working through Google. He indicated that GRCA shares the website with the Grand River Conservation Foundation and it has approximately 1,000 subscribers.

George Sousa spoke of the services that the new website provides indicating that the most popular is up to date information on the river, through the river data section. A valuable addition is information on how to read the various charts which was prepared by David Schultz. Another popular service is the online

permit application. He displayed the online store, translator and mapping. He indicated that the new website meets 2021 objectives pursuant to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

David Schultz referred to the Source Protection Planning section of the website and said that staff tried to make it helpful to landowners to see if their property was in an affected area and what impact it has.

Mike Salisbury said he realizes how significant the new website is and that everything GRCA does as far as what the public wants is "topnotch". He referred to a recent presentation with respect to recent GIS mapping and the level of detail. He asked whether that level of detail is or will be available in the "Map Your Property" section of the website. George Sousa said that staff are in the process of having the program reviewed by planners at municipalities for their input and then the information will be made available.

Helen Jowett said that she felt the new website would generate significant interest.

## **10. Correspondence**

Mike Salisbury said he is very aware of the phragmites issue and asked if GRCA has an initiative that it is undertaking in the watershed in this regard. Joe Farwell said that this problem goes well beyond GRCA and is shared by municipalities, etc. throughout the Province.

Nancy Davy confirmed that the Natural Heritage group is working on a pilot project at Taquanyah which has a large area of phragmites. She said that will cost approximately \$50,000 to treat a very small area. Mike Salisbury said he perceives that this is one of the greatest threats to the diversity of the watershed and asked if this is accurate. Nancy Davy agreed that it is very invasive.

**Moved By** Susan Foxton

**Seconded By** Geoff Lorentz

THAT Correspondence from Denise Holmes, Township of Melancthon, dated February 5, 2016 to Keith Murch, Grand River Conservation Authority, re: 2016 Budget and correspondence from Dick Hibma, Chair, Conservation Ontario to the Honourable Kathleen Wynn, Premier, dated January 21, 2016 re: Control of Invasive Species: Phragmites australis in Ontario be received as information.

**Carried**

- 10.1 Correspondence from Denise Holmes, Township of Melancthon, dated February 5, 2016 to Keith Murch, Grand River Conservation Authority, re: 2016 Budget
- 10.2 Correspondence from Dick Hibma, Chair, Conservation Ontario to the Honourable Kathleen Wynn, Premier, dated January 21, 2016 re: Control of Invasive Species: Phragmites australis in Ontario

**11. 1st and 2nd Reading of By-Laws**

The Chair read the recommendation.

Keith Murch referred the members to the report under Item 12 (m) and explained the changes in the By-law. He then explained the first, second and third reading and asked that questions be held until the report was reached.

Resolution 2016-22

**Moved By** Elizabeth Clarke

**Seconded By** Vic Prendergast

THAT By-law 1-2016 be read a first and second time.

**Carried**

**12. Reports:**

**12.1 GM-02-16-11 Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

Joe Farwell referred to Item 5 – 2016 Pre-Budget Submission to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs. He said Conservation Ontario is continuing to remind Provincial and Federal governments of the Conservation Authorities' role. He reminded the members of the role of Conservation Authorities regulations in reducing flood damages. He advised the members that the Chair and Keith Murch will be attending Queen's Park with representatives of Conservation Ontario and other Conservation Authorities on March 10, 2016.

Bernie Corbett asked whether the circumstances set out in the Conservation Areas Update section of the report would affect revenues. Joe Farwell said that they are expected to have an impact.

Resolution 2016-23

**Moved By** George Stojanovic

**Seconded By** Warren Stauch

That Report GM-02-16-11 - Chief Administrative Officer's Report be received as information.

**Carried**

12.1.1 2016 Pre-Budget Submission to the Federal Minister of Finance

**12.2 GM-02-16-12 Cash and Investment Status**

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

Resolution 2016-24

**Moved By** Susan Foxton

**Seconded By** Geoff Lorentz

THAT Report GM-02-16-12, Cash and Investment Status, be received for Information.

**Carried**

**12.3 GM-02-16-13 Financial Summary for the Period Ending January 31, 2016**

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

Resolution 2016-25

**Moved By** Joe Nowak

**Seconded By** Vic Prendergast

THAT Report GM-02-16-13, Financial Summary, be received for Information

**Carried**

**12.4 GM-02-16-14 Weighted Voting - 2016 Budget and General Levy**

Keith Murch pointed out that the members were receiving this report for information. He explained that once a year a special process is undertaken for voting on approval of the Budget and General Levy. He referred to the Chart entitled, in part, "Weight of Votes by Members" and said that the municipalities that pay a higher levy have a higher percentage vote.



Resolution 2016-26

**Moved By** Les Armstrong

**Seconded By** Shirley Simons

THAT Report GM-02-16-14 - Weighted Voting - 2016 Budget and General Levy be received as information.

**Carried**

**12.5 GM-02-16-15 2016 Budget and General Levy**

Approval of 2016 Budget and General Levy included under Item 14 - General Business

Bernie Corbett indicated that Haldimand County would like to have a response from the Province following Hamilton's actions with respect to its Local Agreement for levy apportionment. Keith Murch said that one Conservation Authority has decided to stop following the Local Agreement and the Province has not yet provided direction.

**12.6 GM-02-16-16 Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines**

There were no questions of comments with respect to this report.

Resolution 2016-27

**Moved By** Guy Gardhouse

**Seconded By** Elizabeth Clarke

THAT Report GM-02-16-16, Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines, be received for information.

**Carried**

**12.7 GM-02-16-17 Environmental Assessments**

There were no questions of comments with respect to this report.

Resolution 2016-28

**Moved By** Robert Bell

**Seconded By** Bruce Banbury

THAT Report GM-02-16-17 - Environmental Assessments be received as information.

**Carried**

**12.8 GM-02-16-18 Clear Condition for First Right of Refusal and Amendments to Order in Council and Instrument No. 135796, County of Haldimand**

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

Resolution 2016-29

**Moved By** Bernie Corbett

**Seconded By** Vic Prendergast

THAT staff be authorized to clear the condition of First Right of Refusal and proceed with amendments to the Order in Council and Instrument No. 135796 on lands legally described as Parts 3,4,5,6 and 7 on Plan 18R-1435, Parts 1 and 2 on Plan 18R-1671, in the Town of Caledonia, County of Haldimand.

**Carried**

**12.9 GM-02-16-19 Designation of POA Officer**

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

Resolution 2016-30

**Moved By** Elizabeth Clarke

**Seconded By** Joe Nowak

THAT Grand River Conservation Authority designate Craig Bolton as a Provincial Offences Officer.

**Carried**

**12.10 GM-02-16-20 Contribution Agreement for Funding under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program**

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

Resolution 2016-31

**Moved By** David Neumann

**Seconded By** Pat Salter

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority enter into a Contribution Agreement for funding under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program for the Renovation of Kay Marston Pavilion in the amount of \$83,250;

AND THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority enter into a Contribution Agreement for funding under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program for the Renovation of Apps' Mill Nature Centre in the amount of \$137,531;

AND THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority enter into a Contribution Agreement for funding under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program for the Rehabilitation of FWR Dickson Nature Trail and Boardwalks in the amount of \$93,500.

**Carried**

#### **12.11 GM-02-16-21 Grassland Habitat Project on the Morton Property**

George Stojanovic said he found it interesting that this developer is from Oakville. He asked whether this type of compensation has been done before. Crystal Allan answered that GRCA had one such arrangement at Conestogo Lake in 2012. George Stojanovic asked whether the developer's "hands are tied" if they cannot arrange compensation. He said the area is about 20 acres and this may be an opportunity to leverage the development and receive more than \$65,000. He said GRCA should look for opportunities to receive financial benefits from the developer because this is a significant bonus for the developer.

Elizabeth Clarke said she was curious about the five year term of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Crystal Allan said that the term is dictated by the regulation.

George Wicke asked if GRCA will partner with the developer whereby GRCA will do the work and the developer will pay the costs. Crystal Allan responded in the affirmative.

Sue Foxtan asked whether there is any restriction on how much GRCA can charge. Crystal Allan indicated that she did not know the answer. Sue Foxtan said she wanted the matter deferred. She asked if GRCA can cost-recover under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Keith Murch responded that GRCA is allowed to charge fees for certain activities. Sue Foxtan asked if GRCA can charge more because the value of the developer's land will be millions of dollars. Crystal Allan

said that under the regulation, the proposal goes above and beyond what is required. The developer is taking 8.5 hectares and legislation said that the same amount of land should be restored, but staff asked for a ratio of 1.5 to 1.

Nancy Davy suggested that the members permit staff to proceed with this particular proposal and then look into the members' questions for a future application. Sue Foxton said that the members will set a precedent by agreeing to the proposal today. Helen Jowett reminded the members that the recommendation is to receive the report for information.

George Stojanovic asked whether GRCA will be entering into the MOU based upon the report. Helen Jowett answered that the report speaks to entering into the MOU.

Joe Farwell suggested that the members refer this matter back to staff who can look into the members' questions.

The proposed motion was withdrawn.

#### **12.12 GM-02-16-22 Afforestation Services for Spring 2016**

Bernie Corbett asked what prequalification involves and what afforestation means.

Dave Bennett answered that pre-qualification involves a formal request to tree planting companies for information about their capabilities, equipment, etc. He indicated that GRCA goes through this process each year and once a company is pre-qualified it is given the opportunity to submit a bid. Bernie Corbett asked what afforestation is. Dave Bennett said that it involves reforestation and is a more natural project as opposed to landscaping, therefore a different type of company is pre-qualified and allowed to bid.

Resolution 2016-32

**Moved By** Susan Foxton

**Seconded By** Vic Prendergast

THAT Grand River Conservation Authority accepts the bids for afforestation services with Bartram Woodlands Ltd. in the amount of \$12,480.00, Black River Tree Planting in the amount of \$55,520.00, and Brinkman & Associates Reforestation Ltd. in the amount of \$47,950.00, (excluding taxes).

**12.13 GM-02-16-23 Proposed By-law 1-2016**

Recommended motions are included under first, second and third reading of By-laws.

Keith Murch confirmed that the third reading of the By-law would be undertaken later in the meeting, and the report is open for discussion and questions. He noted that page 135 of the agenda details the changes that are being recommended and said that this report is generally presented once each year.

Geoff Lorentz noted that the changes are minor and staff indicated that the by-law is reviewed each year, however, the report says it is reviewed “periodically”. He believes that it has been three years since the by-law was last updated and thinks the report should be presented every two years whether there are amendments or not. Keith Murch said that staff are constantly accumulating amendments and some have to be made more quickly than others. Geoff Lorentz said he does not like “periodically” and he wants the by-law to be reviewed every two years.

George Stojanovic suggested the recommendation be amended to read “a minimum of two years”. Keith Murch said this would be very easy for staff to do.

Cindy Lunau suggested that the recommendation should read “at least every two years”. She referred to Section 44 of the by-law and rules of debate. She noted that it says the members should rise to speak but they are not doing so now. Cindy Lunau suggested Section 44 be amended to delete the requirement to rise when addressing the Chair.

Geoff Lorentz said the sound system in the GRCA’s Auditorium/Boardroom is deficient and if a person does not have a loud voice they cannot be heard. Helen Jowett asked Dave Bennett to investigate the sound system issue.

Resolution 2016-33

**Moved By** Geoff Lorentz

**Seconded By** Chris White

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority By-laws are reviewed by the Board at least every two years.

**Carried**

Resolution 2016-34

**Moved By** Cindy Lunau

**Seconded By** Shirley Simons

THAT Section 44 of the By-law be amended to say "Every Member wishing to speak to a question or Motion shall, upon recognition by the Chair, address the Chair."

**Carried**

#### **12.14 GM-02-16-24 Per Diems and Honorariums for 2016**

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

Resolution 2016-35

**Moved By** Susan Foxton

**Seconded By** Joe Nowak

THAT Report GM-02-16-24 - Per Diems and Honorariums for 2016, be received as information.

**Carried**

#### **12.15 GM-02-16-25 Grand River Watershed Flood Warning System**

Dwight Boyd indicated that the annual Flood Coordinator's meeting was held on February 17, 2016. The program included a review of the flood fan-out system test, a discussion with respect to the role of the Municipal Flood Coordinators, a presentation related to the revised flood fan-out procedure and a presentation with respect to the Township of Woolwich Aizan voice dialer system used to warn residents. Municipal Police, Ontario Provincial Police and Environment Canada representatives attended the meeting. There were approximately 85 people in attendance. The Flood Warning System test was run on February 10, 2016. While all municipalities received the test message, there were three that did not acknowledge receipt.

Resolution 2016-36

**Moved By** Susan Foxton

**Seconded By** George Wicke

THAT Report GM-02-16-25 - Grand River Watershed Flood Warning System be received as information.

**Carried**

#### **12.16 GM-02-16-26 Current Watershed Conditions**

Dwight Boyd conducted a PowerPoint presentation indicating that:

- Since the report was prepared another weather event had occurred on February 24 and 25, 2016 in the form of precipitation to the extent of 20 to 25 millimetres. Precipitation for the month of February, 2016 is now close to long term average.
- As of the last snow survey on February 16, 2016 the amount of water in the snowpack was below the long term average.
- The average temperature in February, 2016 has been above the long term average.
- The level of Lake Erie is well above the long term average – the level of Lake Erie dropped in the month of February, 2016 and is currently on a downward trend.
- With the early snow melt and loss of snowpack upstream of the large reservoirs, the reservoir levels are being kept above their normal operating levels for this time of year.
- Environment Canada is predicting above average temperatures for most of Canada for the February to April, 2016 period.

Resolution 2016-37

**Moved By** David Neumann

**Seconded By** Vic Prendergast

THAT Report GM-02-16-26, Current Watershed Conditions, be received for information.

**12.16.1 Report - GM-02-16-26 - Attached**

**13. Committee of the Whole**

Not required.

**14. General Business**

There was no General Business.

**14.1 Report of the Audit Committee**

Chris White indicated to the members that everything is in order and there was nothing unusual found during the audit.

Bernie Corbett asked if the auditors made any comments or recommendations. Chris White said that there only comment was that staff was very helpful and they did not make any recommendations.

The Chair read the recommendation.

Resolution 2016-38

**Moved By** Elizabeth Clarke

**Seconded By** Chris White

THAT the Report of the Audit Committee of the Grand River Conservation Authority be received, approved and attached to the Minutes of this meeting.

**Carried**

**14.2 Approval of Financial Statements and Report of the Auditor**

The Chair read the recommendation.

Resolution 2016-39

**Moved By** Shirley Simons

**Seconded By** Vic Prendergast

THAT the Financial Statements of Grand River Conservation Authority as at December 31, 2016 and the Report of the Auditors thereon be received, approved and placed on file;



AND THAT copies be made available to all member municipalities, Grand River Conservation Authority Members and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

**Carried**

**14.3 Appointment of Auditors**

The Chair read the recommendation.

Resolution 2016-40

**Moved By** Geoff Lorentz

**Seconded By** Shirley Simons

THAT KPMG, Chartered Professional Accountants, are appointed as Grand River Conservation Authority Auditors for the year ended December 31, 2016 at a fee not to exceed \$ 35,000.

**Carried**

**14.4 Presentation of Budget Estimates for the Current Year**

The Chair read the recommendation. Keith Murch confirmed that there were still 21 members in attendance at the meeting.

The Secretary-Treasurer confirmed the results of the weighted vote as follows:

The Secretary-Treasurer confirmed the results of the weighted vote as follows:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Municipality/Group</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Les Armstrong	Region of Waterloo	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Sue Foxton	Region of Waterloo	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Helen Jowett	Region of Waterloo	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Geoff Lorentz	Region of Waterloo	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Jane Mitchell	Region of Waterloo	5.0%			

Joe Nowak	Region of Waterloo	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Wayne Roth	Region of Waterloo	5.0%			
Sandy Shantz	Region of Waterloo	5.0%			
Warren Stauch	Region of Waterloo	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Elizabeth Clarke	Region of Waterloo	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Bernie Corbett	Haldimand & Norfolk Counties	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	
Fred Morison	Haldimand & Norfolk Counties	1.1%			
Cindy Lunau	Region of Halton	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	
George Stojanovic	City of Hamilton (adjusted)	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	
Bruce Banbury	County of Oxford	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	
David Neumann	City of Brantford	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	
Vic Prendergast	City of Brantford	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	
Bob Bell	City of Guelph	8.7%	8.7%	8.7%	
Mike Salisbury	City of Guelph	8.7%	8.7%	8.7%	
Guy Gardhouse	Group 1:	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	
Pat Salter	Group 2:	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	
George Wicke	Group 3:	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	
Kelly Linton	Twp of Ctr Wellington	3.3%			
Chris White	Group 5:	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	
Brian Coleman	County of Brant	1.8%			
Shirley Simons	County of Brant	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	
		<b>100.0%</b>	<b>78.8%</b>	<b>78.8%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

	<b>Weighted Vote Result</b>			<b>100.0%</b>	

Resolution 2016-41  
**Moved By** Les Armstrong  
**Seconded By** Warren Stauch

THAT the 2016 Budget of Grand River Conservation Authority of \$31,007,391 be approved;

AND THAT the member municipalities be assessed for payment of:

- Matching Levy: \$871,073
- Non-Matching Levy: \$8,937,927
- Capital Levy: \$1,000,000
- Total General Levy: \$10,809,000

AND THAT each member municipality’s share of the 2016 General Levy be calculated using “Modified Current Value Assessment” with an adjustment for the City of Hamilton which is based on a “local agreement” with the municipality and its four Conservation Authorities.

**Carried**

**14.5 Provision for Borrowing (Pending Receipt of Municipal Levies)**

The Chair confirmed that this recommendation is made every year, just to allow short-term financing for cash flow purposes, if required.

Resolution 2016-42  
**Moved By** Bernie Corbett  
**Seconded By** Shirley Simons

WHEREAS it may be necessary for Grand River Conservation Authority (hereinafter called the “Authority”) to borrow money, on an interim basis, to meet the Authority’s financial obligations while awaiting payment of levies by participating municipalities designated as such under The Conservation Authorities Act, RSO 1990 (hereinafter called “Participating Municipalities”);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Authority be authorized to borrow, on an interim basis, a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) from the Authority's bank at the said bank's minimum lending rate established from time to time, until the Authority has received payment of levies from Participating Municipalities;

AND THAT the Chair or Vice-Chair together with the Chief Administrative Officer or Secretary-Treasurer of the Authority be and they are hereby authorized to execute for and on behalf of the Authority, a promissory note or notes for the sum to be borrowed pursuant to this Resolution and to affix thereto the corporate seal of the Authority;

AND THAT the amount borrowed pursuant to this Resolution, together with interest thereon, be a charge upon the whole of the money received or to be received by the Authority by way of levies collected from Participating Municipalities when such moneys are received;

AND THAT the Chair or Vice-Chair or the Chief Administrative Officer or Secretary-Treasurer of the Authority be and is hereby authorized and directed to apply, in payment of the moneys borrowed pursuant to this Resolution together with interest thereon, all of the moneys received by the Authority by way of levies collected from Participating Municipalities.

**Carried**

## **15. Appointments to Committees**

### **15.1 Appointment of Special Recognition Committee**

The Chair called for volunteers.

Resolution 2016-43

**Moved By** Joe Nowak

**Seconded By** Robert Bell

That the following Members be appointed to the Special Recognition Committee until the next Annual General Meeting: Warren Stauch, Cindy Lunau, Pat Salter, Shirley Simons and Susan Foxton.

**Carried**

**15.2 Appointment of Audit Committee**

Keith Murch confirmed that the Terms of Reference stipulate that this committee consists of the Chair and Vice-chair, plus five additional Members. The Chair called for five volunteers.

Resolution 2016-44

**Moved By** Susan Foxtton

**Seconded By** Les Armstrong

That the following Members be appointed to the Audit Committee until the next Annual General Meeting: Helen Jowett (Chair), Chris White (Vice-chair), Elizabeth Clarke, Vic Prendergast, David Neumann, George Stojanovic and Guy Gardhouse.

**Carried**

**16. 3rd Reading of By-Laws**

Keith Murch confirmed that, once approved, By-law 1-2016 will be in force today.

Resolution 2016-45

**Moved By** Susan Foxtton

**Seconded By** Chris White

THAT By-law 1-2016, as amended, be read third time and adopted by the General Membership, to take effect on February 26, 2016;

AND THAT By-law 1-2014 be repealed on February 26, 2016;

AND THAT a copy of By-law 1-2016 be forwarded to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

**Carried**

**17. Other Business**

George Wicke agreed with Geoff Lorentz that something has to be done about the meeting room so that people can hear others. He also said that the meeting was being conducted so quickly that he did not have an opportunity to vote in two instances.

**18. Closed Meeting**

None

**19. Next Meeting**

**19.1 General Membership Meeting – Thursday, March 24, 2016 – 9:30 a.m. –  
Administration Centre**

**20. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

**Moved By** Bernie Corbett

**Seconded By** Shirley Simons

THAT the General Membership Meeting be adjourned.

**Carried**

**21. Grand River Source Protection Committee Meeting (if required)**

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer