

INFORMATION ITEMS

Week Ending November 15, 2013

REPORTS

1. None

CORRESPONDENCE

1. None

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

1. Committee of Adjustment - October 8, 2013 Meeting Minutes:
http://guelph.ca/wp-content/uploads/COA_minutes_100813.pdf
2. Grand River Conservation Authority – November Current
3. Guelph Municipal Holdings Inc. – November Shareholder Update

ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

1. None

GRCA General Membership

Chair	Jane Mitchell
1st Vice-Chair	Vic Prendergast
2nd Vice-Chair	Jan d'Ailly
Townships of Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Melancthon and Southgate and Town of Grand Valley	Tom Nevills
Townships of Mapleton and Wellington North	Pat Salter
Township of Centre Wellington	Joanne Ross-Zuj
Town of Erin, Townships of Guelph/Eramosa and Puslinch	John Brennan
City of Guelph	Bob Bell, Maggie Laidlaw
Region of Waterloo	Les Armstrong, Todd Cowan, Jan d'Ailly, Rob Deutschmann, Jean Haalboom, Ross Kelterborn, Geoff Lorentz, Claudette Miller, Jane Mitchell, Warren Stauch
Municipality of North Perth and Township of Perth East	George Wicke
Halton Region	J. Barry Lee
City of Hamilton	Jeanette Jamieson
Oxford County	Bruce Banbury
County of Brant	Brian Coleman, Steve Schmitt
City of Brantford	Robert Hillier, Vic Prendergast
Haldimand and Norfolk Counties	Lorne Boyko, Fred Morison

Smaller Parkhill hydro project proposed

A smaller Parkhill hydro proposal will be submitted to the Ontario Power Authority during a new window for applications in November.

In June the GRCA learned that a proposal for a 1,200 kW power generating station at the dam in Cambridge was turned down by the OPA's Feed-In Tariff program. But a new window for applications is expected Nov. 4 to Dec. 14 and the GRCA is set to submit a plan to build a 500 kilowatt unit. This could result in \$600,000 in revenue each year for the GRCA once it is operating. The GRCA already operates power plants at Guelph, Shand and Conestogo dams.

The Grand River Conservation Foundation has raised \$280,000 for the project, which is expected to cost about \$5 million.

Enbridge pipeline safety

Enbridge's senior public relations advisor Ken Hall was invited to make a presentation to the GRCA board about the pipeline that crosses the Grand River watershed.

In September people concerned about Line 9 made a presentation and asked the GRCA to sign a statement of concern to be submitted to the National Energy Board. The pipeline dates back to 1976 and runs between Montreal and Sarnia. Changes have already been approved to the part of this line called Line 9A that runs between North Westover in Hamilton and Sarnia and through the Grand River watershed.

Last summer Enbridge applied to reverse the flow and increase the capacity of Line 9B that runs between North Westover and Montreal. This is undergoing the hearing process. The GRCA will write to the National Energy Board and request that any safety requirements applied to Line 9B through the current hearing process, also be applied to the approved Line 9A, which crosses this watershed.

GRCA staff plan to meet with Enbridge Pipelines to discuss safety systems and protocols

for the pipeline, particularly the siting of isolation valves at key river crossing. These include the Grand River, Horner Creek, the Nith River and a branch of Fairchild Creek.

Wet balmy October

October was four degrees warmer than usual at the Shand Dam, where daytime temperatures hit the low 20s early in the month, although went down later in the month.

Lots of rain meant that river flows throughout the watershed were above average. Whitemans Creek and the lower Nith River have recovered from low water levels earlier in the fall. The reservoirs are also higher than normal due to the rain.

Two watershed conditions statements were issued in October due to heavy rainfall which rapidly increases river flows on Oct. 7 and Oct. 22, leading to concerns for safety of those close to the rivers. The first resulted after watershed wide rainfall of 20 to 50 mm of rain, while the second was specific to the upper part of the watershed which received 40 mm over a few days, saturating the ground.

The watershed conditions reports are available on www.grandriver.ca/WSconditions.

2013 Grand River Watershed Awards

The GRCA held an awards night on Oct. 23 and gave out six awards.

The top award — the Honour Roll award — went to **Ron and Nancy Clark** of Caledonia

The Clarks have given generously to the Grand River Conservation Foundation over many years. They were the lead donors for the restoration of Taquanyah Conservation Area and Nature Centre. They have also worked with the municipality to revitalize Kinsmen Park on the river in Caledonia.

In addition, five 2013 Watershed Awards were given out. They went to:

- **Paul Clark** is a Guelph teacher who has been



River Festival
Riverprize 2000
For excellence in river management



Conservation Ontario
Natural Champions



planting trees for 17 years. He ensures that all students at St. Peter School plant trees each year. This has transformed the area around the school.

- The **Turtle Island News** has been holding an Earth Day Festival for the past seven years in Oshweken. Since 2006, thousands of trees have been given out.
- The late **Lynne Woolstencroft** of Waterloo was a dedicated politician who undertook many environmental initiatives during her political career.
- **Bernd Brandt** has planted 25,000 trees of 20 species on his property in Oxford County, creating a beautiful forest
- **George and Peggy Sarson** of Waterloo started Run for the Toad at Pinehurst Lake in 2002. Now it is Canada's biggest trail run and the Sarsons have improved the amenities at Pinehurst.

Awards are given out each fall by the GRCA. More information and videos are available on the GRCA website: www.grandriver.ca/award.

Two scholarships awarded by GRCF

The Grand River Conservation Foundation awarded two scholarships in October.

This was the second year for the **Allan Holmes Scholarship**, named for the former CAO of the GRCA who passed away in 2010. The recipient is Celia Kennedy, a PhD student in environmental sciences at the University of Guelph. She is working to develop a suite of field methods and tools for investigating how groundwater and surface water interact in bedrock rivers, like the Eramosa River. The \$5,000 scholarship will help with her river-related research.

The **S. C. Johnson & Son Limited Scholarship** of \$1,500 went to Michelle Burger, a University of Waterloo student who is majoring in environment and resource studies with a minor in biology. This award has been given out for 13 years to a full-time student in their third or sixth semester of an honours program at a watershed university.

GRCF gives out conservation grants

The Grand River Conservation Foundation awarded four Community Conservation Grants as well as awards to four schools.



One Honour Roll Award and five Grand River Conservation Awards were given out by the GRCA in October 2013. From left are Ron and Nancy Clark, George and Peggy Sarson, Amy Catherwood (for Turtle Island News), Peter Woolstencroft (for Lynne Woolstencroft who passed away in May), Jane Mitchell (GRCA chair), Bernd Brandt, Joe Farwell (GRCA CAO) and Paul Clarke.

- A grant of \$500 to **Ruthven National Historic Site** near Caledonia will help provide more nesting habitat for purple martins, a small bird that is in decline in Ontario.
- A grant of \$500 went to the **Hamilton Naturalist Club** which will restore a riverside area at the Amaolo Nature Sanctuary along Fairchild Creek. The sanctuary is in a part of Hamilton that is within the Grand River watershed.
- A grant of \$1,000 went to the **Alma Community Recreation Association** to create a labyrinth surrounded by a native species Memory Arboretum.
- The **Guelph Enabling Garden** received \$500 for the therapeutic garden at Riverside Park along the Speed River for native trees, plants and supplies.

In addition conservation grants of \$500 each are being provided to four schools. The schools use the grants for projects including school-based gardens, outdoor learning areas and educational conservation projects. These grants were presented at each school. The winning schools are:

- St. George German School, St. George
- Forest Glen Public School, New Hamburg
- St. Joseph Catholic School, Fergus
- Saginaw Public School, Cambridge

Heritage River fact

It was a long and winding river road that led to the designation of the Grand River as a Canadian Heritage River.

The Grand River and its major tributaries were designated 20 years ago in 1994 as Canadian Heritage rivers. But the designation process began five years before that.

The Grand and its tributaries were the first in southern Ontario to be designated.

This issue of GRCA Minutes was published in November 2013.

It is a summary of the October business conducted by the Grand River Conservation Authority board and committees as well as other noteworthy happenings and topics of interest.

The Grand River Conservation Authority welcomes the photocopying, forwarding and distribution of GRCA Current.

Next board meeting: Nov. 29 at 9:30 a.m., GRCA Administration Centre.

Reports mentioned in GRCA Current: www.grandriver.ca/MeetingReports.

For coming events, please see www.grandriver.ca/Calendar.

Grand Actions newsletter available at: www.grandriver.ca/GrandActions



Guelph City Council
1 Carden Street
Guelph, Ontario
N1H 3A1

November 12, 2013

Shareholder,

Guelph Municipal Holdings Inc. (GMHI) held its most recent Board meeting on October 22, 2013. The focus of the meeting was to discuss resourcing options in alignment with the goals and objectives of the corporation. The previous board meeting was held on September 26, 2013. Its content set the stage for the October resourcing discussion and introduced a Governance Committee recommendation related to remuneration for Community Representative Directors. Both issues are further detailed below and together, work towards the progressive development of GMHI.

GMHI Resourcing – General Manager and Chief Executive Officer

GMHI management has recommended a secondment to serve as an interim General Manager for the corporation. To that end, a job description was developed and circulated to the corporation and affiliated organizations including Guelph Hydro Inc., Guelph Public Library and Guelph Police Services. An interim General Manager will ensure that operations continue to move forward in a focused direction consistent with the approved GMHI business plan and strategic directions.

Ideal qualifications and a summary of duties and expectations associated with the key position of Chief Executive Officer have also been tabled by management for Board discussion so that CEO succession strategies are available. The current CEO has cited concerns regarding the potential conflict of interest arising on future matters involving the city and corporation. This concern has initiated the replacement process.

GMHI Community Representative Compensation

As Shareholder members are aware, approval has been granted for compensation of Community Representative Directors. This direction ensures that GMHI is able to attract and retain the talent required to continue driving the corporation forward.

GUELPH MUNICIPAL HOLDINGS INC.

Upcoming Meetings

Additional meetings are scheduled for November and December to discuss matters related to the thermal energy concepts and opportunities. We will continue to apprise the Shareholder of those and ongoing meeting outcomes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Farbridge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Karen Farbridge
Chair, Guelph Municipal Holdings Inc.