



September LRCA Board Meeting
Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
September 24, 2025, at 4:30 PM
130 Conservation Road/Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Albert Aiello, Grant Arnold, Robert Beatty, Donna Blunt, Rudy Buitenhuis, Dan Calvert, Sheelagh Hendrick, Brian Kurikka

Members Present Virtually:

Greg Johnsen, Jim Vezina

Members Not Present:

Trevor Giertuga

Also Present:

Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer
Mark, Ambrose, Finance Manager
Ryne Gilliam, Lands Manager
Ryan Mackett, Communications Manager
Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager
Melanie O'Riley, Administrative Clerk/Receptionist, recorder of minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

THAT: the Agenda be adopted as published.

Motion: #103/25

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Seventh Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 be adopted as published.

Motion: #104/25

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis. **CARRIED.**

5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at 4:32 p.m.

Motion: #105/25

Motion moved by Brian Kurikka and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

THAT: we go into Open Meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Motion: #106/25

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

THAT: the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority August 27, 2025 meeting be adopted as published.

Motion: #107/25

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Albert Aiello. **CARRIED.**

*THAT: the Jarvela Real Estate Appraisals Ltd. quotation dated September 8, 2025, for \$7,800.00 plus HST related to a potential land acquisition is approved **AND FURTHER THAT** funds will be appropriated from the Land Acquisition Reserve.*

Motion: #108/25

Motion moved by Albert Aiello and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED.**

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. STAFF REPORTS

None.

9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS

THAT: having examined the accounts for the period August 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025 cheque #3637 to #3661 for \$109,814.06 and preauthorized payments of \$161,561.38 for a total of \$271,375.44, we approve their payment.

Motion: #109/25

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Albert Aiello. **CARRIED.**

11. REGULATORY ROLE

Members were provided with the Plan Review program comments and Section 28 permits issued since last meeting.

12. PROJECTS UPDATE

12.1. Communications Manager Projects Update

It was noted that the Fall Mushroom Hike at Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area was very successful with 43 people participating.

It was noted that Staff were working on the 2026 annual fundraising calendar.

It was noted that the Communications Manager and Lands Manager attended the Lakehead University Student Orientation Fair at the LU Outpost.

It was noted that the Communication Manager and Environmental Planner assisted the Lakehead University Department of Natural Resources Management with their field school with a guided hike at Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area.

It was noted that the Communications Manager and Watershed Biologist presented a high-level overview of the LRCA and stewardship-specific initiatives at the Ministry of Natural Resources District Meeting.

It was noted that Staff met with Royal Canadian Legion Branch 5 members and discussed the programming for the upcoming Branching Out Program, funded by the Seniors Community Grant Program.

It was noted that the mural at the administrative office was completed by artist boy Roland. The project was partially funded by the Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC).

12.2. Lands Manager Projects Update

It was noted that forestry operations within Block 2 at Wishart Conservation Area are ongoing.

It was noted that in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, the LRCA hosted a dedication ceremony for the permanent Neebing River Sea Lamprey Trap that is located on LRCA owned land. It was also noted that the new permanent trap on the Neebing River is the only indexing site on the Canadian side of Lake Superior.

12.3. Watershed Manager Projects Update

It was noted that the LRCA's Flood Forecasting Team attended the Provincial Flood Forecasting and Warning Program Conference held in Burlington on September 16th and 17th.

It was noted that Lake Superior's water level continues to be below average.

It was noted that the LRCA's Stewardship team continue to oversee projects at the office grounds. Projects include: an Office Rain Garden funded by TC Energy; new fencing to secure and contain Stewardship program assets; and establish a pad for the new cold frame greenhouse and staging areas which was funded by Thunder Bay Rotary Club and donated partially by the City of Thunder Bay.

It was noted that the Tender for the Floodway Diversion Channel dredging project was finalized. Invites went out with the expectation that a recommendation for a contractor to be determined by the end of October with work to be carried out beginning of November.

13. NEW BUSINESS

It was noted that the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TDFEF) would be visiting the TDFEF funded Hazelwood Lake Shoreline Planting Project on September 25, 2025.

Tammy Cook, CAO and Michelle Willows, Environmental Planner will be attending Ecological Gifts Program training that will be held in Toronto in October 2025.

A \$1006 donation was received from Dawson Trail Brewery from their Trail Blazer beer fundraiser, where \$1 was donated for every litre of Trail Blazer beer sold. The funds will be added to the Urban Conservation Area Reserve to assist in funding the upcoming project.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on October 29 , 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

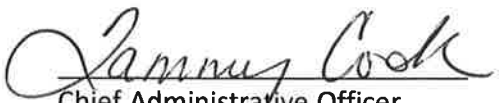
15. ADJOURNMENT

THAT: the time being 5:50 p.m. **AND FURTHER THAT** there being no further business we adjourn.

Motion: #110/25

Motion moved by Sheelagh Hendrick and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED.**


Chair


Chief Administrative Officer