NICKEL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, September 10, 2026
Via MS Teams

Commenced: 4:31 p.m.
Adjourned: 6:28 p.m.

PRESENT: Mark Signoretti, Chair
Michel Brabant, Vice-Chair
Eric Benoit
Jennifer Davidson
Pauline Fortin
Joscelyne Landry-Altmann

REGRETS: Steve Kaufman

ALSO PRESENT: Carl Jorgensen, GM, Secretary-Treasurer
Melanie Venne, Office and Communication Coordinator

1. Chair Signoretti welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided a reminder of meeting procedures.

2. No declarations of conflict were made.

3. Adoption of Agenda/Addition to Agenda

Resolution 2026-46 **Brabant - Fortin**

That the agenda of the September 10, 2026, General Meeting is adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Previous Meeting Minutes

a) Adoption of Minutes of June 11, 2026

Resolution 2026-47 **Landry-Altmann - Benoit**

That the minutes of the June 11, 2026, General Meeting, as circulated and reviewed, are approved.

Carried.

5. General Business

a) Permissions under Section 28/29

Over the course of June to August 2026, 33 permits were issued under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act.* This is on par with the number of permits issued over the summer months of the past five years. Melanie Venne provided an overview of the types of permits that were issued over the summer.

Resolution 2026-48 **Davidson – Brabant**

That the report for permits issued under Sections 28 and Section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act during the month of June, July and August 2026 is received.

Carried.

b) Report on Minister's Direction 1.14

To support the transition to the regional conservation authority model, the Minister issued direction that temporarily limits certain decisions that boards and management can make during the transition. The board will receive a monthly report on these requests made under this direction. From June 1 to August 30, 2026 there were no decisions that required permission under Direction 1.14.

c) Conservation Authority Amalgamation Update

Carl provided an update on progression of the Conservation Authorities amalgamation. Tim Commisso was appointed as project executive for the northeastern regional conservation authority. Since his appointment, Carl and Mr. Commisso have met a few times.

The first transition meeting will be held on September 17, 2026. A transition plan for the new regional conservation authority must be provided to the province by December 15, 2026.

Another new item that Carl discussed is the currently open for comment item on Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) titled "Consultation on Proposed Governance Regulation for Regional Conservation Authorities and the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency". This proposed regulatory change is open for comments until September 12, 2026. The proposal sets up a standard method to determine how many members a participating municipality can appoint to the regional conservation authority board.

The proposal has some flaws and Carl provided details of his response to address some of these inequities. The board members had a lengthy discussion regarding the approach. The Members amended the supplied draft ERO response to indicate a general dissatisfaction with the proposed tiered allocation formula, but continued to provide the recommendations laid out in the original staff report.

Resolution 2026-49 **Landry-Altmann - Fortin**

That a proposed governance structure related to Environmental Registry posting #026-0740 be submitted with as described in the staff report dated September 3, 2026, with amendments discussed at the September 10 2026 board meeting.

Carried.

d) Draft 2027 Budget Discussion

This initial discussion is one of the first steps in the 2027 budgeting process. This year, a Minister's Direction requires that the budget is approved by January 1, 2027. Carl provided an overview of all the steps. This will be the last budget of this Authority prior to amalgamation.

As per usual, the human resources component of the budget is the largest. Carl provided a look at the costs and the potential cost increases.

The next step is to provide a further refined draft budget to the audit and finance committee within the next few weeks.

7. Adjournment

Resolution 2026-50 **Brabant – Benoit**

That we do now adjourn at 6:28 PM

Carried.