

GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
MINUTES  
Annual General Meeting & Full Authority Board of Directors  
Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

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The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) Board of Directors' meeting was held in a hybrid format of in-person at the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Administrative Office and virtually via the meeting application, WebEx.

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Scott Greig called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., welcomed all those present in person and virtually, and welcomed past Board Members and Guests.

Directors Present In-Person: Chair Scott Greig, Jon Farmer, Scott Mackey, Robert Uhrig, Tony Bell, Tobin Day, Sue Carleton, Nadia Dubyk, Alex Maxwell, Jay Kirkland, Jennifer Shaw

Directors Present Virtually: None

Regrets: None

Staff Present: CAO, Tim Lanthier; Administrative Assistant, Valerie Coleman; Manager of Information Services, Gloria Dangerfield; Manager of Financial and Human Resource Services, Alison Armstrong; Manager of Conservation Lands, Rebecca Anthony; Water Resources Coordinator, John Bittorf; Forestry Coordinator, Mike Fry; Forestry Technician, Cam Bennett; DSWP Coordinator, Carl Seider; Manager of Environmental Planning, MacLean Plewes; Operations Manager, Morgan Barrie

Guests In-Person: Marion Koepke, Andrea Matrosovs, Randy Scherzer, Don Sankey, Dick Hibma, Cathy Little, Barbara Dobreen, Jennifer Stephens, Nancy McGee, Bob Knapp

Guest Virtual: MP Alex Ruff

**2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

The Directors were reminded to disclose any pecuniary interest that may arise during the course of the meeting. No disclosures of pecuniary interest were expressed at the time.

**3. Call for Additional Agenda Items**

Nothing at this time.

#### 4. Adoption of Agenda

**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-001**

**Moved By:** Tony Bell  
**Seconded By:** Scott Mackey

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the agenda of February 22, 2023.**

**Carried**

#### 5. Remarks from the Chair

Chair Greig expressed how great it was to have the GSCA AGM in person once again. Asked Members and guests to reflect on the passing of Elwood Moore and gave a brief history of who Elwood was and his long contribution to the GSCA, his community, and the environment.

“Let us sit for this term committed to advancing conservation endeavors and results and to better inform and educate residents on the benefits of protecting our natural resources for today’s generation, tomorrow’s generations and beyond.”

It was noted that the GSCA celebrated Elwood’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a commemorative bench in the Inglis Falls Arboretum and that despite the weather Elwood was able to join and share a few words.

Chair Greig remarked on the difficulties and pressures that Conservation Authorities and Municipalities have experienced in the last few years.

“It has certainly been my pleasure the last two years to represent the Authority, pulling together as one and continuing to punch well above its weight for our comparable size of Authorities in Ontario.”

#### 6. Greetings from Guests

*MP Alex Ruff* brought greetings from his office and wished to have been able to attend in person. MP Ruff gave thanks to the Board, Elwood Moore, and the GSCA.

*Deputy CAO, Randy Scherzer*, brought greetings from Grey County, and looks forward to continuing to work with GSCA staff and Board.

*Deputy Mayor Barbara Dobreen*, Saugeen Valley CA Board Chair, and, Jennifer Stephens, SVCA General Manager, brought greetings from Saugeen Valley CA, remarked on how strongly GSCA and SVCA have continued to move forward on their mutual mission and vision. Looking forward to continuing working with the GSCA and Board.

*Board Chair Don Sankey* brought greetings on behalf of the Grey Sauble Conservation Foundation (GSCF) and gave a brief introduction of the work that the GSCF does in the community and for GSCA.

*Board Chair Bob Knapp* brought greetings on behalf of the Friends of Hibou (FoH) and gave a brief introduction of the FoH group and the work they do on behalf of the GSCA. 2023 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hibou Conservation Area and will be marked with a celebratory concert.

*Past Board Chair, Cathy Little* brought greetings as past Board Chair and Friends of Kimberly Forest, mentioned that it was refreshing to see so many new Board Members and expressed that they will find it a rewarding experience.

*Mayor Andrea Matrosovs* brought greetings on behalf of the Town of the Blue Mountains and as past Vice Chair. Expressed the rewarding experience of being part of and contributing to the GSCA.

**7. Board Appointments**

**i. Election of Officers**

**a. Appointment of Chair Pro Tem**

Chair Greig asked for Dick Hibma to be appointed as Chair Pro Tem and vacated the Chair's position.

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-002**

**Moved By:** Robert Uhrig  
**Seconded By:** Nadia Dubyk

**THAT Dick Hibma be appointed as Chair Pro Tem for the 2023 election of officers.**

**Carried**

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**b. Review of Voting Procedures**

Chair Pro Tem, Dick Hibma, acknowledged the privilege and thanked the Board for having him serve as Chair Pro Tem. Mr. Hibma gave a brief review of the voting procedures for electing the Chair and Vice Chair.

**c. Appointment of Scrutineers**

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-003**

**Moved By:** Jon Farmer  
**Seconded By:** Jennifer Shaw

**THAT Don Sankey and Randy Scherzer be appointed scrutineers.**

**Carried**

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Chair Pro Tem, Dick Hibma, called three (3) times for nominations from the floor for the position of Chair for 2023.

1. Member Scott Mackey nominated Sue Carleton for the position of Chair for 2023.
2. No nominations.
3. No nominations.

**d. Election of 2023 Chair**

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-004**

**Moved By:** Nadia Dubyk  
**Seconded By:** Scott Greig

**THAT nominations for the election of Chair for 2023 close.**

**Carried**

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Member Sue Carleton accepted her nomination of Chair for 2023 and thanked Member Scott Mackey for nominating her.

Chair Pro Tem, Dick Hibma, declared Sue Carleton as Chair for 2023 by acclamation.

**e. Election of 2023 Vice Chair**

Chair Pro Tem, Dick Hibma, called three (3) times for nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chair for 2023.

1. Member Scott Mackey nominated Scott Greig for the position of Vice Chair for 2023.
2. No nominations.
3. No nominations.

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<b>Motion No.:</b> <b>FA-23-005</b>	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Jay Kirkland</b> <b>Robert Uhrig</b>
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**THAT nominations for the election of Vice Chair for 2023 close.**

**Carried**

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Member Scott Greig accepted his nomination of Vice Chair for 2023 and thanked Member Scott Mackey for nominating him.

Chair Pro Tem, Dick Hibma, declared Scott Greig as Chair for 2023 by acclamation.

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<b>Motion No.:</b> <b>FA-23-006</b>	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Jon Farmer</b> <b>Tony Bell</b>
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**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors has elected and/or appointed for the year 2023 GSCA Officers as follows:**

**Chair: Sue Carleton**

**Vice Chair: Scott Greig**

**Carried**

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**ii. Remarks by 2023 Chair Elect and 2023 Vice Chair Elect**

“I would like to start off by thanking those who nominated me, and to all of you who believe that I have the skillset needed to be the Chair. I attended my first Grey Sauble Conservation Authority meeting six years ago, at a meeting similar to this one with Dick Hibma being elected as the Chair. At the time, Dick had been Chair for a number of years and looked to be willing to carry on for many more years. Even then I can remember thinking to myself this was not a position I thought I would ever want to do. And I thought that because I knew very little about the conservation authority at the time and what they did. I know fractionally more now but the difference is that I know firmly believe in what our Conservation Authority does. I see the value given to our municipalities and our communities. I think it is important that we support all conservation authorities to make use our lands are properly cared for, to ensure future generations have green spaces to visit, trails to walk on, species to appreciate, and so much more.” – Chair, Sue Carleton

Chair Carleton gave thanks to staff, fellow Board Members, volunteers and partners.

Vice Chair Scott Greig expressed that he has always enjoyed his time working with the GSCA and looks forward to continuing to work with the Board and staff to meet the pressures and challenges in the coming year.

### iii. Appointments

A Member asked if Members are required to serve on a minimum number of committees. The CAO answered that Members are not required to serve on a minimum number of committees, just that committees have a specified number of members.

Member asked how much time commitment is required. Vice Chair Greig answered that the time required has not been onerous.

#### a. Conservation Foundation

- i. Scott Mackey, Nadia Dubyk, Tobin Day, and Scott Greig volunteered.

#### b. Forestry Committee

- i. Jay Kirkland, Scott Greig, and Scott Mackey volunteered.

#### c. Arboretum Alliance

- i. Sue Carleton volunteered.

#### d. Indigenous and GSCA Relationships Committee

- i. Jon Farmer, Tobin Day, Nadia Dubyk, Robert Uhrig, and Jennifer Shaw volunteered.

#### e. Agricultural Committee

- i. Tony Bell, Alex Maxwell, (Scott Mackey, Jennifer Shaw)
  - Staff to bring forward amended Terms of Reference to the next Board Meeting to expand the number of members for this committee.

#### f. Building Ad Hoc Committee

- i. Alex Maxwell, Nadia Dubyk, Jay Kirkland, Scott Greig

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-007**

**Moved By:** Jon Farmer  
**Seconded By:** Robert Uhrig

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors make the following appointments to the Committees as listed:**

**Conservation Foundation – Scott Mackey, Nadia Dubyk, Tobin Day, and Scott Greig**

**Forestry Committee – Jay Kirkland, Scott Greig, and Scott Mackey**

**Arboretum Alliance – Sue Carleton**

**Conservation Ontario Council**

**Voting Reps – Sue Carleton**

**1<sup>st</sup> Alternate – Scott Greig**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate – Tim Lanthier**

**Indigenous Relationships Committee – Jon Farmer, Tobin Day, Nadia Dubyk, Robert Uhrig, and Jennifer Shaw**

**Building Ad Hoc Committee – Alex Maxwell, Nadia Dubyk, Jay Kirkland, and Scott Greig**

**Agricultural Advisory Committee – Tony Bell and Alex Maxwell**

**Carried**

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**iv. Appointment of General Counsel**

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<b>Motion No.:</b> FA-23-008	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Scott Greig</b> <b>Jon Farmer</b>
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**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors appoint Middlebro' & Stevens LLP as GSCA's General Counsel for the year 2023, with the option to engage the services of other solicitors, as necessary.**

**Carried**

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**v. 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule**

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<b>Motion No.:</b> FA-23-009	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Scott Greig</b> <b>Jennifer Shaw</b>
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**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the 2023 BOD's meeting dates as follows:**

**February 22<sup>nd</sup> (AGM); March 22<sup>nd</sup>; April 26<sup>th</sup>; May 24<sup>th</sup>; June 28<sup>th</sup>; July 26<sup>th</sup> (optional); August 23<sup>rd</sup>; September 27<sup>th</sup>; October 25<sup>th</sup>; November 22<sup>nd</sup>; and December 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Carried**

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The Board of Directors recessed for 15 minutes at 2:13 p.m.

**8. Approval of Minutes**

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<b>Motion No.:</b> FA-23-010	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Scott Greig</b> <b>Robert Uhrig</b>
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**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the Full Authority minutes of December 21, 2022.**

**Carried**

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A Member remarked on a question that had been raised regarding including Member names in comments and questions, the matter had been reviewed and it was concluded that, not including Member's names is the standard practice.

A Member commented that they prefer Member names being included, however; deferred to the will of the Board. Names will not be included.

**9. Business Out of Minutes**

Nothing at this time.

10. Consent Agenda

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<b>Motion No.:</b> FA-23-011	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Scott Mackey</b> <b>Jennifer Shaw</b>
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**THAT in consideration of the Consent Agenda Items listed on the February 22, 2023, agenda, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors receives the following items: (i) Environmental Planning – Section 28 Permits – December 2022 & January 2023; (ii) Administration – Receipts & Expenses – December 2022 & January 2023; (v) Minutes – GSC Foundation – December 7, 2023; Friends of Hibou – November 14, 2022; Inglis Falls Arboretum Alliance – September 30, 2022; Beaver River Watershed Initiative – June & September 2022; (vi) Recent Media Articles**

**Carried**

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A Member asked with regard to GSCA receipts and expenses, are staff are able to settle accounts prior to approval? The CAO clarified that staff are able to process accounts without Board approval, the purpose of the inclusion of receipts and expenses in the consent agenda is to inform Members.

11. Business Items

- i. **Administration**
  - a. **GSCA 2023 Priority Workplan**

The CAO, Tim Lanthier introduced the GSCA Strategic Plan, its relationship to the organization and to the departmental work plans. It was noted that the workplan does not represent the entirety of the work that staff are doing but rather those items that may be over and above the daily or regular tasks that staff undertake.

A Member asked with regard to the status of Low Impact Development (LID) standards and practices. Mr. Lanthier replied that staff does not do a lot of work around LIDs due to not having an engineer on staff. Staff have explored LIDs and encourage their use wherever possible. It was noted that in the end the decision lies with municipalities and not conservation authorities.

A Member noted that the workplan does not specify anything around seeking opportunities for generating revenue and asked if GSCA staff are considering any future revenue generating activities and/or services. Mr. Lanthier clarified that staff are actively seeking revenue generating items, however, the staff cannot commit to a specific dollar amount for the purposes of the workplan, making it difficult to measure.

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<b>Motion No.:</b> FA-23-014	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Tobin Day</b> <b>Nadia Dubyk</b>
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**WHEREAS the General Membership of the Authority has approved a Strategic Plan for the operations of the Authority;**

**AND WHEREAS The Chief Administrative Officer of the Authority is responsible for developing short and long-term goals of the Authority to support the Strategic Plan;**

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors accept and approve the 2023 Priority Workplan as presented.**

**Carried**

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**b. Draft 2023 Budget – For Approval**

The CAO, Tim Lanthier, presented the 2023 draft budget to the Board. At the December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, Board of Directors meeting, the Board received and reviewed the budget and gave direction for staff to circulate the draft budget for the minimum required 30 days along with an invitation for staff to visit councils for information presentations and to field questions. Mr. Lanthier spoke to those Municipal Councils that requested a presentation.

Mr. Lanthier explained that there would be four separate motions as required by the Conservation Authorities Act, the purpose of each of the four motions, and how the votes are weighted.

A Member asked with regard to why more Municipalities did not accept the invitations. Mr. Lanthier answered that it is not unusual for municipalities to not reach out for a presentation.

A Member asked if there was any feedback from the municipalities with regard to the budget and levy.

Mr. Lanthier answered that the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie and the Township of Chatsworth had both passed motions of support for the budget. Some members of The Town of the Blue Mountains council expressed concern over the portion that their municipality pays versus the other participating municipalities. Mr. Lanthier explained how the process of apportionment works based on modified current value assessments as laid out in the Conservation Authorities Act and provided to GSCA by the Ministry.

A Member noted that the current budget incorporates a higher percentage of user pay revenue versus levy.

A Member asked with regard to the voting procedure and if there would be a clearer method. Mr. Lanthier clarified that the Budget vote is the only item that uses this voting format.

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-014**

**Moved By:** Jon Farmer  
**Seconded By:** Jay Kirkland

**WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act provides that an Authority shall have the power to determine the portion of total benefit afforded to each municipality in establishing the annual levy, the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority resolves as follows, subject to such regulations under the Act:**

- i) That all participating municipalities be designated as benefiting for all projects included in the 2023 Operating Budget including administration and maintenance and the 2023 Capital Budget unless otherwise specified in the budget;**
  - ii) That the Authority’s share of the cost of the program and projects included in the 2023 Budget shall be raised from all participating municipalities as part of the General Levy, unless otherwise specified in the Budget;**
  - iii) That the 2023 General Levy be apportioned to the participating municipalities in the proportion that the modified current value assessment of the whole is under the jurisdiction of the Authority, unless otherwise provided in the levy for a project;**
  - iv) That the appropriate Authority officials be directed to advise the participating municipalities pursuant to the Conservation Authorities Act and the regulations made thereunder; to levy the said municipalities the amount of General Levy set forth in the 2023 Operating Budget, to levy the said municipalities the amount of**
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the General Levy set forth in the 2023 Capital Budget and in the approved projects of the Authority, and any special levy attributable to any project which has been deemed to be of specific benefit to any particular municipality.

Carried

Motion No.:  
FA-23-015

Moved By: Jon Farmer  
Seconded By: Jennifer Shaw

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority adopt a matching levy for the year 2023 of \$37,056.00 as required by Ontario Regulations 139/96 and 231/97.

Carried

Director	Yay	Nay	Absent
Alex Maxwell	X		
Jon Farmer	X		
Robert Uhrig	X		
Tobin Day	X		
Jay Kirkland	X		
Tony Bell	X		
Nadia Dubyuk	X		
Jennifer Shaw	X		
Scott Mackey	X		
Sue Carleton	X		
Scott Greig	X		

Motion No.:  
FA-23-016

Moved By: Scott Greig  
Seconded By: Jay Kirkland

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority adopt a non-matching levy for the year 2023 of \$1,603,569.00 as required by Ontario Regulations 139/96 and 231/97.

Carried

Director	Yay	Nay	Absent
Alex Maxwell	X		
Jon Farmer	X		
Robert Uhrig	X		
Tobin Day	X		
Jay Kirkland	X		
Tony Bell	X		
Nadia Dubyuk	X		
Jennifer Shaw	X		
Scott Mackey	X		
Sue Carleton	X		
Scott Greig	X		

Motion No.:  
FA-23-017

Moved By: Scott Mackey  
Seconded By: Nadia Dubyk

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority adopt the budget as presented for the year 2023 in the amount of \$3,982,929.00.**

**Carried**

Director	Yay	Nay	Absent
Alex Maxwell	X		
Jon Farmer	X		
Robert Uhrig	X		
Tobin Day	X		
Jay Kirkland	X		
Tony Bell	X		
Nadia Dubyuk	X		
Jennifer Shaw	X		
Scott Mackey	X		
Sue Carleton	X		
Scott Greig	X		

### **c. Q4 Investment Portfolio Update**

The Manager of Financial and Human Resources, Alison Armstrong, gave a brief overview of the GSCA's investment history and strategy. It was noted that 2022 was a difficult year for GSCA's investment portfolio and marks only the second year that GSCA's portfolio had experienced a loss. The Portfolio Manager will be making a presentation to the Board within the second Quarter of the year.

A Member asked if any profit of investments have been budgeted for and ear marked for something. Alison answered that the proceeds of investment are not budgeted for and that GSCA's investments are reserve funds. Ms. Armstrong gave a brief overview of the reserve funds and their uses.

A Member questioned the fees of managing the portfolio and if the Board should reevaluate its investment strategy.

There was discussion around investment options, risks of moving investments, and process required to significantly change GSCA's investment strategy. It was stressed that 2022 was a difficult year for investments all around.

A Member asked if there was a timeline for when the Authority intends to access these funds? Ms. Armstrong answered that it would depend on the timeline of the building renovation. A portion of the investment funds are intended to be used for the renovation of the Administrative Center.

A Member asked what the rationale was for going to the private marketplace for revenue generation. A Member clarified that it had been a decision to have funds working to generate interest instead of sitting in a bank account doing nothing.

A Member asked if GSCA has an investment policy. Ms. Armstrong responded that GSCA does have an investment policy that is reviewed with the Investment Manager. Ms. Armstrong will make the policy available.

A Member asked if the investment strategy reflects the values, mission, and vision of the authority and what was the time horizon at the time at the time of purchase. Based on the investment survey, it was determined that GSCA was seeking long term investment options. Additionally, a portion of the initial amount was retained in a bank account for faster access if needed without drawing down the portfolio. In 2021, an additional \$200,000 was moved to the portfolio and 50% of the portfolio was redistributed to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) funds.

A Member asked how the Authority has budgeted to have the funds to be invested. Mr. Lanthier explained that in some cases, investments into the reserves had been budgeted for to cover future costs and repairs. In other cases, revenue and/or expenses differed from the budget and surplus has been set aside for future needs.

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-018**

**Moved By: Jon Farmer**  
**Seconded By: Alex Maxwell**

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority receive the Q4 Investment Update, as presented.**

**Carried**

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#### **d. Q4 Budget and Reserves Report Back**

The CAO spoke to the Q4 Budget wrap up and Reserves Continuity spreadsheet.

At the end of 2022 the budget as a whole was balanced. There were substantially less draw downs of reserves and more was transferred to reserves than budgeted. Mr. Lanthier outlined the proposed amounts that were moved into and out of reserve transfers.

A Member asked with regard to parking fees and where they go. Mr. Lanthier explained that they go into the Lands reserve used for Lands based assets and projects.

A Member asked if the funds raised at a specific property used for that specific property or do they get used for properties in general. Mr. Lanthier clarified that any funds raised at a specific property are used to support the general land base.

A Member asked how close GSCA is to meeting Asset Management Year 1 goals. It was noted that this may be necessary for future funding opportunities. Mr. Lanthier explained that the Asset Management plan was renewed in 2022 and a finance plan will be forthcoming.

A Member asked with regard to parking fees and if the previous Board was satisfied with the present parking fees. Mr. Lanthier clarified that GSCA has increased parking fees recently and that it was the Levy amount that has decreased.

Mr. Lanthier noted that due to staff's efforts in investigating visitor numbers and parking revenues, measures were put in place to increase parking compliance. These included increased staff presence at parks and a revamped Member's Pass program.

A Member asked if staff advertise passes for Holiday gifts. Staff responded that the Authority staff put out social media advertising in late October promoting the next year's pass.

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-019**

**Moved By:** Jon Farmer  
**Seconded By:** Tobin Day

**WHEREAS** the Board of Directors approved the GSCA 2022 Operating and Capital Budget on January 27, 2021, by motion FA-21-019,

**AND WHEREAS**, the 2022 Year-End actuals deviate from the approved budget,

**THAT**, the Board of Directors approve any previously unapproved transfers of funds to or from reserves or surplus as detailed in Report 003-2023.

**Carried**

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**ii. Water Management**

Nothing at this time.

**iii. Environmental Planning**

Nothing at this time.

**iv. Operations**

Nothing at this time.

**v. Conservation Lands**

Nothing at this time.

**vi. Forestry**

**a. Forestry Fee Schedule Update**

The Forestry Coordinator, Mike Fry, presented the 2023 Forestry Fee Schedule. It was noted that, historically the Forestry Department has relied entirely on self-generated revenue, with any shortfall being covered by the Forestry Reserve. Staff review the forestry fee schedule annually, comparing to neighbouring conservation authorities, and with a focus on providing services at an affordable rate, while still covering costs. Mr. Fry explained briefly how the fee schedule works for larger properties.

A Member asked what the process is in selecting what trees are being planted. Mr. Fry explained that part of the equation is what is available from the nurseries.

A Member asked what the increase in fees will amount to in terms of revenue. Mr. Fry stated that for forest management, the increase in revenue will be nominal.

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-020**

**Moved By:** Tony Bell  
**Seconded By:** Nadia Dubyk

**WHEREAS**, the GSCA Forestry department provides forest management services to private landowners throughout GSCA's jurisdiction;

**AND WHEREAS**, the fee schedule is reviewed on an annual basis to ensure fees are consistent and appropriate;

**THAT**, the GSCA Board of Directors approve the updated Forestry Fee Schedule as presented in Appendix A and Appendix B.

**Carried**

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**b. Forestry Tender Results – Rocklyn Creek**

Forestry Technician, Cam Bennett presented the results of the Rocklyn Creek Forestry Tender. Mr. Bennett gave a brief overview of the tender process.

Two bids were received with Tri-Bridges Firewood providing the highest bid.

Staff recommended awarding the tender to Tri-Bridges for their bid of \$18,860.00.

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<b>Motion No.:</b> <b>FA-23-021</b>	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Jon Farmer</b> <b>Jennifer Shaw</b>
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**WHEREAS Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) owns and manages over 11,300 hectares (28,000 acres) of land comprised of 207 individual properties organized into 79 groupings;**

**AND WHEREAS, GSCA manages nearly 5,260 hectares (13,000 acres) of forested area to offset the operating expenses of the Forestry department and GSCA;**

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors award the following forestry tender:**

**Plantation Thinning Harvest tender (GSC-23-01) for Rocklyn Creek Management Area – Compartments 136 and 137 – to Tri-Bridges Firewood for their total bid of \$18,860.00, subject to signing the agreement.**

**Carried**

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**c. Forestry Tender Results – Rob Roy**

Forestry Technician, Cam Bennett presented the results of the Rob Roy Forestry Tender. Two bids were received with Complete Woodlot Management providing the highest bid.

Staff recommended awarding the tender to Complete Woodlot Management for their bid of \$20,150.00.

A Member asked how often a bush would be harvested. Mr. Bennett answered that the forest management plan stipulates a 15-year cycle.

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<b>Motion No.:</b> <b>FA-23-022</b>	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Scott Mackey</b> <b>Tony Bell</b>
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**WHEREAS Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) owns and manages over 11,300 hectares (28,000 acres) of land comprised of 207 individual properties organized into 79 groupings;**

**AND WHEREAS, GSCA manages nearly 5,260 hectares (13,000 acres) of forested area to offset the operating expenses of the Forestry department and GSCA;**

**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors award the following forestry tender:**

**Sawlog and Fuelwood tender (GSC-23-02) for Rob Roy Management Area – Compartment 85 – to Complete Woodlot Management for their total bid of \$20,150, subject to signing the agreement.**

**Carried**

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**vii. Communications/Public Relations**

Nothing at this time.

**viii. Education**

**a. Day Camp Fee Update**

Information Services Manager, Gloria Dangerfield, presented the recommended updates to GSCA Day Camp fees. Ms. Dangerfield gave a brief overview of GSCA's Day Camp and recent challenges in staffing. Staff have been investigating options to ensure that staffing needs can met while still providing a high level of service. Staff recommended reducing the maximum number of campers and increasing the weekly fee.

A Member asked if staff considered increasing the staff wages to attract more staff and be able to maintain camper maximum. Ms. Dangerfield explained that the wage had been increased in 2022 and GSCA still experienced difficulties in attracting and maintaining staff.

Staff are concerned about ensuring a safe experience for campers. Ideally, GSCA would hire a full-time education provider to be able to expand the camp.

A Member confirmed that there is a significant shortage of education staff.

A Member asked what the fee structure is based on, cost recovery or revenue generating. Ms. Dangerfield confirmed that the camp is based on a cost recovery basis.

A Member asked what the anticipated response would be if enrolment is down due to the increase in fees. Ms. Dangerfield noted that the minimum necessary would be 16 campers per week.

A Member asked if the GSCA has tried to partner with Non-profits that help subsidize camper fees. Staff have been actively seeking partners and grants, however; not necessarily those that specifically subsize camp fees.

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**Motion No.:**  
**FA-23-023**

**Moved By:** Tony Bell  
**Seconded By:** Jennifer Shaw

**WHEREAS GSCA staff have deemed the hiring of three, instead of the previous four staff, for day camp to be more achievable in 2023 given the current hiring crisis. Given the appropriate staff to camper ratio, the number of campers would be limited to twenty per week.**

**AND FURTHER WHEREAS, GSCA's goal of running a high-quality camp with programming that offers an immersive, educational experience can be better achieved by limiting camper numbers to a manageable number.**

**AND FURTHER WHEREAS, running camp with limited numbers requires an increase in fees to cover costs.**

**THAT, the GSCA Board of Directors agree to changing the weekly camp fee to \$285 per week.**

**Carried**

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ix. **GIS/IT**  
Nothing at this time.

x. **DWSP**  
Nothing at this time.

12. **New Business**

Nothing at this time.

13. **CAO's Report**

The CAO, Tim Lanthier, welcomed all Member's to the Board. Expressed thanks to the staff for their work in 2022 and 2023. Mr. Lanthier extended thanks to past Chair Greig and past Vice Chair Matrosovs for their support and guidance in 2022.

Mr. Lanthier noted that Bill 23 and the recent changes to the CAA have challenged staff in the start of the year. The Planning team have been working with member municipalities and counties to discuss solutions with regards to the added burdens placed on them. Mr. Lanthier extended his thanks to MacLean Plewes and his team for the work that they have been doing.

Mr. Lanthier attended the AGMs of Nottawasaga Valley CA and Saugeen Valley CA. Mr. Lanthier informed the Board of the NVCA and SVCA Board appointments.

Mr. Lanthier made Budget Presentations to the Town of The Blue Mountains and the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie. Additionally, Mr. Lanthier will be attending municipal councils to discuss GSCA's Programs and Services Inventory and the need for Category 3 agreements.

Mr. Lanthier spoke to the recent passing of Elwood Moore, his work in the community and with the Authority.

14. **Chair's Report**

Chair Carleton had nothing to report for this meeting.

15. **Other Business**

Nothing at this time.

16. **Resolution to Move into Closed Session**

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<b>Motion No.:</b> FA-23-024	<b>Moved By:</b> <b>Seconded By:</b>	<b>Scott Greig</b> <b>Jennifer Shaw</b>
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**THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors proceed into closed session at 4:06 pm to discuss matters related to the following:**

- i. **Minutes of the Closed Session of the Regular Board of Directors meeting held on December 21, 2022; and,**
- ii. **2023 CAO Performance Plan – closed as it relates to personal matters about an identifiable individual including Authority directors or Authority employees (GSCA Administrative By-Law, Section 4 (xvii)(b));**

AND FURTHER THAT CAO, Tim Lanthier, and Administrative Assistant, Valerie Coleman will be present.

Carried

17. Resolution that the Board of Directors has resumed Open Session

Motion No.:  
FA-23-025

Moved By: Scott Greig  
Seconded By: Jon Farmer

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors resume open session.

Carried

18. Resolution Approving the Closed Session Minutes

Motion No.:  
FA-23-026

Moved By: Jennifer Shaw  
Seconded By: Scott Mackey

THAT the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority Board of Directors approve the December 21, 2022, Closed Session, presented in the closed session agenda.

Carried

19. Reporting out of Closed Session

The Board reviewed and approved both the Closed Session minutes of December 21, 2023.

20. Next Full Authority Meeting

Wednesday March 22, 2022

21. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Motion No.:  
FA-23-027

Moved By: Jay Kirkland  
Seconded By: Scott Greig

THAT this meeting now adjourn.

Carried



Sue Carleton, Chair



Valerie Coleman  
Administrative Assistant