



# *Muskoka*

## WATERSHED COUNCIL

### Minutes

Friday, March 20, 2015

1:00 pm

Council Chambers – District Municipality of Muskoka  
70 Pine Street, Bracebridge

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#### Present

Peter Sale (Chair)	Nancy Alcock	Shane Baker
Margaret Casey	Patsy Cross	Piret Hurrell
Randy Jorgensen	Jan McDonnell	Steve Munro
Michael Peppard	Geoff Ross	Al Shaw
Kevin Trimble	Ian Turnbull	Debbie Vernon

#### Staff

Christy Doyle	Rebecca Willison
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#### Guests

Karen Maxwell	Lyndsie McGregor	Moreen Miller
Vito Brancatella	Paul Dinner	

#### Welcome

Peter Sale called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

#### Confirmation of Minutes

**MOTION** by Ian Turnbull, seconded by Piret Hurrell

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated February 20, 2015 be approved.

**CARRIED**

#### Correspondence

- Letter of Support for NSERC Wetland project
- Letter of support for The Land Between Capacity Building project
- Submission of comments to the EBR posting of Ontario's Climate Change paper

#### Chair's Items

## **Presentation**

[Environmental Sustainability Practices in the Aggregates Industry](#) – Moreen Miller, President, [Fowler Construction](#)

Al Shaw introduced Moreen, who gave an informative presentation on aggregate use and production in Ontario and Muskoka, with a focus on sustainability.

Moreen answered several questions from the Council. Some points from the discussion include:

- Only 6% of the aggregates in Ontario are recycled, compared to 50% in Europe. This is partly due to our readily available sources of aggregates and partly due to municipal regulations that won't allow the use of recycled aggregates.
- Karen Maxwell noted that she had a good experience with the MAP program on her property for rehabilitation.
- The aggregates industry in Ontario is one of the most regulated industries and so they are limited in their ability to try new techniques for rehabilitation.
- Patricia Arney noted that the Aggregate Resources Act is under review and she is concerned that dimensional stone continues to receive the same level of protection and value as aggregates for construction. Moreen noted that since dimensional stone and construction aggregates are often from the same source it would be very difficult to differentiate between them in regulations.

Peter and Christy Doyle thanked Moreen for her very informative presentation.

## **Activity Report**

The March 2015 Activity Report was distributed with the agenda and reviewed at the meeting.

- Executive Committee – Nothing to report.
- Policy & Research – Geoff Ross reported on the activities of the committee, which revolved around updating policy papers and developing new ones. Stewardship and power generation will be coming to MWC in the near future for approval.
- Strategic Directions – Peter Sale reported that the Climate Change Impacts Subcommittee continues to make progress in the likely responses of lake ecosystems to future climate. Ian Turnbull will be reaching out to MWC members to assist with the community consultations soon for the Community Expectations project.
- Communications – Lyndsie McGregor reported on the success of the Canada Water Week displays in the Huntsville Place Mall. She encouraged everyone to share the event on social media to raise awareness. MWC will be at the Cottage Life Show March 27-29, which is a great venue to sell handbooks. Royal LePage has included an article about MWC/FMW in their new catalogue. Muskoka Magazine will be doing a review on the handbook in the April issue. Registration is open for the Muskoka Stewardship Conference at [www.muskokawatershed.org](http://www.muskokawatershed.org).

## **Updates and New Business**

- FMW – Debbie Vernon reported that FMW is still on track for obtaining charitable status and is working hard to increase membership.
- MSE – The MSE Speakers Committee met on March 16<sup>th</sup> to almost finalize the list of speakers, including several well-known people. The title for the 2016 Summit will be "Solutions for a Warming Planet".
- Michael Peppard gave notice for the inaugural meeting of the Friends of the Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation, which will occur on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Next MWC Meeting**

Friday, April 17, 2015 in the Council Chambers at the District of Muskoka administration building.

**Adjournment**

Peter Sale adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm.