

GREY SAUBLE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (GSCA)

Board Meeting Highlights 07/28/2021



Water Management

a. June 26th Flood Watch Review

A presentation was given regarding the Flood Watch issued on June 26th, 2021. It was reported that watershed conditions prior to the storm were very dry with most systems near a Level 1 Low Water Condition with below average rainfall for the six weeks previous. Staff gave an overview of the forecasted rainfall prior to June 26th Flood Watch alert. Staff issued a Flood Watch on June 26th to Municipal and Media flood contacts. Social media messaging was also circulated. There were impacts throughout the watershed with Thornbury's urban flooding being noted.

GIS/IT

a. Financial Renewal and AMP Software Platform

A request was made to move forward on the acquisition of a front-end software application that will allow GSCA to do time sheeting, payables/receivables, and the tagging of items as capital assets efficiently. The process of financial renewal began in 2017 with the aim to reduce duplication of data entry, streamline approvals and workflows, improve full cost accounting, and allow managers to better budget and track expenditures. As part of this process, the GSCA payroll software was updated and resulted in less data entry time. The next step was to create an end-user solution for timesheet submission, payables, and receivables.

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) contacted GSCA to offer their in-house developed application at a cost-recovery rate. This system will allow GSCA to do time sheeting, payables/receivables, and capital asset tagging, and can be customized to GSCA's needs. This software has been purchased by other CAs as well. It was noted that the software has the flexibility to be used for other applications throughout the organization in the future.

Operations

a. Report on Spring Opening and Current Property Status

Operations Manager, Morgan Barrie, gave an update on spring operations and the current status of properties. Gate houses and new outhouses have been installed. Incorporation of cashless payment system at high traffic sites has improved compliance. Expanded ambassador program.

Administration

a. Update to the GSCA Procurement Policy

Proposed updates to the Procurement Policy were brought forward. GSCA staff identified some inconsistencies and unworkable portions of the policy, in particular the RFP process. Recommended changes will provide increased flexibility to the RFP process and help to differentiate between RFPs and RFQs.