Lower Thames Conservation

Board of Directors Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

The Annual General Meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held at Willson Hall at the University of Guelph Ridgetown Campus at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 19, 2026. The following directors were in attendance: P. Tiessen, S. Emons, J. Wright, K. Loveland, L. Vogler, H. Aerts, S. Hipple, and R. Leatham. M. Vink, A. Finn, P. Van Meerbergen, and M. Bondy sent their regrets.

1. First Nations Acknowledgement
   Mark Peacock read the First Nations Acknowledgement.

2. Call to Order

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: AGM-2026-05 **S. Hipple – S. Emons**

Moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest

   None Declared.

5. Chair's Remarks

   The Chair thanked the staff for all the hard work that goes into the day-to-day of LTVCA business.

   The Chair, Paul Tiessen, welcomed the Board of Directors, staff and guests to the Conservation Authority's 2026 Annual General Meeting.

   In attendance:
   Paul Tiessen, Municipality of Leamington
   John Wright, Municipality of Chatham-Kent
   Ken Loveland, Municipality of Dutton Dunwich
   Larissa Vogler, Municipality of Lakeshore
   Hugh Aerts, Municipality of Middlesex Centre
   Sarah Emons, Township of Southwold
   Sandi Hipple, Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc
   Richard Leatham, Municipality of West Elgin

Regrets sent:

Mike Bondy, Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Amy Finn, Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Martin Vink, Municipality of Southwest Middlesex
Paul Van Meerbergen, City of London

6. AGM Award Winners and Guests

Award Winners:	Linda McKinlay Geraldine Hind Steve Stokley Jenny McGregor Jennifer Ganley
Volunteer Hero Award Winners:	Bob Gore Brett Gore Derek Gore
Committee Groups:	Tom Cobban, Ska-Nah-Doht Village Committee Pamela Chrisjohn, Ska-Nah-Doht Village Committee Kevin Doxtator, Ska-Nah-Doht Village Committee Bonnie Carey, LTVC Foundation Administrator
Conservation Ontario:	Bonnie Fox
Member Municipalities:	Darrin Canniff, Mayor, Chatham-Kent Grant Jones, Mayor, Southwold / LTVCF Director
Community Members and Agencies:	Mark McKinlay, Guest of Award Winner Mike Beacom, Guest of Award Winner Randi McLeod, Guest of Award Winner Ken Phillips, SCRCA – General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Chunning Li, SCRCA – Director of Corporate Services Elizabeth Van Hooren, KCCA – Gen. Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Tim Byrne, ERCA – CAO Theodore Albert, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation Meghan Thompson, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation Brennan Vogel, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation Faith Hale, Ska:na Family Learning Centre Rob Pollock, CK – Director, Parks, Recreation & Facilities Blaise Chevalier, CK – Drainage Services Meghan Dunlop, CK Waterfestival Don Hector, CK Waterfestival Joanne Wolnik, Ontario Southwest Tourism Drake Larson, ALUS Elgin Alyssa Cousineau, ALUS Canada

Chris Pegg, Chatham-Kent Community Foundation
Mark Gagner, Enbridge
Derrick Leclair, Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association
John Lawrence, Urban Stewardship-Sunrise Rotary
Russ Dysarz
Maureen Geddes, OVCLT

7. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion: AGM-2026-06 R. Leatham – K. Loveland

Moved that the Board of Directors minutes of the December 18, 2025, and February 11, 2026, meetings be approved.

CARRIED

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

None Declared.

9. Presentations

9.1) 2025 Annual Report

Amanda Blain provided a Power Point Presentation on the 2025 Annual Report of the LTVCA programs, services and events to the Board of Directors and guests.

10. New Business

None noted.

11. Business for Approval

11.1) 2025 Annual Report

Motion: AGM-2026-07 S. Emons – L. Vogler

Moved that the LTVCA's 2025 Annual Report be approved as presented.

CARRIED

11.2) Election of Officers and Appointments to Committees

Motion: AGM-2026-08 L. Vogler – K. Loveland

Moved that Mark Peacock, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer be appointed to chair the elections.

CARRIED

Mr. Mark Peacock assumed the chair for the elections, declared all elected offices, positions and appointments vacant, and outlined the voting procedures to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Peacock requested a motion to appoint Mr. Tim Byrne, ERCA CAO and Mr. Ken Phillips, SCRCA General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer as scrutineers.

Motion: AGM-2026-09 J. Wright – S. Emons

Moved that Tim Byrne and Ken Phillips be appointed as scrutineers for the purpose of the elections.

CARRIED

a) Chair

Mr. Peacock called for nominations for Chair of the LTVCA for 2026.

S. Emons nominated P. Tiessen. P. Tiessen accepted the nomination.

Mr. Peacock called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

Motion: AGM-2026-10 H. Aerts – R. Leatham

Moved that nominations for Chair be closed.

CARRIED

P. Tiessen was declared to be elected as Chair.

b) Vice-Chairs

Mr. Peacock called for nominations for 1st Vice-Chair of the LTVCA for 2026.

S. Hipple nominated S. Emons. S. Emons accepted the nomination.

Mr. Peacock called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

Motion: AGM-2026-11 K. Loveland – J. Wright

Moved that nominations for 1st Vice-Chair be closed.

CARRIED

Mr. Peacock called for nominations for 2nd Vice-Chair of the LTVCA for 2026.

P. Tiessen nominated H. Aerts. H. Aerts accepted the nomination.

Mr. Peacock called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

Motion: AGM-2026-12 R. Leatham – S. Hipple

Moved that nominations for 2nd Vice-Chair be closed.

CARRIED

S. Emons was declared to be elected as 1st Vice-Chair and H. Aerts was declared to be elected as 2nd Vice-Chair.

c) Executive Committee (2 members to be elected)

Mr. Peacock called for nominations to the LTVCA's Executive Committee for 2026.

K. Loveland nominated R. Leatham. R. Leatham accepted the nomination.
P. Tiessen nominated L. Vogler. L. Vogler accepted the nomination.

Mr. Peacock called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

Motion: AGM-2026-13 J. Wright – S. Emons

Moved that nominations for the Executive Committee be closed.

CARRIED

R. Leatham and L. Vogler were declared members of the Executive Committee.

d) Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee (3 members to be elected)

Mr. Peacock called for nominations to the Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee for 2026.

S. Hipple nominated K. Loveland. K. Loveland accepted the nomination.
H. Aerts nominated S. Hipple. S. Hipple accepted the nomination.

Mr. Peacock called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

Motion: AGM-2026-14 R. Leatham – L. Vogler

Moved that nominations for the Ska-Nah-Doht Advisory Committee be closed.

CARRIED

K. Loveland and S. Hipple were declared members of the Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee.

e) CM Wilson Learning Centre Advisory Committee (2 members to be elected)

Mr. Peacock called for nominations to the CM Wilson Learning Centre Advisory Committee for 2026.

J. Wright nominated A. Finn. A. Finn had pre-stated a willingness to sit on the CMWLC Advisory Committee and accepted any nomination in advance.
S. Emons nominated L. Vogler. L. Vogler accepted the nomination.

Mr. Peacock called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

Motion: AGM-2026-15 **P. Tiessen – L. Vogler**

Moved that nominations for the CM Wilson Learning Centre Advisory Committee be closed.

CARRIED

A. Finn and L. Vogler were declared a member of the CM Wilson Learning Centre Advisory Committee.

f) Ice Management Committee (2 members to be appointed from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, plus the member from the Town of Lakeshore). Chair ex-officio.

Mr. Peacock called for nominations for the Ice Management Committee of the LTVCA for 2026.

L. Vogler nominated J. Wright. J. Wright accepted the nomination.
S. Emons nominated L. Vogler. L. Vogler accepted the nomination.

Mr. Peacock called twice more for nominations. There being no further nominations,

Motion: AGM-2026-16 **R. Leatham – K. Loveland**

Moved that nominations for the Ice Management Committee be closed.

CARRIED

J. Wright and L. Vogler were declared members of the Ice Management Committee.

Mr. Peacock congratulated those elected and turned the chair over to P. Tiessen, the Chair for 2026, to continue with the rest of the meeting.

11.3) 2026 Budget and Apportionment

Motion: AGM-2026-17 **K. Loveland – H. Aerts**

Moved that the 2026 Municipal Apportionment be approved; **And That** the participating municipalities be assessed for payment of $2,200,031 which is comprised of Category 1 expenses of $2,091,560; Category 3 expenses of ($108,993) and Special Apportionment of $217,464 (Category 1 & 2, Chatham-Kent); **And That** each participating municipality's share of the 2026 Total municipal apportionment be calculated using "Modified Current Value Assessment" as shown in the table appended to this motion.

CARRIED

At the LTVCA the apportionment is approved with a weighted vote based on Modified Current Value Assessment as calculated by the Ministry of Natural Resources. Eight (8) of twelve members were present at the board meeting. The eight (8) members represented 50.3 percent of the total weighted vote. All members of the board voted to approve the apportionment (100% of the eight members present). The motion carried.

DRAFT

LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Apportionment (Levy) for 2026 using Modified CVA

	Current Value Assessment (Modified CVA)	% of Levy	Special Apportionment 2026	Total General Apportionment 2026	Total Municipal Apportionment 2026	Total Municipal Apportionment 2025	$ Change from 2025 Apportionment	% Change from 2025
Dutton-Dunwich M	586,808,672	3.7017%	0	73,390	73,390	64,854	8,536	13.16%
Southwold Tp	303,975,980	1.9176%	0	38,017	38,017	33,279	4,738	14.24%
West Elgin M	655,237,817	4.1334%	0	81,948	81,948	73,496	8,452	11.50%
Lakeshore M	1,520,034,791	9.5888%	0	190,104	190,104	168,884	21,220	12.56%
Leamington M	386,305,694	2.4369%	0	48,313	48,313	42,251	6,062	14.35%
Chatham-Kent M	8,847,401,606	55.8118%	217,464	1,106,506	1,323,970	1,196,704	127,266	10.63%
London C	1,835,145,915	11.5766%	0	229,514	229,514	203,535	25,979	12.76%
Middlesex Centre M	277,932,651	1.7533%	0	34,760	34,760	30,676	4,084	13.31%
Southwest Middlesex M	457,567,746	2.8865%	0	57,226	57,226	50,904	6,322	12.42%
Strathroy - Caradoc M	981,799,976	6.1935%	0	122,789	122,789	109,333	13,456	12.31%
TOTAL	15,852,210,848	100%	$217,464	$1,982,567	$2,200,031	$1,973,916	$226,115	11.46%

1 of 1

Motion: AGM-2026-18 S. Emons – R. Leatham

Moved that the proposed 2026 budget totalling $8,673,058 be approved as presented in the accompanying budget tables.

CARRIED

11.4) Appointment of Auditor

Motion: AGM-2026-19 R. Leatham – K. Loveland

Moved that the firm of Baker Tilly be appointed as the auditor of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority until the next Annual Meeting in February 2027.

CARRIED

11.5) Appointment of Bank

Motion: AGM-2026-20 S. Emons – J. Wright

Moved that the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce be appointed the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's bank until the next Annual Meeting in February 2027.

CARRIED

11.6) Appointment of Solicitor

Motion: AGM-2026-21 L. Vogler – K. Loveland

Moved that the firm of M. Gordnerlaw Professional Corporation be appointed the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's solicitor until the next Annual Meeting in February 2027.

CARRIED

11.7) Authorization to Borrow

Motion: AGM-2026-22 S. Hipple – H. Aerts

Moved that the Authority Chair or Vice-Chair(s) and the CAO/Secretary Treasurer be authorized to borrow from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce a sum not to exceed $300,000 for the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and to be repaid from grants received from the Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, levies assessed the member municipalities and self-generated revenues.

CARRIED

11.8) Appointment to Conservation Ontario

Motion: AGM-2026-23 K. Loveland – R. Leatham

Moved that the Chair be appointed as Voting Representative, and the CAO as 1st Alternative.

CARRIED

11.9) 2026 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Thursday, April 16, 2026 – 2:00-4:00 pm
Thursday, June 18, 2026 – 2:00-4:00 pm
Thursday, August 20, 2026 – 2:00-4:00 pm
Thursday, October 15, 2026 – 2:00-4:00 pm
Thursday, December 17, 2026 – 2:00-4:00 pm
Thursday, February 18, 2027 – 2:00-4:00 pm

Motion: AGM-2026-24 S. Emons – S. Hipple

Moved that the meeting schedule for 2026 and the Annual General Meeting for 2027 be endorsed.

CARRIED

12. Business for Information

12.1) CAO / Secretary Treasurer Report
12.2) 2025 Permit Statistics, Timelines and Compliance with O. Reg. 41/24
12.3) Water Management
12.4) Planning and Regulations
12.5) Conservation Lands
12.6) Conservation Services
12.7) Communications, Education and Outreach
12.8) Wheatley Two Creeks Association December Minutes

Motion: AGM-2026-25 L. Vogler – K. Loveland

Moved that the Board of Directors receive the above reports, 12.1 through to 12.8, for information.

CARRIED

13. Correspondence

None noted.

14. Other Business

None noted.

15. Adjournment

Motion: AGM-2026-26 K. Loveland – R. Leatham

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Paul Tiessen
Chair

Mark Peacock, P.Eng.
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer