

MINUTES OF THE LSRLPOA DIRECTORS' BOARD MEETING

March 19th , 2026
AT 4:00 PM by Zoom

ATTENDING: Frank Johnson (President), Tom Ellis (Vice President), Cathy Anderson (Secretary), Carol Morgan (Treasurer), Frank Sammut (Lake Steward), Margo Ayers, Steve Hiltz, Richard Mosley, Jim Walterhouse

This meeting of the Board was chaired by Tom Ellis, in his position as Vice President of the Board.

REGRETS: None

ABSENT: None

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved by all.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING held on:

Approved by all as circulated, with the following correction...

In the section on Municipal Affairs, TVT Council's vote was to not approve the creation of **one** new staff position as recommended in the Reeve's proposed budget, not two positions as had been noted in the February 23rd Minutes. That change will be made in the Minutes and the updated version will be sent to Tom for posting on the Association webpage.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Frank Johnson

a) Municipal Affairs –

Proposed updates to TVT's Procedural ByLaws have been published and a public meeting will be held on March 24th to allow for public comments before Council discusses and votes at the COW and Council meetings to follow. Although not representing the Association, Tom plans to speak on the topic of the proposal to insert a ByLaw stating that there will be no recording or storage of livestreams. Cathy plans to speak about the limitations that the proposed (and current) ByLaws place upon members of the public wishing to present to Council as a delegation. Frank S. may decide to speak as well.

b) FOCA AGM/Source Water Protection Project–

Tom attended the FOCA AGM on behalf of the Association and sat on the panel concerning Source Water Protection. It was noted that he answered questions related to the Source Water Protection Project Report knowledgably, and his attendance was appreciated by all of us.

Frank noted that most of our member's properties rely on ground water from a well for our water supply. While we are able to have the quality of our drinking water tested and the RVCA regularly tests the quality of our lake water through the lake partnership program, there is no long term monitoring available for ground water levels. Monitoring quantity in a test well requires specialized equipment which would cost approximately \$3000-\$5000, which would need to be maintained and calibrated with associated costs. The question of whether the Association should take a proactive role in monitoring ground water levels was raised and it was noted that the Source Water Protection Report recommended that it is a responsibility that the Association should consider taking on. Although Frank J. noted that Christie Lake is monitoring their ground water levels, Tom noted that most other lake associations represented at the FOCA AGM were not

yet considering their role in this regard, but recognized through their panel discussion that it would have to be addressed in the near future.

Tom returned from FOCA's AGM with a \$2500 cheque recognizing his involvement in their panel discussion, to be used in whatever way our Association deemed, but related to Source Water Protection. He suggested that the money made available to the Association from FOCA could be used to reproduce the Source Water Protection Report to be made available to interested property owners at the AGM. It was suggested that the report could more cost effectively be made available to members digitally.

We discussed having a source water presentation made at the AGM, and Frank Johnson, our resident source water expert, agreed to put together and deliver a short report. As far as ground water quality is concerned, we discussed the possibility of asking property owners to have their well water tested for bacteria and e-coli annually (a free service provided by the province) and collating the results as an Association. It was noted that it could be a sensitive issue and there might be a hesitancy to report a negative result, but even establishing a system for anonymous reporting would allow us to recognize that there might be an issue that could impact more than a single property. However, encouraging property owners to have their water tested at least twice a year for their own well being would be a valuable role for our Association. That will be communicated at the AGM. Tom will drop in to the TVT offices, where the sample bottles can be picked up and dropped off for testing, to see if he can get a quantity of bottles to bring to the AGM.

Action Items–

1. Source Water Protection Project Report will be posted to the Association website. Frank J. to write up a brief report summarizing the Source Water Protection Project to be presented at the AGM, and circulated to the Executive when prepared.
2. Tom to see about procuring a supply of water testing bottles from the Township office to have available at the AGM

4. TREASURER'S REPORT: Carol Morgan

a) CRA Tax Filing–

Data has been provided to the accountant for submission of Association's 2025 taxes. The accountant has indicated that the information she has received is complete and the filing should be straightforward. She will file our taxes and will also provide a financial report on the wellbeing of the Association's finances. Carol will prepare a financial report for presentation at the AGM.

b) Calendars–

The last available calendar will be given to Mike Champagne on behalf of the Association to thank him for his work with us on issues related to Tay Valley Township governance.

c) Financial Statement–

FOCA cheque was received in the amount of \$2500, with \$2181 remaining after disbursements covering delegate expenses, which has been deposited.

5. LAKE STEWARD'S REPORT: Frank Sammut

a) BaSS Project–

There is no recent news from the BaSS Project. Shoreline sampling will take place in May, which will then give us two years of data to submit to the Ministry of Natural Resources. Hopefully the sanctuary will be established in the summer of 2027.

b) Conservation Authorities–

Four Conservation Authorities (Rideau Valley, Mississippi Valley, South Nation and Raisin Region) will be amalgamated in 2027 and will be known as St. Lawrence Regional Conservation Authority, which will be one of 9 regional conservation authorities in the Province of Ontario. They will apparently remain municipally governed with counties and cities being represented, however towns and townships will no longer be represented. TVT will therefore have no representation on the Board of the Conservation Authority, but it will still be expected to participate through taxation in funding its operations. Provincial funding is limited. Therefore, TVT will continue to contribute financially, with no direct voice. Provision of programs are to remain the same and our water testing will continue as it has in the past, at least for the immediate future.

c) Ice Conditions on the lakes–

The ice is still on the lake, at least a foot deep, which is very late compared to past years. There are still people ice fishing.

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Cathy Anderson

Nothing to report at this time.

7. VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Tom Ellis

a) FOCA–

As mentioned, Tom attended the FOCA AGM and was impressed with the organization and with the new Executive Director. They seem to be doing a really good job of representing all of us as regards environmental issues (use of road salt and its impact on our lakes being one example), a variety of legislative issues, awareness of the plans for ALTO, the proposed high speed train (about which FOCA has not yet taken a position), etc.

b) Minutes of Association Executive Meetings–

Tom has posted Minutes of past meetings on the Association website.

8. SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Jim Walterhouse

The Committee met on February 24th. The first social event that the Committee is organizing will be a 'Welcome Back to the Lake" pot luck luncheon on May 16th. The ABC Hall is not available so the Maberly Hall has been booked as a venue with a cost of \$100. Jim will let Carol know when money is required to be paid. The event will be communicated to all Association members by electronic bulletin, with a response requested regarding intent to attend to provide a rough number of potential attendees.

The Committee was also considering doing a fishing derby (mainly kid focused) on the Sunday of that long weekend. Frank S. pointed out that bass fishing season will not be open until the 3rd Saturday in June. and it was agreed that the derby would therefore be delayed, perhaps until the July long weekend. For the Canada Day event, Dock Tales is being proposed, with a variety of property owners hosting drop-ins on their docks to promote socializing on the lake. The idea of asking owners of pontoons to offer transportation to neighbours to move people around the lake is also being considered. Birding activities are also being

considered, aided by our resident birding expert and member of the Social Committee, Alison Bentley. Card/Games nights may also be offered in the future. Tom will put Jim in touch with Ross Fraser (our insurance contact), so that he can double check on insurance coverage for events being held at the Maberly Hall.

The Committee's next meeting will be held on March 23rd.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

a) AGM Planning–

The plan is to keep the AGM to a two hour length at maximum. Refreshments will be offered beginning at 9:30 a.m., and the meeting will run from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Tom shared a screen with the proposed Agenda for the upcoming AGM. It included...

1. Land Acknowledgement
2. Welcome and Year in Review by Frank J.
3. Election of Executive
4. Approval of Minutes of last year's AGM
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Lake Steward's Report
7. Social Committee Report
8. Municipal Affairs Report (livestreaming, upcoming election, etc.)
9. FOCA
10. RVCA (H. Matschke) and TVT (N. Reeve) on Water Source Protection
11. Fire Safety by Maberly's Deputy Fire Chief on Wildfires

At last year's AGM, our recollection is that all positions were voted in for a two year term so there is no need for election into most positions this year. However,

Frank J. is stepping down as President, and Tom Ellis has put his name forward to move into that position. Frank J. offered to take the position of Vice-President (since we no longer have a Past President position in our Board's constitution) to simplify the transition. Tom will vacate the position as area rep for Rainbow Lane, so that position will need to be filled. Although Cathy has indicated her willingness to stay on as Secretary if need be, that position is also available for anyone interested. Association members will be invited in advance of the AGM through a bulletin to indicate their desire and intent to stand for any open position and the floor will also be opened for nominations at the AGM. Margo suggested that if positions on the Board are considered by our Constitution to be two year terms, we should consider staggering the elections into those positions so that there is not a complete turnover on the Executive in any given year. People could run again if desired and/or if no one else comes forward, by letting their name stand again for reelection.

It was suggested that we have a theme for our AGM, and a suggestion was made that this year's theme could be protecting the land and the water. Our invited guests tie into this theme (Haley from RVCA and the Deputy Fire Chief from our Maberly Fire Hall. We may consider asking Ken Cox from FireSmart to consider doing a presentation or a webinar for our membership in the future, instead of attending this year's AGM as was previously discussed. Richard and Tom will be meeting with the Deputy Fire Chief at the fire station to discuss what he might present at the AGM. Frank J. pointed out that although Mike Leering has offered the use of his water pump if the need arises, fighting wildfires is very different than fighting house fires and perhaps the presentation at the AGM could address that.

TVT Councillors will not be invited to the AGM as it is an election year (but the possibility of an All Candidates Meeting will be discussed).

Possibilities for fun activities at the AGM were discussed. A silent auction was suggested, including auction items such as a pontoon ride around the lake, a donation by the River House Winery and Scheuermann Vineyard and Winery

(Jim to contact both), a visit with the goats at Eric's farm, next door to the ABC Hall (Carol to contact), etc. This will be discussed further at our next meeting.

b) Upcoming Municipal Election and the Associations' Role—

Richard suggested that a handout be prepared to be distributed at the AGM to inform Association members about the process of registering in advance of the municipal election, and perhaps even to have some of the TVT voter registration forms available at the AGM to simplify that for our members. Tom will follow up on that.

Tom raised the possibility of the Association sponsoring an All Candidates Meeting in advance of the election. He stated it is not the Association's role to take an official position in the election or to promote certain candidates, but that we could organize such a meeting as a service to our members and others in our area. Although our personal positions may be well known, the Association does not endorse a candidate even if they are known to us. It was agreed that we will continue to discuss the election and our role in it at upcoming meetings.

Richard queried whether we want to consider offering breakfast at the Hall prior to the meeting, as has been done in some past years. More recently, we have offered refreshments only. Although breakfast would be a nice opportunity for socializing, it was acknowledged that it would be a lot of work and the activities being offered by our newly formed Social Committee offer the potential for social connection amongst our members. A breakfast will not be offered at this year's AGM.

c) Association Survey—

Tom raised the possibility of developing and distributing a survey to all Association members to seek their thoughts about what they want from their Lake Association. This would give the Association some direction for our efforts over the next few years. It was agreed that the survey would need to be specific and concise. There was a comprehensive survey sent out about 10 years ago. It

is on the website in the Lake Stewardship section. It could be tweaked to include fire safety and used again.

d) Upcoming Bulletin Ideas–

Looking ahead to the next Bulletin, some ideas might include...

1. information about the upcoming AGM
2. Call for nominations for Executive positions on the Board
3. Request for topics that POs would like to be addressed at the AGM

Action Items–

1. Bulletin to be prepared to be sent out to all Association members to inform about available positions on the LSRLPOA in advance of the AGM.
2. Cathy to prepare the Minutes of last year's AGM to be distributed to the Executive so they can be approved by the Board before being presented at the AGM for approval by the Association membership.
3. Frank J. to reach out to Noelle Reeve to invite her to speak at the AGM on the subject of Water Source Protection.
4. Tom to check on whether voter registration forms can be made available at the AGM.
5. Agenda for AGM will be finalized at our next meeting.

10. NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING: To be decided by a Doodle Poll to be sent out by Tom, and held sometime around April 22nd by Zoom

11. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.