



# MINUTES

**DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**Friday, June 9, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**Committee Meeting Room 'A'**  
**2021 Division Road North, Kingsville, Ontario N9Y 2Y9**

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## **A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson, Larry Patterson called the Meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. with the following persons in attendance:

### **Members:**

Larry Patterson  
Thomas Neufeld  
Richard Welker  
Jeff Stevenson  
Henry Denotter  
Lyle Hall

### **Members of Administration:**

Ken Vegh, Drainage Superintendent  
Deputy Clerk – Administrative Services J. Alexander  
Rob Mackie – Public Works Supervisor

### **Guests in Attendance:**

Lu Ann Marentette  
Lucy Simpson

## **B. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Chairperson, Larry Patterson reminded members that any declaration and its general nature are to be made prior to each item being discussed.

## **C. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

### **1. Sid Vander Veen, OMAFRA**

S. Vander Veen discussed the various questions from the Committee. The highlights of the questions are as follows:

(A) Tile Headers and BMP guide lines.

Installing header tiles is a practice that is encouraged by OMAFRA for controlled drainage. H. Denotter indicated that there is some funding for a manifold system available for farmers but the funding amount is small compared to the amount if tiles needed for a farm. Header tiles an expensive option for farmers. S. Vander Veen suggested a controlled drainage book by Dr. Cook.

(B) Is there a legislated schedule to clean drains to reduce erosion?

S. Vander Veen indicated that each municipality has a scheduled maintenance on municipal drains. The frequency depends on the municipality and the amount of debris in the drain. R. Walker suggested that the frequency of clean up must be addressed as farmers need an outlet for water to drain from the land. ERCA will not let natural water corridors to be cleaned. The current standard for tile drainage is ½ inch of water in 24 hours for cash crops. Road side ditches are not owned by the municipality and the land owner is not entitled to it for clean-up.

(C) Tree removal on drains.

S. Vander Veen indicated that the municipality is responsible for maintenance and repairs on municipal drains for trees that are blocking the flow of water. Not all vegetation can be removed or this causes other issues. The issue to spray tree stumps has been addressed and the Town is spraying this year. Some types of trees can grow back.

(D) What are the farmer's rights to drain their land?

S. Vander Veen suggested that a farmer can acquire rights through the Drainage Act. Some farmers will need to consult with ERCA and MNR for drainage projects or work to complete.

The Committee had a break for five minutes at 11:05 a.m.

S. Vander Veen addressed the Committee's concern over the amount of debris in various drains within the Town both municipal and privately owned. R. Welker suggested that farmers are concerned that the 47<sup>th</sup> drain is blocked up and not providing proper drainage to many property owners. S. Vander Veen provided a recommendation for the Municipality to work with ERCA to potentially extend a section of 47<sup>th</sup> and designate it as a municipal drain to clean up debris and tree removal without channeling work. If other municipalities affected by this drain partner, there may be some support for a project like this. S. Vander Veen recommended if the committee would like to move forward with a pilot project with the 47<sup>th</sup> drain, a scope meeting with stakeholders would need to commence.

**03-2017 Motion by H. Denotter, seconded by T. Neufeld, that the Committee recommend to Council to endorse a pilot program for the 47th Drain over Wigle creek for clean-up and obstruction removal.**

**CARRIED**

The Committee has directed Administration begin the process of getting the stakeholders' together for a scope meeting.

**D. STAFF REPORTS**

NONE PRESENTED

**E. BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE**

NONE PRESENTED

**F. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

F.1. Adoption of the Committee Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2017.

**04-2017 Moved by seconded by T. Neufeld, H. Denotter that the Committee adopt the February 16, 2017 minutes.**

**CARRIED**

**G. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

NONE PRESENTED

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

**05-2017** Moved by H. Denotter, seconded by J. Stevenson, that the Committee adjourn the meeting at 11:54 a.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.

**CARRIED**

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**CHAIRMAN, Larry Patterson**

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**DEPUTY CLERK – ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES,  
Jennifer Alexander**