

Membership Meeting #1-2026

January 28, 2026

Members Present: Ed McGugan, Alvin McLellan, Megan Gibson, Matt Duncan, Anita Van Hittersum, Evan Hickey, Ed Podniewicz, Vanessa Kelly, Andrew Fournier, Alison Lobb, Sharen Zinn

Staff Present: Phil Beard, General Manager-Secretary-Treasurer
Jayne Thompson, Communications Coordinator
Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Services Coordinator
Michelle Quipp, Executive Assistant

Others Present: Cory Bilyea, Midwestern News Media
Glenn Sheppard, Marsh

1. Call to Order

Chair Ed McGugan, requested Vice Chair, Matt Duncan, chair the meeting. Matt Duncan, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no pecuniary interests at this time.

3. Minutes

Motion FA #1-26

Moved by: Alvin McLellan

Seconded by: Anita Van Hittersum

THAT the minutes from the General Membership Meeting #12-2025 held on December 17, 2025, be approved.
(carried)

4. Business out of the Minutes

- a) Discussion re: Advocacy regarding proposed Consolidation: Report #1-2026

Report #1-2026 was presented and the following motions was made:

Motion FA #2-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Vanessa Kelly

THAT the chair, vice chair and staff proceed with the actions listed in Report #1-2026 to continue with advocacy.

(carried)

b) Process for Requesting an Exemption for Chair and Vice Chair: Report #2-2026

Report #2-2026 was presented for the members and the following motion was made with a recorded vote:

Motion FA #3-26

Moved by: Anita Van Hittersum

Seconded by: Alison Lobb

THAT the members request an extension to the 2026 term for the Chair and Vice Chair as required by the Conservation Authorities Act.

(carried)

Member	Yes	No
Ed McGugan, Township of Huron-Kinloss & South Bruce	x	
Alvin McLellan, Municipality of Huron East	x	
Megan Gibson, Township of Howick	x	
Matt Duncan, Municipality of North Perth	x	
Anita Van Hittersum, Township of North Huron	x	
Evan Hickey, Township of Ashfield- Colborne-Wawanosh	x	
Ed Podniewicz, Town of Minto, Township of Wellington N & Township of Mapleton	x	
Vanessa Kelly, Town of Goderich & West Perth	x	
Andrew Fournier, Township of Perth East	x	
Alison Lobb, Municipality of Central Huron	x	
Sharen Zinn, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry	x	

c) Public Consultation: Closure of Wawanosh Campground: Report #3-2026

Report #3-2026 was presented and the following motions was made:

Motion FA #4-26

Moved by: Alvin McLellan

Seconded by: Ed Podniewicz

THAT the authority implements the recommendations as outlined in Report #3-2026.

(carried)

d) Final Agenda-Annual Meeting: Report #4-2025

Report #4-2026 was presented to the members for their consideration.

5. Presentations

- a) Directors and Officers Liability & Cybersecurity: Glenn Sheppard, Marsh

Glenn Sheppard of Marsh presented information about Directors and Officers Liability & Cybersecurity.

- b) 2025 Work Plan Highlights: Jayne Thompson, Communications/IT/GIS Coordinator

Jayne Thompson presented about the highlights of the 2025 Work Plan.

6. Business Requiring Direction and or a Decision:

- a) Review of Members 2025 Work Plan: Report #5-2026

Report #5-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #5-26

Moved by: Alvin McLellan

Seconded by: Alison Lobb

THAT the review of the 2025 Members work plan progress report be approved as outlined in Report #5-2026.

- b) 2025 Year End Revenue/Expenditure Report: Report #6-2026

Report #6-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #6-26

Moved by: Megan Gibson

Seconded by: Alison Lobb

THAT the year-end surpluses and deficits outlined in Report #6-2026 be directed to the appropriate accumulated surplus categories;

AND THAT all deferred revenue be directed to the designated projects in the 2026 draft budget.

(carried)

- c) Annual Review of the Members Manual: Report #7-2026

Report #7-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #7-26

Moved by: Megan Gibson **Seconded by:** Evan Hickey
THAT no changes be made to the Members Manual.
(carried)

d) Declarations for Second Vice Chair: Report #8-2026

Report #8-2026 was presented for the members for their consideration. Evan Hickey declared his interest in Second Vice Chair.

7. Consent Agenda

The following items were circulated to the Members for their information:

- a) Revenue/Expenditure Report for October: Report #9-2026
- b) Agreements Signed: Report #10-2026

Motion FA #8-26

Moved by: Ed Podniewicz **Seconded by:** Vanessa Kelly
THAT Report #9-2026 to Report #10-2026 along with the respective motions as outlined in those reports be approved.
(carried)

8. Chair and Member Reports

Ed McGugan shared his experience at the ROMA Conference.

9. Closed Session: Personnel Matter-Performance Review General Manager Secretary Treasurer

Motion FA #9-26

Moved by: Vanessa Kelly **Seconded by:** Anita Van Hittersum
THAT the meeting be moved into a closed session at 8:45 PM.
(carried)

Motion FA #10-26

Moved by: Sharen Zinn **Seconded by:** Megan Gibson
THAT the meeting be moved into open session at 8:53PM.
(carried)

10. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date, Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 2:00pm at the Blyth Memorial Hall in Blyth.

Motion FA #11-26

Moved by: Megan Gibson

Seconded by: Vanessa Kelly

THAT the Members Meeting be adjourned at 8:55PM

(carried)



Ed McGugan
Chair



Phil Beard
General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer