

## 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 Ducan, 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 an open closed 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)

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Ed McGugan  
Chair

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Phil Beard  
General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer