

Membership Meeting #9-2026

September 16, 2026

Members Present: Ed McGugan, Alvin McLellan, Anita van Hittersum, Alison Lobb, Ed Podniewicz, Megan Gibson, Evan Hickey, Andrew Fournier

Members Absent: Matt Duncan, Sharen Zinn, Vanessa McMillan

Staff Present: Phil Beard, General Manager-Secretary-Treasurer
Jayne Thompson, Communications Coordinator
Patrick Huber-Kidby, Planning & Regulations Supervisor
Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Coordinator
Erin Gouthro, Watershed Ecologist
Mathew Shetler, Watershed Monitoring Specialist
Ethan Slater, Forest Health Assistant
Jason Moir, Park Superintendent Falls Reserve
Michelle Quipp, Executive Assistant

Others Present: Kelsey Bent, Midwestern News Media

1. Call to Order

Chair Ed McGugan, 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 #92-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Alvin McLellan

THAT the minutes from the General Membership Meeting #8-2026 held on August 26, 2026, be approved.
(carried)

4. **Presentations**

Erin Gouthro, Watershed Ecologist, presented to members an update on the Watershed Health of MVCA.

Motion FA #93-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT the presentation about the Watershed Health Update be accepted.
(carried)

5. **Business Out of the Minutes**

a) **Review of Comments on Proposed Amendments to the Fees Schedule for 2027: Report #62-2026**

Report #62-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #94-26

Moved by: Ed Podniewicz

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT the 2027 Fee Schedule be approved as presented.
(carried)

b) **Review of Comments on Revised Draft Guiding Principles for Transition: Report #63-2026**

Report #63-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #95-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Anita van Hittersum

THAT Report #63-2016 be accepted.
(carried)

c) **Communications Strategy Update: Report #64-2026**

Report #64-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #96-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Ed Podniewicz

THAT a communication strategy be developed with the Maitland Conservation Foundation.
(carried)

6. Business Requiring Direction and/or Decision:

a) Draft 2027 Work Plan & Budget: Report #65-2026

Report #65-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #97-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Alvin McLellan

THAT the 2027 draft budget, work plan and cost apportionment be approved for review and comment by MVCA's member municipalities;

AND THAT the final work plan and budget be brought back to the Members at the October 21, 2026 meeting for final review and approval;

AND FURTHER THAT the municipal information package be circulated to member municipalities based upon the direction provided by the Members.

(carried)

b) Transition Committee Meeting #1-2026: Report #66-2026

Report #63-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #98-26

Moved by: Evan Hickey

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT Report #63-2016 be accepted.

(carried)

c) Program for October 21st Members Meeting: Report #67-2026

Report #67-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #99-26

Moved by: Anita van Hittersum

Seconded by: Andrew Fournier

THAT the recommendation within Report #67-2026 be accepted.

(carried)

d) Review of Policy for Storage of Trailers at Falls Reserve: Report #68-2026

Report #68-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #100-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Evan Hickey

THAT research be undertaken to determine the costs associated with permitting the winter storage of trailers in a consolidated lot;

AND THAT a consultation process be developed to gather input from the seasonal campers regarding storage of trailers over the winter months.
(carried)

e) Turnberry Flood Plain Conservation Area-Memorial Gate Request: Report #69-2026

Report #65-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #101-26

Moved by: Anita van Hittersum

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT the Membership supports the request from the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry for the transfer of approximately 0.05 acres of land being declared surplus;
AND THAT a request for authorization be sent to the OPCA.
(carried)

7. Consent Agenda

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

- a) Revenue/Expenditure Revenue/Expenditure Report for August: Report #70-2026
- b) Agreements Signed: Report #71-2026
- c) January 1-August 31st Budget Update: Report #72-2026
- d) Correspondence: Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency

Motion FA #102-26

Moved by: Evan Hickey

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT Report #70-2026 to Report #72-2026 along with the respective motions as outlined in those reports be approved.
(carried)

8. Chair and Member Reports

Chair Ed McGugan shared that the River Festival that was held at the Brussels Conservation Area was a success and thanked staff and volunteers for their hard work in organizing the event.

9. Closed Session: Legal Matter

Motion FA #103-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Anita van Hittersum

THAT the Members meeting be moved into a closed session at 8:50pm.
(carried)

Motion FA #104-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Andrew Fournier

THAT the Members meeting be moved into an open closed session at 9:30pm.
(carried)

10. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date, Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 7:00pm at the Administration Centre in Wroxeter.

Motion FA#106-26

Moved by:

Seconded by:

THAT the Members Meeting be adjourned at 9:30pm.
(carried)

Ed McGugan
Chair

Phil Beard
General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer