



River Raisin
WATERSHED COUNCIL

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**River Raisin Watershed Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2019 – 10:30 AM
Tecumseh Police Meeting Room
309 E. Chicago St.
Tecumseh, MI 49286**

1. Roll Call

Chairman Calhoun called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM.

Executive Committee Members Present: John Calhoun, Harry Sheehan, Sybil Kolon, John Chandler, KZ Bolton, and Laurie Johncox.

Executive Committee Members Absent: Dave Hoffman.

Others Present: Stephen May – Executive Director, Phil Kittredge – Loch Erin Property Owners Association, Trudi Cooper – Sharon Township Delegate, George Service – Clinton Delegate, Danielle Brosamer – Water Quality Coordinator candidate, David Rhoads – City of Saline Delegate, Francisco (Paco) Ollervides – River Network, and Katie Goplerud-Smith – Outreach Coordinator

2. Approval of March 19, 2018 – Agenda

- a. Motion by Johncox, second by Chandler to approve the March 19, 2019 agenda. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

3. Approval of February 19, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion by Sheehan, second by Kolon to approve February 19, 2019 meeting minutes. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. The Treasurer's Report for the period January 31, 2019 – February 28, 2019 – was distributed and reviewed by Johncox. Revenue - **\$19,857.49** - Expenses - **\$1,370.42** – Balance to date: **\$75,735.98**. Motion by Sheehan second by Kolon to accept and file Treasurer's Report. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

- b. 2019 Budget Review– YTD Total Revenue: **\$75,735.98**; Total Expenditures: **\$20,381.49**. \$5,000 in corporate sponsorships was amended to \$0 and the Total Expenditures was revised. Motion by Sheehan, second by Kolon to approve amendments to YTD Budget. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- c. Approve Disbursements for Outstanding Bills: New bills reported: Stephen May – RRWC Mileage Reimbursement – **\$34.80**; Stephen May: Mileage Reimbursement FLG -**\$27.26**; Katie Goplerud-Smith: Mileage Reimbursement RRWC - **\$158.92**; Katie Goplerud-Smith: Mileage Reimbursement FLG - **\$24.36**; Lenawee County Printing & Purchasing (postage) – **\$10.05**; First Federal VISA - **168.67**; **Total of \$424.06**. Motion by Johncox, second by Bolton to authorize payment of these bills. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- d. Investment/Savings/CD Update– Steve and John checked American One and First Federal. A Money Market Account with Goldman Sachs was suggested.
- e. 2018 Audit Update – Haven’t heard back from them yet. Possibly waiting on a contract from the Erb grant.

5. Public Comments

- a. None

6. Paco Ollervides from the River Network

- a. River Network: Assists watershed organizations with capacity building, outreach, and strategic planning. Currently has 71 clients across the US.
- b. A membership (\$250) offers discounts for various things including the River Rally (June 21-24) in Cleveland. Motion by Kolon, second by Bolton to join the River Network. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

7. Executive Director Updates (See Report – on file)

- a. Report
 - i. Met with One Lenawee & Connecting Lenawee to review River Raisin plans, especially river clearing between Adrian and Tecumseh.
 - ii. Coordinating with Village of Blissfield and Rotary to propose surveyors/architects for walking trail along river (Frank Baker and Bob Ford)
 - iii. NCM 15 second ad will play at Adrian’s MJR Theater from April 4 – June.
 - iv. Coordinating with Jim Mann to post more river mile markers in Bridgewater, Manchester, and Sharon Townships.
- b. Calendar of upcoming events 2018-2019
 - i.
 - ii. School presentations:
 - 1. Alexander Elementary – 3/27/19
 - 2. Tecumseh Compass Learning Center – 4/15 through 4/18
 - 3. Center for a Sustainable Future – 4/9/19
 - iii. Meeting with Molly Rippke (MDEQ) about e. coli concerns -4/2/19, 8:00-10:00am
 - iv. Invasive Species Seminar (JLW Cisma)- 4/2/19, 10am-12pm
 - v. Vernal Pool Training (MNFI)- Hidden Lake Gardens – 4/6/19, 10am-3:30pm
 - vi. FLG Semi-Annual Meeting – 4/11/19, 8:30am – 12pm LISD Tech Center

- vii. RRWC Semi-Annual Meeting – 4/25/19, 5:30pm – 8pm Cabela’s in Dundee
- viii. Adopt-A-Stream Training Day- 4/27/19, 10am Adrian College
- ix. Adopt-A-Stream Stream Search Day- 5/4/19, 9am Adrian College
- x. Chainsaw Training Class – 5/20-21, 8am-2pm LCDC Office in Adrian
- xi. Executive Committee Meeting rescheduled to May 23 due to Chainsaw Training Class
- c. Membership updates – 2019: 44 Municipalities (including 1 new from last year), 2 Corporations, and 5 Individuals
- d. RRW Signage – Gave 3 to Dave Hoffman and 1 to John Calhoun.
- e. Grants Update: Joe Kelpinski from MDARD will reimburse new Water Quality Coordinator for sampling on designated sites.
- f. Village of Blissfield/Rotary/Frank Baker – Continuing to work with surveyor to meet and move along with creating the trail on Frank Baker’s property along the river. Rotary fundraiser will be soon.
- g. MDEQ’s Molly Rippke Meeting – Will go over DEQ protocols and information about how we should do our sampling on the Raisin. 4/2/19 at 8:00am-10am.
- h. 5,000 MAEAP Verification Celebration – In Lansing to celebrate the voluntary MAEAP verified producers.

8. Outreach Coordinator Updates

- a. River Raisin Water Festival - May 1, 2019: Received donations from Anderson Development Company (\$500), Adrian Noon Rotary (\$500), and Greater Federation of Women’s Clubs of Lenawee (\$100).
- b. Discover the Raisin Updates - 4 applicants: 1 from Monroe (school native plant garden), 2 from Clinton (1 art project, 1 water testing project), and 1 from Saline (water testing project).
- c. MJR Theater Ad - Feedback: Ad begins 4/5 and ends in June.
- d. AmeriCorps: Reviewing interest in the northwest region of the watershed. Meetings to come.
- e. Manchester/Bridgewater Twp/Sharon Twp RR Signage: Ordered the signs and Jim Mann picked them up. It’s confirmed that 2 Eagles Scouts will use the posting of these mile marker signs as their Eagle Scout Project.
- f. River Raisin Institute: Invasive species removal at Crosswinds Marsh was very cold and had 1 volunteer. Better weather and more organization would help next time.
- g. Vernal Pool Training – 10am-3:30pm. Motion by Kolon, second by Bolton to pay for up to 6 young adults at \$15 each. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

9. Partnership Updates (See Executive Director Report)

- a. ERB Grant – Farmer-Led Watershed Conservation
 - i. ERB Foundation – MACD Grant Year 3 Update: Hoping to extend the grant at least one or two years.

10. Committee Reports

Outreach

1. Stewardship Network: Partner meeting for Grand Raisin Conservation Community a success. 22 different partners to rejuvenate working. June 8 will be a picnic at Watkins State Park and an invasive species removal.
2. Manchester Canoe Race: May 19. Tabling at Chi Bro Park across from take-out including RRWC and Washtenaw County Parks & Rec.

Technical – City of Adrian officials and DEQ meeting 4/2/19

Development – Send out donor and corporate “reminders”.

Administrative – Chose a Nominating Committee.

Financial – Audit coming soon.

11. Old Business – None

12. New Business

- a. RRWC Semi-Annual Meeting: April 25, 2019 5:30pm – 8pm at Cabela’s – Gerry Tiernan from MDEQ will talk about PFAS.
- b. Part-time Position – Will collect samples at 3 farms in conjunction with an MSU grad project (mileage will be reimbursed) and to work with RRWC on other projects.
- c. Nominating Committee Appointment – must appoint 30 days prior to meeting and appoint by board chair. Sybil would like to be secretary or representative.
- d. Staff/Interviews – 12-15 hours reimbursed by MSU for sampling, 10-12 hours RRWC would cover. RRWC sampling would focus on Wolf Creek for now. Danielle Brosamer was interviewed. Motion by Kolon, second by Chandler to hire Danielle as a part-time staff member. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

13. Public Comments

- a. Phil Kittredge – Meeting with Adrian and Blissfield representatives to discuss the Loch Erin Association’s findings on water quality went well. The City of Adrian is collaborating with Loch Erin Property Owners Association to analyze samples for e.coli and nutrients. Discussion of collaboration between RRWC to sample Wolf Creek.
- b. David Rhoads – New Saline River Preserve brochures came out which include the new trail added. A prescribed burn is scheduled soon for habitat restoration. 7th grade signs have been updated. There’s possibility of expanding on DNR property to connect upstream park to preserve.
- c. KZ Bolton - Shared a River Raisin cartoon in local magazine.
- d. Laurie Johncox – Thanked everyone for her time as treasurer. She’s willing to train the next treasurer.

14. Next Meeting – April 25, 2019, 5:30-8pm – Cabela’s in Dundee.

15. Adjournment

- a. Motion by Sheehan, second by Johncox to adjourn meeting at 12:20 PM. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Respectfully submitted by Stephen May – Executive Director – March 19, 2019

Approval of Minutes**Date:** _____**Secretary:** _____
Commissioner KZ Bolton