

**Minutes of the Blanchard River
Watershed Partnership Steering Committee
May 17, 2012, Findlay, OH**

T. Brugeman presiding, Bob Connour recording.

Present: T. Brugeman, D. Kozlowski, R. Antibus, B. Connour, P. Martin, R. McCall, M. Homsher, J. Loerhke.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 by T. Brugeman

1. Phil Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting and went through the agenda.
 - The minutes from the previous meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Financial report
 - D. Kozlowski presented the group with a handout.
 - He stated we have \$20,000 to deal with.
 - B. Connour motioned to accept the treasurers report, R. Antibus seconded. It passed unanimously.
3. Old business
 - R. Antibus motioned to appoint J. Loehrke as Vice President to replace S. Lehman. D. Kozlowski seconded and it passed unanimously.
 - T. Brugeman talked about how our By-laws need to be reviewed and updated and asked how we should proceed with this. P. Martin stated that he would have time in July to work on that issue. It was discussed that the committee structures steering committee officers be removed.
4. New business.
 - P. Martin submitted a handout and stated he plans to submit the Riley Creek Watershed Action Plan on Monday 5/21/12.
 - P. Martin stated that some of the Riley Creek Watershed Action Plan may fall under the great lakes restoration money.
 - P. Martin stated that there is some money through Ohio EPA for the Blanchard that is non-competitive, but any projects funded by this money must be approved by EPA.
 - P. Martin went through the coordinator comments handout and talked about the projects being undertaken by different groups, such as Heidelberg University, University of Findlay, University of Toledo, and The Nature Conservancy.
 - P. Martin also discussed a grant we may apply for and be the fiscal agent for involving Agren Inc.
 - P. Martin stated that if awarded this grant we would have to work together with soil and water groups to hire a technician to carry out the project.
 - D. Kozlowski mentioned that this is going to cause us to have more administrative costs.

- A motion was presented to approve partnering with Agren Inc. to apply for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funds and to include appropriate administrative costs. J. Loehrke moved, T. Brugeman seconded. In discussion D. Kozlowski stated we need at least 10% for administrative costs. After the discussion it passed unanimously.
- P. Martin said he has met with Dr. Kumar in Columbus and that he is interested in doing some research in our area.
- P. Martin stated that if anyone wants to see any project proposals they should email him and he will gladly send a copy.
- Regarding the Financial situation we have \$20,000 right now and D. Kozlowski states that he thinks we should set \$10,000 aside, or at least \$5000. He recommends that we spend the rest for PR and image building. Discussions were had about this with many ideas presented as to how we should proceed. It was decided by consensus that to set aside \$5000 for operations and office management etc. It was also decided that we would set aside \$10,000 for PR.
- P. Martin presented project proposal 2012-6 for \$1000 to get 4 more copies of our large banner made to set in the different counties. J. Loehrke motioned to approve, B. Connour seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- P. Martin presented project proposal 2012-7 for chemical testing. He stated we have some testing done through the U. of Findlay but need some data on high flow when they cannot get. The proposal is for \$250 to purchase LaMotte testing kits. R. Antibus motions, B. Connour seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

5. Discussions

- M. Homsher stated that he and his students have been testing since late April and have a backlog of analysis.
- It was decided our next meeting will be July 26th at 6pm at the Red Pig Inn in Ottawa.

6. Adjournment

- B. Connour moved, R. Antibus seconded, and it was approved unanimously.