

**Minutes of the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership**  
**Board of Directors meeting**  
**March 15, 2018, Findlay, OH**  
**Hancock County Engineer's meeting room**  
**6-8 pm**

E. Reynolds presiding, Bob Connour recording.

Present: B. Connour, P. Martin, E. Reynolds, T. Macke, S. Myers, J. McCleary, T. Watson, J. Haselman, C Kirchner

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm by E. Reynolds.

**Minutes and Treasurer's Report**

- The minutes for February had not been emailed, so P. Martin they would be emailed and voted upon via email. Email approved the minutes 7-0
- T. Macke presented a treasurers report and went through it with the group.
  - B. Connour motioned to approve the treasurer's report and S. Myers seconded. It passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

- **Rain Barrel Contest**
  - S. Myers said that the rain barrel contest went well, but that only 4 were sold. He mentioned that we would give one away at the Putnam County and Hancock County.
  - Discussions were had about the rain barrel contest.
- **State SWCD grant**
  - P. Martin and E. Reynolds met with the SWCD in both Hancock and Putnam counties about a SWCD watershed grant that would cover \$35,000 to \$40,000 for watershed coordinators salary and fringe benefits.
  - Hancock soil and water would use us as a subcontractor for the watershed part. Half of the money would go to the BRWP and half would go to them to hire a watershed management person, who would be trained by P. Martin.
  - T. Macke motioned to pursue the grant with Hancock SWCD, and J. McCleary seconded. It was approved unanimously.
- **City of Riverside-Blanchard River**
  - P Martin mentioned that Freshwater Futures and some other sources might be able to provide money to match the \$2,500 obligated from The Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation. There needs to be a \$5,000 match.
  - S. Myers motioned to pursue grants to fund the NPS plan for the City of Findlay-Blanchard River HUC-12 which includes Riverside Park. J. Haselman seconded and it passed unanimously.

- **Website**
  - E. Reynolds said that we changed hosts for our website in January and something got messed up, but she is working to get it restored.
- **Heidelberg University/NRCS Grant**
  - It was mentioned that Heidelberg College sent a contract to sign for \$22,000 for four years to write an NPS-IS Plan for The Outlet-Blanchard River HUC-12, monitor and transect studies.

## **Committee Reports**

- **Education Committee**
  - S. Myers reported the committee had a short meeting and talked about possible changes for next year's rain barrel contest.
  - J. McCleary said that she is in contact with someone at the the University of Findlay about an outreach video.
  - The idea of the drink coasters was discussed and possible design ideas.
- **Stewardship Committee**
  - Two members of the stewardship committee, J. McCleary and T. Macke, met with Aly Sterling for some training.
  - They asked about the right way to approach potential donors and when to stop bugging them, among other things.
  - J. McCleary presented a handout with The Community Foundations training and coaching sessions.
- **Community Advisory Council Committee**
  - The CAC committee had nothing to report.
- **Membership Committee**
  - The membership committee had nothing new.
  - It was mentioned that we must be sure to send a thank you note to Whirlpool.
- **Metrics Committee**
  - The metric committee had nothing to report.

## **New Business**

- **Executive Session**

- T. Macke motioned to go to executive session and J. McCleary seconded.
- P. Martin and S. Myers left the room so that their contracts could be discussed.
- After discussion, C. Kirchner motioned to approve P. Martins contract for 9 months and S. Myers for 3 months. J. Haselman seconded and it passed unanimously.

### **Coordinators Report**

- P. Martin presented a handout and went through it with the group, he stated that items printed in green are new.
  - P. Martin discussed the 2018 Great Lakes Sediment & Nutrient reduction grant which is due March 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Discussion was had about the size of the grant we should apply for, \$200,000 or \$30,000.
  - The board decided to apply for both with a different scope of reach for each.
  - S. Myers motioned to approve the applications, T. Macke seconded, and it passed unanimously.
  
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm