

**2015 Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**November 18, 2015, Hancock County Ag. Center**  
**7 – 9:00 a.m.**

The Annual Meeting opened with a thirty-minute period of registration and mingling. A continental breakfast was offered to all attending.

Tim Brugeman called the business and program part of the annual meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

- After a brief introduction, T. Brugeman showed the video “Remember Me” and noted that the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership (BRWP) was awarded an Emmy for the video.

### **Business Meeting**

- T. Brugeman presented the 2014 Minutes. Elaine Reynolds moved to approve the minutes and Theresa Allen provided a second. The motion was approved.
- Tim Macke reviewed the 2015 Financial Report. Jane Mc Cleary moved to approve the report and Richard Kozlowski offered a second.
- Richard Kozlowski presented the slate for election of new Board of Directors. After receiving no write in nominations E. Reynolds moved to close nominations and J. Mc Cleary offered a second. R. Kozlowski asked for approval by acclamation. The new Board Members were approved with no objections.
- R. Kozlowski presented suggested changes to the By-laws as approved by the Board of Directors. T. Allen moved to approve the changes and E. Reynolds offered a second. The motion was approved.

### **Speakers**

- T. Brugeman introduced three speakers from agencies that have worked with the BRWP.
  - Ryan Sendelbach, Hancock Health Department, talked about the role the Phil Martin, watershed coordinator, has played in writing and help implement two Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) over the past three years. The \$216,000 grant money has been used to repair / replace 18 Home Septic Treatment Systems (HSTS) in Hancock County. R. Sendelbach noted the importance of the relationship between the Hancock County Commissioners, Hancock County Health Department, and the BRWP.
  - Jason Phillips, Village of Ottawa, reviewed two project that involve the Village of Ottawa and the BRWP. The first project involves the treatment of cattle waste by the Village in their old treatment plant. J. Phillips pointed out the involvement of the watershed coordinator in the project. The second project was the planting of nearly 800 trees in the Village to replace the trees lost due to the Emerald Ash Borer. The coordinator wrote the nearly \$100,000 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant for the Village of Ottawa, City of Findlay, and the

Hancock Park District. J. Phillips thanked the BRWP for their help in these two projects.

- Jeff Giesige, Putnam Soil & Water Conservation District (PSWCD), presented information concerning how the BRWP has been working with the PSWCD. He discussed the grant writing and help in implementation of the grants in Putnam County.

## **2016 - The Future**

- T. Allen presented a preview of 2016 for the BRWP. She mentioned the need for more funding and the formation of an Advisory Board. T. Allen shared about the Community Advisory Council, meeting 1-2x a year, in Bluffton, Ottawa, and Findlay with local stakeholders from business, agriculture, municipalities, and the public. She also discuss the work being done by the Board Governance.

## **Awards**

- P. Martin presented the “Coordinator’s Award” to Vaun Wickerham from WFIN. He mentioned the support the Vaun has given to the BRWP through his help with the Rain Barrel Decorating Contest at the Greater Findlay Home show. Vaun also allows the coordinator to do periodical spots on WFIN in the morning concerning the watershed.
- T. Allen presented a “Friends of the River Award” to Mike Tobe from Legacy Farmers Cooperative for the continual support of the BRWP and the Rain Barrel Decorating Contest.
- T. Allen presented a “Friends of the River Award” to Tim Brugeman for his three years as President of the BRWP.

T. Allen thanked everyone for their attendance. The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.