

Minutes of the Blanchard River
Watershed Partnership Steering Committee
Annual Planning Work Session
ODNR Office
January 21, 2012, Findlay, OH

T. Brugeman presiding, Bob Connour recording.

Present: T. Allen, B. Connour, L. Schroeder, R. Antibus, T. Brugeman, P. Martin, J. McCleary, T. Elliot, D. Switzer, S. Lehman, B. Connour, T. Brugemann, S. Myers, B. Sampson

The meeting was called to order at 9:06am by T. Brugeman

- T. Brugeman welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.
 - He then talked about how the BRWP is organized and a little bit about the history.
- Discussions were had about the meeting schedule for 2012.
 - The group decided that meetings every other month would work best for everyone.
 - It was decided that meetings will be the third Thursday of every other month at 6:30pm.
- T. Brugeman and P. Martin introduced the budget to the group and went through it.
 - T. Allen moved to approve the budget, T. Elliott seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- T. Allen motioned to approve the December minutes, B. Antibus seconded and it passed unanimously.
- B. Connour briefly went through the strategic plan with the group and T. Brugeman followed up on it.
- P. Martin talked about HUC (hydrologic unit code) numbers and then presented a list of acronyms used by the group. P. Martin then began the discussions about committee reorganizations.
 - P. Martin stated he has contacted many groups and individuals about membership on the Land use and Resource Management committee.
 - He stated he thinks this committee should meet twice per year and their main task should be implementation of the watershed action plan.
 - He stated that the chairman will probably be Gary Wilson or Denny Tressel.
 - It was stated the Water Supply and Wastewater Committee will be tasked to address rural and municipal issues, such as urban runoff and phosphorous.
 - The Education and Communications committee will have the goal of increasing issues about watershed issues.
 - P. Martin stated that we should look at the Sandusky River Coalition website for a video they have.
 - The Organization and Development Committee will have the task of working on membership and fundraising.
- Grants pending and watershed coordinator options.
- It was stated that the Community Foundation has awarded the group \$7000 a year for the next 3 years to be used for education and outreach.
- Discussions were had about project proposal forms and how they are to be used.
- A motion was put forward to approve project proposal form 2012-1. B. Antibus motioned, T. Allen seconded and it passed unanimously.

- The group was informed that there are three grants pending.
 - An Ohio coastal management assistance grant which covers the watershed coordinator grant until 6-30-2012.
 - A cycle 16 grant
 - An ODNR implementation grant. If received this will make the watershed coordinator an actual employee of the BRWP. It is \$126,000 for 3 years.
- It was discussed that we need to approve the President to sign all contracts received by the BRWP.
 - A motion to approve this was made by T. Allen and seconded by J. McCleary. It passed unanimously.
- P. Martin talked about the NRCS grant. This is a grant for focal watersheds, which we are since our action plan was approved.
 - This will be a pool of money but we will still have to write proposals for it.
 - P. Martin stated that since we are a focal watershed they really want our action plan to be implemented.
- We have also applied for an Ohio 319 grant for agricultural BMP's in the Lye creek watershed.
 - They are waiting on federal money to see how much they can fund, but this will allow 15% for personnel.
- A motion was made pending approval of the three year grant authorizing the Executive Committee to enter into a three year employment agreement with Phil Martin, and to take care of all necessary expenses. T. Allen moved, T. Elliot seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- T Brugeman notified the group that we will need to meet again on Saturday, 2-25-12, from 9am to 1:30pm.
- The meeting was adjourned at 11:57am