

**Minutes of the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership
Board of Directors meeting February 27, 2013
Hancock County Engineer's Meeting Room Findlay, OH.**

T. Brugeman presiding, Bob Connour recording.

Board Present: T. Brugeman, B. Connour, P. Martin, J. McCleary, T. Elliott, D. Croy, and T. Allen

Guest Present: Sarah Betts - Hancock Park District and Christine Kuchle - ODNR

- The meeting was called to order at 6:10 by T. Brugeman.
- T. Brugeman welcomed everyone to the meeting and Christina Kuchle introduced herself. She works for the ODNR Scenic Rivers program.
- B. Connour motioned to approve the agenda, D. Croy seconded, and it passed unanimously.
- T. Brugeman gave a short financial report. A report from our accountants, Thomas and Ridge, was presented. T. Allen moved to approve the financial report, T. Elliott seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

Old Business

- T. Brugeman presented an update from AR marketing and went through the 2013 timeline provided by them.
 1. The group was presented with possible new logos and slogans. D. Croy motioned to approve the slogan "Clean water. Bright future" and it was seconded by J. McCleary. The motion passed unanimously.
 2. A discussion of a new logo was held with one of the new logo being the favorite. T Elliott mentioned that he had shown the new logos and our present logo to his science classes. They preferred the present logo. After some discussion, it was decided to have the present logo updated by colors and decide at a later date between the present logo and the new one.
- P. Martin presented a handout summarizing the rain barrel project. Martin went through the summary.
 1. T. Allen motioned to have a \$50 cash prize for the "People's Choice" award in the rain barrel project. T. Elliott seconded, and it passed unanimously.
 2. Discussions were had about the groups display at the Greater Findlay home show this weekend at the Findlay village mall. Martin asked for help in handling the display.
- The group was reminded that Max and Erma's restaurant was donating a share of the proceeds from tomorrow to the group. In order to qualify you must present the flyer when you pay.
- It was discussed that we will look into doing the same thing with Texas Roadhouse in the future.

New Business

- Discussions were had and it was decided that the Board of Directors Meeting will be moved to the third Wednesday of every other month due to scheduling conflicts.
- T. Brugeman stated that the Village of Ottawa has asked the Tim Mackey from Ottawa be appointed as a replacement for J. Loehrke. T. Elliott motioned to appoint T. Mackey to replace Jeff Loehrke, T. Allen seconded. It was approved unanimously.
- Discussion was had on the vacant Vice President position that was held by Jeff Loehrke. J. McCleary nominated T. Allen to be Vice President, T. Elliott seconded, and it was approved unanimously.
- S. Betts and P. Martin talked about ArcGIS software and what its capabilities are and how we can use it. It was pointed out the BRWP could purchase two licenses of the software for \$200. Martin presented Project Proposal 2013-6 to purchase the two licenses of the ESRI ArcGIS software. T. Allen motioned to approve Purchase Proposal 2013-6, D. Croy seconded and it passed unanimously.
- T. Brugeman asked for approval for a memorandum of understanding between the Hancock Park District and the BRWP to share this software, the price is \$100 per year. T. Allen motioned to approve the MOU, D. Croy seconded and it passed unanimously.
- T. Brugeman talked about a GLRI Forestry grant to replace trees in the City of Findlay, Hancock Park District, and the Village of Ottawa due to the Emerald Ash Tree Borer. All three groups have been working with the BRWP in writing the grant. The BRWP will be the fiscal agent for the grant. T. Allen motioned to approve, J. McCleary seconded, and it was approved unanimously.
- Discussions were had about a river clean up in Ottawa and it was decided that a date will be chosen later.
- P. Martin talked about a digital “drop box” where we can put forms and documents online. It is set up and he will email instructions to the group.
- Discussions were had about the need for the group to purchase a new laptop computer. At present P. Martin is using his personal computer. T. Elliott motioned to have P. Martin produce a proposal for a new laptop and backup plan for all of our documents and data. J. McCleary seconded and it passed unanimously.

Coordinator’s comments

P. Martin reviewed the Coordinator’s Comments. See Attachment A
There were discussions on grants and what they will entail.

President’s report

T. Brugeman filled the group in about what we will be discussing at the Executive Committee meeting next month.

Discussions

- T. Elliott gave an update on the science fair we helped to sponsor
- T. Allen told the group that March 19th is the Ohio Environmental Council lobby day in Columbus.

T. Elliott motioned to adjourn and T. Allen seconded. It was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Attachment A:

Coordinator's Comments February 27, 2013

Grants:

- **Great Lakes Basin Grant for the Upper Riley Creek and Lower Riley Creek watersheds** - Farmer meetings were held on February 4, 2013 in Pandora and on February 6, 2013 in Jenera to present the grant to area farmers. Those that attended were very interested in the program and the sign-up process has started.
- **Healing Our Waters - Freshwater Futures** - After meeting with Steve Wilson, Hancock County Engineer, Blanchard Design of Findlay was hired to conduct the "Feasibility Study" on how best to handle the problem of failing Home Septic Treatment Systems (HSTS) in the Village of Houcktown.
- **Hancock Wood Electric Coop - This is the Rain Barrel grant.** Everything is on schedule. See the "Summary of Rain Barrel Project" for more information.
- **Hancock Soil & Water Conservation District - GLRI grant** - This grant is for Sediment & Phosphorus Reduction in the Lye Creek watershed. This originally was the 319 grant that Karen Chapman and I wrote two years ago. The grant does contain \$17,450 for the BRWP: Digital Camera, \$1,200/year for three years for Coordinator's salary, and \$4,500/year for three years for outreach specialists. There is also mileage money in the grant.
- **GLRI \$50,000 to \$70,000 grant to Hancock Health Department** to replace failing Home Septic Treatment Systems in the Lye Creek watershed.
- The other active grant is the \$414,765 GLRI The Nature Conservancy "Reducing Nutrient Runoff in the Upper Blanchard Watershed"

Upcoming Events:

- Tri-State Conservation Day - March 1
- Greater Findlay Home Show - March 2 & 3 at the Findlay Village Mall
- Annual State Review on March 11 in Celina
- March Executive Committee on the 27th?

- Rain Barrels due on April 22nd.
- Ottawa River Clean-up April 28th.??
- Rain Barrels on Display at Findlay Village Mall April 24 through May 4th.