

**Minutes of the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership
Board of Directors meeting 6:00 - 8:00 pm.
Hancock County Engineer's meeting room
March 8, 2017, Findlay, OH**

E. Reynolds presiding, Bob Connour recording.

Present: B. Connour, T. Macke, D. Croy, P. Martin, C. Kirchner, E. Reynolds, B. Doyle, B. Antibus, J. McCleary, T. Brugeman, S. Myers, J. Augsburger

Welcome and Introduction

- The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm by E. Reynolds.
- The previous meetings minutes were approved by an email vote. (5-0 with one abstain vote)
- E. Reynolds informed the board that she will be gone April 20th to April 30th. It may not be able to get ahold of her during this time.

Financial Report

- T. Macke presented the financial report and accompanying documents. Macke reviewed the documents reporting detailed balances, expenses, and transactions.
- He mentioned that we are ahead of the last financial report and that we have added members.
- He notified the board that the accounting fee from Ridge and Associates was less than anticipated.
- J. Augsburger motioned to accept the financial report and B. Doyle seconded. It passed unanimously.

Old Business

- **Strategic Plan**
 - B. Doyle and T. Brugeman gave an update on the strategic plan.
 - B. Doyle went through the newest timeline as of March 1st.
 - Discussions were had about how the board should look at the strategic plan.
 - Each committee is working on their sections.
 - The Executive Board will present an update each quarter.
 - J. McCleary motioned to approve the updated strategic plan and T. Macke seconded. It passed unanimously.
- **Rain Barrel Contest**
 - P. Martin reviewed this year's contest. Martin said that the checks had been mailed to all schools. The final profit for the contest was \$1,155.91. He reported that only one barrel went unsold.
 - The education committee recommended that we do the rain barrel contest next year. J. McCleary motioned to do so and D. Croy seconded. It passed unanimously.

- **River Clean-up**
 - T. Macke said that they are still looking at doing a river clean up in Ottawa.
 - P. Martin discussed having a clean-up in Findlay. It was decided not to have one this spring, but to schedule for one with the UF freshman in Findlay on August 19, 2017
- **Canoe Trip**
 - E. Reynolds asked if we still want to do a Board of Directors canoe trip. It was decided yes.

Committee Reports

- **Membership Committee**
 - D. Croy said that the committee will recommend raising the membership rates to \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family next year.
 - Croy reviewed the draft of a membership plan for 2018. He mentioned the need to look at corporate sponsorship levels and what each level receives
- **Education Committee**
 - P. Martin mentioned that there were three subgroups working as a part of the Strategic Plan. Martin reviewed the members of each group and asked if anyone want to join one of groups, to let him know.
 - T. Brugeman, B. Doyle, and E. Reynolds met with some people at the University of Findlay about developing a community presentation.
 - J. McCleary went through the educational program ideas that she has.
- **Stewardship Committee**
 - T. Macke said that the stewardship committee is working towards developing a fundraising plan.
 - T. Macke and E. Reynolds are going to a Community Foundation coaching session on fundraising March 15th.
- **Community Advisory Council**
 - The Community Advisory Council is meeting with the members from the Western CAC on March 27th at the Putnam SWCD office at 3:00 pm.

New Business

- **Great Lakes Basin Grant**
 - P. Martin mentioned that the Great Lakes Basin grant applications are due on March 31st. He said he didn't know if Hancock SWCD or Putnam SWCD will pursue one.
 - P. Martin asked for board approval to pursue this grant if any local soil and water groups want to apply.
 - ✚ T. Macke motioned to apply for the grant as long as the appropriate SWCD agency agree to support the grant. C. Kirchner seconded and it passed unanimously.

- **Domain Name**
 - P. Martin informed the board that Nick Powell from Neodox, who host our website, recommends we move our domain license to Google domains.
 - The board asked Martin to find out more information.

- **Sierra Club Testing**
 - P. Martin mentioned that the Sierra Club water sentinel supplies are coming and he is meeting with someone from the program soon.

Coordinators Comments

- P. Martin presented a handout and went through it with the group.
- P. Martin talked about all active, potential, and ending grants.
- Discussions were had throughout about the comments.

Other Business

- J. McCleary went through the board meetings survey results with the group.
- P. Martin said that J. Augsburger asked him if it was possible for towns such as Bluffton to get water from Lima. He said the EPA said there was no problem as long as the water doesn't cross the watershed divide between the Lake Erie watershed and the Ohio River watershed.
- T. Brugeman mentioned that is important that people pay attention to what is coming out of Washington. People in Ohio are extremely concerned.

J. McCleary motioned to adjourn and S. Myers seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm