

**Minutes of the Blanchard River
Watershed Partnership Steering Committee
July 19, 2012, Ottawa, OH
6:00 p.m.**

T. Brugeman presiding, Bob Connour recording.

Present: T. Brugeman, D. Kozlowski, B. Antibus, B. Connour, P. Martin, R. McCall, L. Schroeder, T. Allen, T. Elliot

The meeting was called to order at 6:17p.m. by T. Brugeman

Phil Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting and went through the agenda.

T. Allen motioned to accept the May minutes and T. Elliot seconded.
The minutes from the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

Financial report

D. Kozlowski presented the group with a financial report. He stated we have a carryover balance that will keep us comfortable until next year because we've been frugal. T. Brugeman asked if there are things this money is committed to and D. Kozlowski said only P. Martin's salary and some operating expenses. It was stated that we are expecting \$6910 as the last reimbursement for the cycle 15 grant. *T. Elliot motioned to accept the treasurers report, R. Antibus seconded. It passed unanimously.*

Old business

- Discussions were had about how everyone that is elected is on the board of directors, so we now have board meetings, not steering committee meetings.
- T. Brugeman asked for a motion to accept by-law changes and recommend them to the membership at the general meeting. D. Kozlowski stated that there are some misspelled words and grammar corrections that should be made to the language. *T. Allen motioned to accept, B. Antibus seconded. It passed unanimously.*

New business

- P. Martin submitted and handout with the coordinator comments. The handout contained information on grants which P. Martin went through with the group.
- P. Martin presented an idea for table throws to use at fair displays and presented a design. P. Martin presented project proposal #2012-8 for \$500 to purchase these table throws. *T. Elliot motioned, T. Allen seconded, and it passed unanimously.*
- T. Brugeman brought up annual meeting plans. He said he is going to ask J. McCleary and J. Loehrke to take the lead on the plans. Discussions were had about it being a breakfast meeting, and it was stated that this needs to be finalized by the September meeting.
- Discussions then centered on the marketing and PR consultants. The Findlay-Hancock Community Foundation has a 2 year competitive grant that the BRWP plans to pursue for PR/marketing/image and message. It was stated that they are unlikely to give us more

than \$30,000 and they want matching funds. BRWP leaders have met with two PR groups in Findlay and discussions centered around which we should hire. A motion was made to authorize the BRWP leaders who met with the PR consultants to meet with them again and put together a budget and grant proposal to the community foundation. The proposal will include up to \$10,000 in matching funds. *T. Allen motioned to accept, T. Elliot seconded, and it passed unanimously.*

- There is a river cleanup on August 18 in Findlay from 9-noon. We are committed to work with the University of Findlay students.
- P. Martin presented project proposal 2012-9 to sponsor the Hancock SWCD Farm Tour for \$500. T. Brugeman stated that he hopes we will do this in other counties as well. It was approved unanimously.

President's report

- T. Brugeman stated that we need a motion to amend the P. Martin's, Watershed Coordinator contract so the contract runs from 7/1/12 to 6/30/13. The reason for the change was to line up with the state grant. *T. Allen motioned, T. Elliot seconded. It passed unanimously.*
- T. Brugeman stated that he will be asking people to serve on a membership team.
- It was stated that we are talking to R. McCall about assisting us with some additional work. Discussions were had about hiring R. McCall as a consultant to help with PR. R. McCall informed the Board that he would be moving to Alaska in early October.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm. The next meeting will be on September 20, 2012 in Bluffton, OH.