

**Minutes of the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership
Board of Directors meeting, Hancock Co. Engineer's meeting room
September 13, 2017, 6:00 - 8:00pm**

E. Reynolds presiding, Bob Connour recording.

Present: B. Connour, T. Macke, D. Croy, P. Martin, J. McCleary, G. Russell, C. Kirchner, D. Kozlowski, E. Reynolds, S. Myers, S. Wilson

Welcome

- The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by E. Reynolds.

Special Report - Flood Mitigation Update

- S. Wilson, Flood Mitigation Project Director reviewed the Stantec's plan for the river, especially the plans for the three riffle dams.
- Detailed discussions were had about the plan with several questions from the board members.

Agenda and minutes

- The agenda was approved by a voice vote after P. Martin added one item on contracts with farmers for the WS06-16-12 grant.
- P. martin reported the minutes were previously approved by an email vote.

Financial Report

- T. Macke presented a financial report and accompanying documents and went through them with the group.
- Discussions were had about the financial report and how our current funding looks.
- B. Connour motioned to approve the report and S. Myers seconded. It passed unanimously.
- B. Connour suggested that we use too much paper. It was discussed and decided, that to save paper, we would like to have people bring their tablets to the next meeting for viewing documents.

Committee Reports

- **Executive Committee**
 - E. Reynolds said that there was nothing to report.
- **Community Advisory Council Committee**
 - J. McCleary said that the committee had decided to get together and look at comments from the groups and prioritize the findings into an action plan. They are having another meeting in Bluffton soon.
 - J. McCleary said they have two options, to have one more round of regional meetings or have representatives from all three groups together.
 - Discussions were had about the next steps.

- **Education Committee**
 - S. Myers said the education committee had a phone meeting and are working on PowerPoint presentations for community groups.
 - S. Myers reported that they have some quotes for coasters with our logo.

- **Stewardship Committee**
 - T. Macke said that the Stewardship committee has checked with the Maumee Conservancy District to see if it's possible to assess \$2 for every parcel in our watershed to fund the BRWP. There are over 46,000 parcels in the watershed.
 - ✚ The District said that it is not something that has not been done before and that it would be a long shot.
 - ✚ During discussion, E Reynolds mentioned that she was told at the Ohio Watershed Leadership conference, that the Blanchard River Watershed was one of the last groups to receive coordinator funding from the state.

- **Board Governance Committee**
 - J. McCleary presented the graphs from the Board of Directors' 2017 meetings survey.
 - McCleary reviewed the results which an improvement over 2016.
 - It was discussed that B. Doyle's, J. Haselman's, and D. Kozlowski's terms expire in December. D. Kozlowski has agreed to run again.
 - Discussions were had about possible new board members.

- **Membership Committee**
 - D. Croy stated that the membership committee had nothing to report.

Old Business

- **City, Villages and County Support**
 - **Hancock County Commissioners**
 - ✚ E. Reynolds said that the Hancock County commissioners have tabled whether to continue support for us until after the election and the results of voting on the tax levy are known.
 - **City of Findlay**
 - ✚ P. Martin reported that City of Findlay didn't rescind their extension passed in 2016 for three years.
 - **Putnam County Commissioners**
 - ✚ T. Macke reported the Putnam County Commissioners had approved \$2000 a year for 3 years, although it is not in writing yet.
 - **Village of Ottawa**
 - ✚ T. Macke said that the city of Ottawa has agreed to \$1000 in 2018 and \$1500 in 2019-20.

- **Annual Meeting**
 - E. Reynolds reviewed that various jobs that need to be covered.
 - ✚ D. Croy agreed to do food.
 - ✚ J. McCleary agreed to do the decorations

- ✚ P. Martin which do the program and Annual Report
- ✚ Several agreed to help with set-up and clean-up
- It was discussed that everything that needs to go out to the members must be sent by October 17th.
- P. Martin said he has contacted Dr. Laura Johnson, director of the National Center for Water Quality Research (NCWQR) at Heidelberg University, to speak about their work in the watershed and the Western Lake Erie Basin.
- **Awards**
 - ✚ P. Martin said that would like to give the 2017 Coordinator's Award to Dr. Johnson and the NCWQR.
 - ✚ P. Martin asked for the board to think about our annual "Friends of the River Award before the next meeting. D. Kozlowski suggested Coca Cola.

New Business

- P. Martin asked that three farmer's contract be approved for the WS06-16-12 grant.
 - D. Kozlowski motioned to approve contracts with the farmers and T. Macke seconded. It was approved unanimously.
- E. Reynolds talked about forming a metrics committee, as her husband has brought up the very good question of "Is the river cleaner because of what we do?"
 - It was discussed that we need to put together an Ad Hoc committee to discuss this as soon as possible. It was decided to meet next Wednesday, September 17th, at 5pm at Owens CC.

Coordinator's Report

- 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.
- P. Martin said that he needs a volunteer on two days between the 18th and 27th for water quality monitoring. E. Reynolds said she was available.
- Discussions were had about the rain barrel contest the second weekend in February 2018.

Other Items

- E. Reynolds said that she went to the Ohio Watershed Leadership conference and is taking the Ohio Watershed Academy.
- E. Reynolds said that on September 28th is a "Land to the Lake" conference at Defiance College if anyone wants to go. D. Kozlowski agreed to go.
 - T. Macke motioned to send two people and C. Kirchner seconded. It passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm