

Minutes of the Blanchard River
Watershed Partnership Board of Directors
September 20, 2012, Findlay, OH.

Tim Brugeman presiding, Bob Connour recording.

Present: J. Loehrke, B. Connour, L. Schroeder, T. Brugeman, P. Martin, D. Kozlowski,
J. McCleary, and T. Elliot.

Guest: J. Artman, Deb. Wickerham

The meeting was called to order at 6:44 by T. Brugeman.

Approval of agenda: T. Brugeman asked for approval of the agenda and it was approved.

Approval of previous minutes: *J. Loehrke motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting, T. Elliott seconded and it passed unanimously.*

Financial report: D. Kozlowski presented a financial report containing balances and expenses.
J. McCleary motioned to accept the report, T. Elliott seconded and it passed unanimously.

- D. Kozlowski brought up an issue that comes from our continuing addition of money and employees. He stated that we have more money to manage now and that he thinks we should hire a CPA firm to do our bookkeeping. T. Brugeman spoke to the fact that our growth has necessitated that we deal with the money issues. D. Kozlowski stated that he has an estimate from Thomas and Ridge Associates for around \$100 a month but that it may exceed this as there is so much more involved with reports and audits. Discussions centered on this issue and how we should proceed. T. Brugeman stated that we need to get a proposal and see what they can do for us and what it will cost. *A motion was made to enter into accounting services through Thomas and Ridge Associates not to exceed \$200 per month. J. Loehrke motioned, J. McCleary seconded.* Discussion was had that maybe we should get another estimate and that it needed to be started by November 1 2012. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Old Business:

- P. Martin presented a handout with coordinators comments. He spoke about the different grants we are applying for and they are all on the handout.
- P. Martin stated that he has spoken with K. McKibben of Ohio EPA and is meeting with her about the watershed action plan.
- P. Martin stated that on the week of 9-24 we will be conducting fall water quality monitoring.
- There were discussions had which agreed to move forward with the “What is a watershed” presentation as long as it doesn’t cost any money.

New business:

- T. Brugeman talked about having Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) pass through funds from NRCS to the BRWP \$40,000 for one year to hire “Technical Specialists”. *A motion was made to approve the agreement. T. Elliott motioned, J. Loehrke seconded and it passed unanimously.*
- P. Martin presented a copy of the contract to hire David Reese as a “Technical Specialist. He stated it is the same contract that Reese had with EDF. Discussions were had about this process and what this person will do when hired. *A motion was made to move ahead with hiring D. Reese as a technical specialist. T. Elliott moved, J, McCleary seconded and it was approved unanimously.*

- J. Loehrke and J. McCleary presented what they have done regarding the BRWP annual meeting. The meeting will be a breakfast from 7-9 a.m. on November 15, 2012, at the Hancock Ag Center on CR 140. Discussions were had about whether or not to charge for the breakfast and it was agreed that we will not charge. ***A motion was made to accept the date, location and agenda for the annual meeting. T. Elliott moved, J. McCleary seconded and it passed unanimously.***
- P. Martin suggested that the annual “Friend of the River” award be awarded to WLIO-TV from Lima. ***A motion was made to proceed with this award. J. Loehrke motioned, J. McCleary seconded and it passed unanimously.***
- P. Martin presented project proposal 2012-11 for \$874 for annual meeting expenses. ***J. Loehrke moved to approve, J. McCleary seconded and it passed unanimously.***
- J. McCleary and D. Wickerham spoke about their efforts to produce a watershed report card. They presented many examples from other organizations for the group to look at. J. McCleary talked about what is going into ours and what exactly it will contain. There was much discussion about how detailed this report card should or should not be. ***A motion was made to pay a stipend of up to \$300 each based on a rate of \$12.50/hr. to J. McCleary and D. Wickerham for work on the report card. J. Loehrke motioned, L. Schroeder seconded and it passed unanimously.***

President’s comments:

- T. Brugeman stated that 3 board members terms will expire this year, L. Schroeder (Ottawa Creek Rep.), T. Allen (Headwaters Rep.), and J. Loehrke (At-large #2).
 - L. Schroeder has stated he would like to find a replacement as he is not planning to run for reelection.
 - It was decided that L. Schroeder and T. Brugeman would act as a nominating committee to attempt to find a replacement.
 - T. Brugeman stated that our next meeting is the annual meeting on November 15. There will be an Executive & Organizational/Developmental meeting on October 18th at 4p.m. at the Agricultural center.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.