



RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED COUNCIL

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**River Raisin Watershed Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2024 - 12:00 p.m.
Via Google Meet/Tecumseh Office
(804 North Evans Street)**

Roll Call

Chair Harry Sheehan called the meeting to order at 12:12 p.m.

Executive Committee members present: Harry Sheehan, Sybil Kolon, Phil Kittredge, John Calhoun

Executive Committee members absent: Dave Hoffman, KZ Bolton, Trudi Cooper

Others present: Stephen May – RRWC Executive Director, Meija Knafel – RRWC Outreach Coordinator, Benny Woith - RRWC Administrative Coordinator (Virtual), Stella Kirby - Petersburg, Janice Scoville - Woodstock Township, Rod Hill - Milan, Mary Lou and Ed Knisel

1. Approval of Agenda - August 20, 2024

- a. Motion by Calhoun, second by Kittredge, to approve the August 20, 2024 Agenda with the addition of item; bylaw discussion to the development subcommittee. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

2. Approval of Minutes - July 15, 2024

- a. Motion by Kolon, second by Calhoun, to table the July 15, 2024 Minutes. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

3. Treasurer's Report

- a. The Treasurer's Report for the period July 1, 2024 - July 31, 2024 was distributed and reviewed by May. At Premier Bank: Revenue – **\$541.63**; Expenses - **\$0.00**; Balance to date: **\$38,193.17**. At County National: Revenue - **\$39,912.63**; Disbursements - **\$53,146.15**; balance to date - **\$29,117.99**. Motion by Calhoun, second by Kittredge, to accept and file the Treasurer's Report. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**
- b. Approve Disbursements for Outstanding Bills - Report on File: reviewed the monthly expense report to the total of \$5,746.59, including wages. Motion by Kittredge, second by Calhoun, to authorize payment of these bills to the total of \$5,746.59. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**
- c. Budget - Year to Date for January through May was reviewed by May.

4. Public Comment

- a. Mary Lou and Ed Knisel from the Village of Blissfield have come to find out more information about how to get the log jam behind their house managed due to erosion issues influencing their land. Sheehan responded that RRWC is empathetic to this issue, and RRWC is currently working internally to come up with a strategy for removing log jams on the river. Further, Sheehan

suggested that any 5 property owners can petition to turn any stream into a county drain, which might be another avenue for action.

5. New Business

- a. Sheehan will be meeting with staff to discuss upcoming grant opportunities.

6. Old Business

- a. None

7. Executive Director Updates

- a. 2024 Membership Updates:
 - i. To date there are 54 municipal members, 5 corporate sponsors, and 16 individual members
 - ii. \$75,050.09 collected to date
- b. Brooklyn Dam Removal/New Grant Proposal MDNR - Contact - Update
 - i. RRWC has begun drawing money from DNR grant to move into next portion of the project, but RRWC will need funds to be released as a pre-disbursement of \$250,000 increments
- c. ReLeaf Michigan - Update
 - i. May reported that the money has been allocated, and the Forest Service is currently working to get award letters sent out officially
 - ii. Current timeline is to begin planting trees in the spring of 2025
- d. Watershed Planning Meeting - EGLE Grant - Update RRWC Plan
 - i. May shared that this meeting will be taking place this afternoon

8. Outreach Coordinator - Updates

- a. RRWC Strategic Planning Grant - Update
 - i. Motil completed second meeting today, with more meetings coming up this September.
 - ii. Set to wrap up Spring 2025
- b. Upper Wolf Creek Watershed Management Plan Grant - Update
 - i. Second draft has been submitted
- c. FLG - Summer Workshop - Comments
 - i. Next year to offer more RUP credits

9. Water Stewardship Coordinator - Updates

- a. Forests to MI Faucets - Update
 - i. Lopez noted that we met our numbers for tree planting and submitted the quarterly report.
- b. River Raisin Nature Exploration Programs Project - Update
 - i. Wraps up in September
- c. EGLE Watershed Grant 2024/2025 - Update
 - i. Focused on presentations to community groups and in classrooms, as well as Master Rain Garden classes
 - ii. Grant to begin September 1st
- d. RRWC 50th Gala - 9/14/24 - Adrian College
 - i. Mailers were sent out to all delegates, and registrations have begun

10. Administrative - Update

- a. Wix - TechSoup Subscription
 - i. Woith found we could have the same website subscription with Wix through TechSoup and reduce the cost for a two year subscription from \$696 to \$61. Motion by Calhoun, second by Sheehan, to purchase our website subscription through TechSoup for \$61 for two years.
 - ii. Woith had checked the figures and explained that the actual total cost of a subscription through TechSoup would be \$270 for two years. Motion by Calhoun, second by Sheehan, to amend the prior motion to purchase our Wix website subscription through TechSoup for \$270 for two years. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

11. Programs/Partnership Updates

- a. Erb Grant - Farmer Led Watershed Conservation/GOS 2025 - Update
 - i. A meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2024 to discuss grant deliverable

12. Committee Reports

Outreach – None

Technical – None

Development – Sheehan presented a first draft bylaw of Article VII. A final draft of the bylaw will be presented to the executive committee for approval next month to determine if it will be presented to the general membership at the next public meeting.

Administrative – None

Financial – None

13. Public Comment - 3 Minutes

- a. None

14. Next Meeting

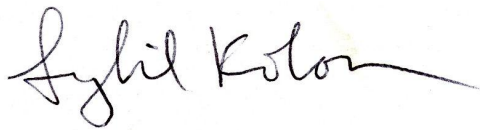
- a. **Executive Committee - September 17, 2024 - 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. - 804 N. Evans Street Tecumseh MI 49286**

15. Adjournment

Motion by Kittredge, seconded by Kolon, to adjourn at 1:26 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

Respectfully submitted by Meija Knafel - Outreach Coordinator

Date: 9/12/24



Secretary:

Date: 9/17/24