



River Raisin
WATERSHED COUNCIL

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River Raisin Watershed Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2021 – 10:30 AM
Zoom Meeting due to Covid-19

1. **Roll Call**

Chairman Calhoun called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM.

Executive Committee Members Present: John Calhoun, Sybil Kolon, Harry Sheehan, Phil Kittredge and John Chandler.

Executive Committee Members Absent: KZ Bolton, David Hoffman.

Others Present: Stephen May – RRWC Executive Director, Trudi Cooper, Sharon Township representative. Dick Mika, Katie Goplerud-Smith, Meija Knafl, Lydia Lopez.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

a. Motion by Kolon, second by Kittredge to approve the Feb. 16, 2021 agenda with the addition of Irish Hills Chamber of Commerce under new business, 10.b. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

3. **Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

a. Motion by Kolon, second by Sheehan, to approve the Jan. 19, 2021 minutes as submitted. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

4. **Treasurer's Report**

- a. The Treasurer's Report for Jan. 1-31, 2021 was distributed and reviewed by May. Revenue – **\$10,802.50** - Expenses - **\$23,377.99** – Balance to date: **\$48,875.08**. Motion by Sheehan second by Kittredge to accept and file the Jan. Treasurer's Report. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- b. 2021 Budget YTD – revenue: \$10,802.50; expenditures: \$22,683.29.
- c. Approve Disbursements for Outstanding Bills: New bills reported Jan. 19 to Feb. 15, 2021: Premiere Bank Visa (Zoom) \$15.89; Lenawee County (mailing, postage) \$92.93. **Total of \$108.82.** Motion by Kittredge, second by Kolon to authorize payment of these bills. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

5. **Public Comment: None**

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6. Executive Director Updates (See Report – on file)

- a. Report /Membership updates – 36 municipalities have paid dues to date.
- b. Provided answers on questions regarding 2020 audit.
- c. Year-end report for 2nd year Erb Foundation, general operating support \$10,000 – Expecting a response in March.
- d. Watershed Report Card – A grant from the Erb Foundation will support work on this project by the University of Maryland.
- e. Conference Call – Lori Phalen – There may be additional sails on Lake Erie this summer to focus on water quality. Phalen has a new position with the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, but is still involved with farmer groups.
- f. Conference Call – FLG – MAEAP Tech & CD District Managers – 25% of verifications do not get completed.
- g. 2020 – year-end receipts for giving – Acknowledgement of donations have been sent out.
- h. Interactive Map – WWRC – Update – Discussion of the status of this. Sheehan indicated that Washtenaw county will be hiring another intern in the future who can do some work on this, but not immediately.

7. Outreach Coordinator Updates

- a. Interviews were conducted with two people, both were hired. Meija Knafel will be a full-time outreach coordinator and Lydia Lopez will work part time assisting with outreach and other matters. They will start on March 1. Faith Scheffler will also work as an intern this summer with the farmers group.

8. Programs/Partnership Updates

- a. Erb Grant – Farmer-Led Watershed Conservation. The second year of the three-year grant from the Erb Foundation has been approved.
- b. Kolon reported on the Grand-Raisin Conservation Community efforts. An MOU with partners is being finalized and will be shared with partners soon, to explain the roles and responsibilities of all the parties. RRWC has participated in recent years. A new bike shop in Manchester has agreed to allow for a display by GRCC, which can include the literature of GRCC partners.

9. Committee Reports

Outreach – None.

Technical – None.

Development – Executive committee members should contact their state legislators regarding the grant we submitted to EGLE to support development staff.

Administrative – None

Financial – None

10. Old Business

- a. Audit 2020 – We expect to get the audit report soon.
- b. Irish Hills Chamber of Commerce – Calhoun would like the plans for the canoe kayak launch being used in Adrian. There are plans for a launch at the Brooklyn Sportsmen’s club. Two other recreational projects in the area were discussed: Kiwanis trail being extended from Adrian into Tecumseh; feasibility study for trail between Brooklyn and Watkins Lake State Park, in addition to the planned trail from Watkins Lake State Park to Manchester.

11. New Business

- a. RRWC Spring Delegate Meeting, April 22, 2021. A few different venues were discussed. Due to continuing limitations on gatherings due to the pandemic, it was agreed we should try to find a place to hold it outside in a park with a pavilion.

12. Public Comments:

Knafl and Lopez introduced themselves. Dick Micka commented on activities in the Monroe area and will forward reports to May. Kittredge is working on submitting a grant to EGLE for a watershed management plan for part of the Wolf Creek sub-watershed. Limnotech is the consultant working on it, incorporating comments received on an unsuccessful grant last year.

13. Next Meeting – March 16, 2021 10:30 am, location to be determined.

14. Adjournment


- a. Motion by Kittredge, second by Sheehan to adjourn meeting at 11:42 am. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Respectfully submitted by Sybil Kolon, Secretary, March 10, 2021

Approval of Minutes

Date: 3/16/2021

Secretary:



Sybil Kolon