



**RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED COUNCIL**

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**River Raisin Watershed Council  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

**August 17, 2021 - 10:30 AM**

**Via Zoom/320 Springbrook Avenue, Suite 102 Meeting Room  
Adrian MI 49221**

**1. Roll Call**

Chairman Calhoun called the meeting to order at 10:29 AM.

Executive Committee members present: John Calhoun, Phil Kittredge, Sybil Kolon (Zoom), and Trudi Cooper

Executive Committee members absent: David Hoffman, Harry Sheehan, KZ Bolton

Others present: Stephen May – RRWC Executive Director, Meija Knafl – RRWC Outreach Coordinator, Lydia Lopez - RRWC Water Stewardship Coordinator, Faith Scheffler - RRWC Intern

**2. Approval of Agenda - August 17, 2021**

Motion by Kittredge, second by Cooper to approve the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**3. Approval of Minutes - June 15, 2021 and July 20, 2021**

a. Motion by Kolon to approve the June 15 Minutes as presented, second by Cooper. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

b. After a brief discussion of updates needed before being approved, motion by Kolon to table the July 20 minutes until amended, second by Kittredge. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**4. Treasurer's Report**

a. The Treasurer's Report for the period July 1, 2021 – July 31, 2021 was distributed and reviewed by Bolton. Revenue – **\$23,524.32** - Expenses - **\$740** – Balance to date: **\$52,052.50**. Motion by Kittredge, second by Cooper to accept and file the July Treasurer's Report. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

b. 2021 Budget YTD – revenue: \$55,616.60; expenditures: \$65,014.67.

c. Approve Disbursements for Outstanding Bills: New bills reported July 20, 2021 – August 17, 2021: Meija Knafl: Mileage Reimbursement RRWC - \$327.22; Lydia Lopez: Mileage Reimbursement RRWC - \$224.0; Printing and Purchasing - \$65.83; Lenawee County Wages - \$22,907.27; Total of \$23,524.32. Motion by Cooper, second by Kittredge to authorize payment of these bills. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

**5. Public Comments**

None.

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

- a. Updated giving:
  - i. All 52 municipal memberships are accounted for.
  - ii. 2 corporate memberships; the Erb Family Foundation and Kroger
  - iii. 18 individual memberships, primarily paid through Paypal
- b. Upper Wolf Creek Management Grant
  - i. Bob Sweet from EGLE is reviewing the 2020 Audit
- b. Water School Update
  - i. We plan to host Representative Yousef Rabhi, Representative Sarah Lightner, and Representative Bronna Kahle in September and October for Water School via Zoom
  - i. Will present a powerpoint that includes information about our watershed and highlights emerging issues
  - ii. Request to the board to submit emerging issues for discussion at Water School; examples include nutrient management concerns
- c. Brooklyn Dam Removal
  - i. Mussel survey has completed, and is available for review by the public
  - ii. Bill has come in to be paid. Grant will also reimburse RRWC staff time towards the project
- d. Shop Talk - Conservation Update for Farmer-Led Watershed Conservation
  - i. Occurred Thursday July 22 from 8 a.m. to noon at Sunrise Farms.
  - ii. Thad Cleary from EGLE attended to discuss DAP and AMP; representative from Heidelberg University presented on sampling; legislative update on the MAEAP program
  - iii. Copies of presentations available
  - iv. Is Heidelberg open to testing samples from the River Raisin Watershed?
  - v. We are currently looking at purchasing or working with Nathan Manning to partner to utilize their sampling station.
- e. RRWC Credit Card
  - i. After a recommendation by the Chair of the Board, motion by Kittredge to move over to County National Bank from Premiere Banking, second by Cooper. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**
- f. Lenawee County Fair Raffle Results
  - i. All prizes were collected within two days. Our revenue was \$1185, and our expenses were \$726.39. Total of \$458.61. Will report all revenue to the state.
  - ii. Foot traffic in the Agriculture Building was significantly reduced from previous years.

## **7. Outreach Updates**

- a. Past activities
  - i. Budding Naturalist Program in partnership with the River Raisin Institute in Monroe, kids ages 5 - 9, camp size averaged around 20 kids per day from July 19 to the 22
  - ii. Lenawee County Fair from July 25 - 31 went well overall. Traffic was down generally this year, but we still engaged with many fair goers, and had a number of volunteers assist with running the booth
  - iii. On August 5 we led a 1-mile walk at the Ives Road Fen with the Tecumseh Cub Scouts with 15 scouts and their parents

- iv. On August 13 we led a hike at Indian Trails Crossing Park with the Sierra Club, leading approximately 10 hikers on a 2.5 mile loop
- v. Attended Center for Excellence on August 11 to help represent the Farmer-Led Watershed Conservation group
- b. Upcoming Activities
  - i. River Clean-Up on August 17 in partnership with the Tecumseh Paddle Company
  - ii. Hillsdale Field Day on August 19
  - iii. Meeting with Congressman Tim Walberg in Blissfield on August 19
  - iv. Presentation for the Village of Blissfield Council on August 23
  - v. Nature Walk in Saline on August 26
  - vi. Monroe Shop Talk on September 1
  - vii. Adopt-a-Stream Training Day on September 11. Stream Search will be September 25, and Bug ID will be October 16

### **8. Programs/Partnership Updates**

- a. Hillsdale County recently released an interesting article about the headwaters of the 5 watersheds in their county; Maumee River, St. Joe River, Grand River, Kalamazoo River, and of course, the River Raisin!

### **9. Committee Reports**

Outreach – None.

Technical – None.

Development – None.

Administrative – Our intern, Faith Scheffer, will be leaving RRWC to return to university.

Financial – None.

### **10. Old Business**

- a. Watershed Support Grant Update - Development Director Position
  - i. Has been posted on MI Talent (no inquiries from South-Central WORKS); Brooklyn Exponent; Facebook; will post to LinkedIn and share with other relevant environmental organizations, as well as local sorority and fraternity alumni groups
  - ii. So far, 3 inquiries have come in

### **11. New Business**

- a. Intern Stipend
  - i. \$1000 have been set aside to be paid as an end of service stipend to Faith Scheffler, RRWC intern
- b. Semi-Annual Delegate Meeting
  - i. Meeting location to be decided upon at the next meeting.
- c. Watershed Map
  - i. Updates need to be made to the old map, and new watershed maps should be printed. We will begin contacting potential resources for updating our watershed map

### **12. Next Meeting - September 21, 2021 from 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

Meeting location to be announced.

### **13. Adjournment**

Motion by Kittredge, seconded by Cooper to adjourn at 11:39 a.m. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

Respectfully submitted by Meija Knafl - Outreach Coordinator - September 7, 2021

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_