



River Raisin
WATERSHED COUNCIL

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**River Raisin Watershed Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2018 – 10:30 AM
Lenawee County Drain Commissioner's Office
320 Springbrook Ave. Suite 102
Adrian, MI 49221**

1. Roll Call

Chairman Calhoun called the meeting to order at 10:41 AM

Executive Committee Members Present: John Calhoun, Harry Sheehan, Sybil Kolon, and Laurie Johncox via phone.

Executive Committee Members Absent: John Chandler, Dave Hoffman, KZ Bolton.

Others Present: Stephen May – Executive Director, George Service – Clinton Township delegate, and Katie Goplerud-Smith – Outreach Coordinator

2. Approval of September 18, 2018 – Agenda

- a. Motion by Kolon, second by Sheehan to approve September 18, 2018 agenda. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

3. Approval of August 21, 2018 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion by Johncox, second by Kolon to approve August 21, 2018 meeting minutes. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. The Treasurer's Report for the period July 31, 2018 to August 31, 2018 – was distributed and reviewed by Johncox. Revenue - **\$110.53** - Expenses - **\$681.20** – Balance to date: **\$43,045.87**. Motion by Sheehan, second by Kolon to accept and file Treasurer's Report. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- b. Approve Disbursements for Outstanding Bills: New bills reported: City of Adrian River Raisin Signs - **\$1,481.60**; Stephen May - Mileage Reimbursement – **\$23.44**; Katie Goplerud-Smith: Mileage Reimbursement RRWC - **\$174.97**; Katie Goplerud-Smith: Mileage Reimbursement FLG - **\$146.04**; First Federal Visa (Algal Bloom Conference, various meeting costs) - **\$102.07**: **Total of**

PARTNER □ PROTECT □ PRESERVE

\$1,928.12. Motion by Sheehan, second by Kolon to authorize payment of these bills. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Regular quorum ended at 10:47am when Johncox ended call.

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

- a. Report
- b. Calendar of upcoming events 2018
 - i. Artalicious in Adrian: Sept. 21 – 22
 - ii. Stream Search Day: Sept. 22
 - iii. Clinton Fall Festival: Sept. 28 – 29
 - iv. Washtenaw County Clean-Up Day: Sept. 29, 9am – 2pm
 - v. Delegate Meetings: NE/SE Oct. 11 & NW/SW Oct. 4
 - vi. Adrian Township River Clean-Up: Oct. 20
 - vii. Fall Meeting: Oct. 23 at Stubnitz Center 6pm - 8pm
- c. Membership updates – 50 Municipalities, 4 Corporations and 20 Individuals.
- d. RRW Signage - 4 more signs will be given to Jackson/Lenawee County (for Palmer Rd in Colombia Township and US 12 south of MIS in Lenawee County). Motion by Johncox, second by Sheehan to approve purchase of 4 new river crossing signs. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- e. Kiwanis Trail Extension – Planning is in the works for Kiwanis Trail to tunnel under 52.
- f. Stateline Farms Tour – On 2 different farms near Morenci. Focused on nutrient application and toured BMPs on each farm.
- g. Rotary Clean Up – Successful in cleaning up and beautifying Trestle Park.
- h. Clinton Arts Center – New restaurant is awesome. RRWC mugs, cards, and prints on display/sale.
- i. Saline River Mileage Signs – Dave Rhoads wants to see how the Tecumseh Eagle Scout project goes and may implement similar project on Saline River.

6. Outreach Coordinator Updates

- a. Regional Delegate Meetings: SW Meeting: Madison Township Hall Oct. 4 at 9am; NW Meeting: Manchester Village Hall Oct. 4 at 11am; SE Meeting: Dundee Village Offices Oct. 11 at 9am; NE Meeting: City of Saline Office Oct. 11 at 11am with a tour of Leslee Niethammer Preserve to follow.
- b. River Raisin Water Festival May 1, 2019: RRWC is working on grants to fund the festival. Three schools will be invited to bring their 6th grade classes: Lenawee Christian, Morenci, and Britton-Deerfield. No confirmed presenters yet.
- c. Purchased Materials for RR wayfaring signage: Signs for Monroe and Jackson Counties were purchased, now just waiting for DOT/road commissions to post. 4 new signs will be purchased for the northwest part of the watershed.
- d. Woody Debris Clean-Ups/Invasive Removal/Rotary Clean-up: Steve is working with Adrian Township Volunteer Fire Dept. to clean up jams at 3 different private properties. Possibly Oct. 20. Approval from City of Dundee to remove purple loosestrife from Old Mill Dam was received. About 15 volunteers helped remove trash, debris, and logs from Trestle Park on Sept. 15. The flower beds and edge of river were cleared as well.

- e. Purchased Materials for RR wayfaring signage: Mileage arrived today for Eagle Scout to put along river in Tecumseh. He's still getting approval from landowners.
- f. One Farm One Field Event: Very in-depth seminars about conservation tillage equipment, water control structures, and cover crops. Interesting seminar about talking to the media about farming. Great networking opportunity.
- g. Understanding HABs Conference: Theme was Phosphorus. Many academic presentations about research on P/P loading. Farmer panel was enlightening; more education about programs/money available needed.
- h. Great Outdoors Jamboree: Very rainy, windy, and cold but still a lot of participation from kids. Got a handful of interested volunteers.
- i. Art-A-Licious: Volunteers desperately needed if we want the booth to be open.
- j. Washtenaw County Clean-Up day: Recruiting volunteers to hand out thank-you notes and direct traffic. Will edit thank-yous to incorporate Saline River.

7. Partnership Updates (See Executive Director Report)

- a. ERB Grant – Farmer-Led Watershed Conservation
 - i. ERB Foundation – Michigan Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) Grant: Meeting with committee today for outcome. Results will be in soon.
 - ii. Cooling the Hotspots - The Nature Conservancy may become a partner in the program since they're working on a very similar project.

8. Committee Reports

- a. **Current Chairs** of each committee as follows: Outreach – Kolon; Technical – May; Development – Calhoun; Administrative – Johncox; Financial – Johncox.
- b. **Outreach** – Meeting will be after Executive Committee Meeting. DEQ isn't giving any update on PFAS in the River Raisin. Clinton Community Schools would like RRWC to help make information signs on the river. A letter of support needs to be signed for the CISMA strategic planning for more education/outreach materials.
- c. **Technical** – No report.
- d. **Development** – Met before Executive Committee Meeting. Washtenaw County will pay for Freshwater Future membership in order to apply for grants. Commit more in-kind donations. Need to update water management plan for next year.
- e. **Administrative** – No bylaw changes for now.
- f. **Financial** – Need a new 2019 budget.

9. Old Business

None to report.

10. New Business

- a. Purchase additional RR road signs – 4 for the northwest part of the watershed.
- b. MIS Cares Grant – Submitted. Asking for 3 water quality testing kits and a new watershed model to show different land uses/pollution from them.
- c. RRWC 2018 Fall Meeting – October 23, 6pm – 8pm at the Stubnitz Center in Adrian. Agreed upon a live animal presentation, either invasive species or snakes.
- d. Bylaw Changes – None to report.

- e. 2019 Proposed budget – nothing different from this year except dropping the Cooling the Hotspots grant.
- f. Letter to Wacker for financial assistance request – Miscommunications prevented RRWC from getting the letter to Wacker sooner. Will be sent to correct people after meeting.

11. Next Meeting – No regular Executive Committee Meeting! Meet before Fall Meeting on October 23, 2018 – 5:45 PM – Stubnitz Center – Heritage Park: N. Adrian Drive, Adrian, MI.

12. Adjournment

- a. Motion by Sheehan, second by Calhoun to adjourn meeting at 11:53 AM. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Respectfully submitted by Stephen May – Executive Director – September 26, 2018

Approval of Minutes

Date: _____

Secretary: _____
Commissioner KZ Bolton