



**RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED COUNCIL**

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**River Raisin Watershed Council  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 18, 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 10:31 AM.

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

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

Others present: Stephen May – RRWC Executive Director, Meija Knafl – RRWC Outreach Coordinator, Lydia Lopez - RRWC Water Stewardship Coordinator, Faith Scheffler - RRWC Intern, Angel Hoffman, Chris Frieburger - Niswander Environmental LLC, Todd Losee - Niswander Environmental LLC, Dan Ross - owner of Brooklyn Dam, Bob Jensen, Jae Guetschow, Kyler Moran— Easement Stewardship Coordinator at Legacy Land Conservancy

**2. Approval of Agenda - May 18, 2021**

Motion by Kittredge, second by Cooper, to approve the agenda as presented, **carried by voice vote.**

**3. Approval of Minutes - March 16 and April 13, 2021**

Motion by Kolon, second by Kittredge, to approve the March 16<sup>th</sup> and April 13<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented, **motion carried by voice vote.**

**4. Treasurer's Report**

- a. The Treasurer's Report for the period April 1, 2021 – April 30, 2021 was distributed and reviewed by May. Revenue – **\$1,114** - Expenses - **\$43.33** – Balance to date: **\$82,457.43**. Motion by Cooper, second by Kittredge to accept and file the April Treasurer's Report. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- b. 2021 Budget YTD – revenue: \$43,663.44; expenditures: \$23,656.58.
- c. Approve Disbursements for Outstanding Bills: New bills reported April 14, 2021 – May 18, 2021: Meija Knafl: Mileage Reimbursement RRWC - \$21.39; Premier Bank - \$15.89; Printing and Purchasing - \$6.05; Total of \$43.33. Motion by Kittredge, second by Cooper to authorize payment of these bills. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**5. Public Comments**

- a. Sybil Kolon and Kyler Moran are checking out the Raisin Valley Land Trust conservation easement in the Blissfield-Deerfield area, which Legacy Land Conservancy will take over from RVLTL.

## **6. Executive Director/Outreach - Updates**

- a. Membership updates:
  - i. Membership – 52 municipalities, 7 individual, 2 corporate memberships.
- b. 2020 Audit is done
  - i. Shea Tax Account Consulting suggested that executive board continue to maintain strong oversight responsibility for accounting and financials due to limited personnel
- c. Semi-Annual Spring Meeting
  - i. There was a quorum who approved the budget and committee members
- d. Lenawee County Fair
  - i. Working on raffle license
  - ii. Also applying for the Monroe County Fair
- e. Upper River Raisin Aquatic Connectivity Project at the Brooklyn Dam
  - i. Chris Frieburger and Todd Losee from Niswander Environmental LLC are working to secure a grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to remove a high-hazard dam in Brooklyn Michigan
  - ii. The grant is from the National Fish Passage Program, and is \$25,000 of technical money to be spent this summer
  - iii. Niswander Environmental requests the RRWC to support the project, serve as the administrator of this fund, and act as the administrator to any future grant monies for this project. Motion by Kolon, seconded by Cooper.
  - iv. Comments from Bob Jensen and Jae Guetschow concerning the project - Niswander Environmental will be introducing the project to Village of Brooklyn on June 14, 2021.

## **Outreach Updates**

- a. Chainsaw Training on April 28 in Brooklyn was a success, with 8 participants from other organizations, and from the public
  - i. Blissfield would like to host a training in their community. More details on dates and times to come
- b. Upcoming Events
  - i. Blissfield Rotary presentation on May 19
  - ii. Washtenaw County Natural Area Preservation Program Tree Planting on May 22 in the morning. Encore event on Tuesday May 25
  - iii. Blissfield River Clean-Up on May 22 in the afternoon
  - iv. Saline Nature Walk on May 27
  - v. River Clean-Up in Tecumseh on June 10
  - vi. In-person Farmer Led Conservation Working Group Meeting - June 11
  - vii. MiCorps Stream Monitor Training free via Zoom on June 17
  - viii. Sterling Beach Clean-Up in partnership with the River Raisin Institute on June 19
  - ix. Hayes State Park Boat Wash at Wampplers Lake on June 20
- c. Spring streamlines newsletter went out via email on May 12

- d. RRWC will also be participating in summer camp programs for two separate camps in July. More details to come in the next meeting.
- e. Google Drive has run out of space, and we will purchase more space.

**7. Programs/Partnership Updates**

GRCC MOU now available for board members to review and discuss at the next meeting.

**8. Committee Reports**

Outreach – Meeting scheduled - May 24, 20121 -10 AM

Technical – None.

Development – None.

Administrative – None.

Financial – None.

**9. Old Business**

- a. Manchester Kayak and Canoe Race was a great success, as we were able to partner with the Sharon Valley Bicycle Shoppe and sold one t-shirt!
- b. Upper Wolf Creek Watershed Management Plan has been altered to remove Limnotech as the lead on one activity and add the Lenawee Conservation District in its place.

**10. New Business**

None.

**11. Next Meeting - June 15, 2021 from 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

In person at 320 Springbrook Avenue Suite 102 Meeting Room, Adrian MI 49221

**12. Adjournment**

Motion by Kittredge, seconded by Cooper to adjourn at 11:48 AM, motion carried by voice vote

Respectfully submitted by Meija Knafel - Outreach Coordinator - June 6, 2021

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

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