



Protect-Preserve-Enjoy **Little Manistee Watershed Conservation Council**

Minutes of the trustee's meeting held June 3, 2017 @ Elk Township Hall

EXECUTIVE ACTIONS:

President Tim Phillips called the meeting to order at 10:06M.

Attendance: Tim Phillips, Armas Soorus, Joyce Durdel, Evelyn Furman, David Spruance, Dan Sernick, Jim Squier, Dale Downes, Greg Block

Absent: Joe Rogers

May minutes approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

\$53,659.34 balance in checking account with LOSB

\$96,263.32 combined assets between LOSB and MCCF funds

Amended the "Proposed Expenditures" document to include the Salmon-in-the-Classroom" program as it is an "external" program.

Treasurer's report approved.

PROJECT STATUS:

1. NFS erosion sites — Jim Thompson of the NFS has contacted president Phillips and is interested in evaluating those sites identified as being on federal lands. Nate Winkler of CRA will meet with him and perhaps schedule on-site inspections.
2. Syers Dam removal — There as yet have been no monies generated to the project other than the LMWCC's committed \$10,000. The owner of the property is becoming more involved, recognizing the need for the dam's removal and garnering the support of the landowners who use the berm dam to access their properties.
3. Volunteer projects — the bug survey has been completed, and the H₂O

Water Quality study will be conducted on July 10th. Contact trustee Joyce Durdal to participate in this activity.

4. Fish habitat project in Section III of the Trout Unlimited “Habitat Assessment” of 2015 — permitting process has begun with an expected completion of late summer/early fall of this year.

5. Gillhespy project — the project has been completed, and the board is expecting the final report from CRA in time for the Annual Meeting, July 8.

A site for a new channel restoration project in section III has been identified by Nate Winkler of CRA and trustee David Spruance. An on-site evaluation will be completed this summer.

6. Erosion sites — the board is finishing its commitment to address the most severe erosion sites trying to identify private landowners in order to seek permission to conduct on-site evaluations of the problems.

Nate Winkler of CRA is applying for permits to complete work on five moderate sites on State held lands this year.

Seven moderate sites on private property have been earmarked as potential projects for 2018.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN:

The steering committee is awaiting a final proposal to draft the Watershed Management Plan from Networks Northwest, and if approved, the committee will recommend to the LMWCC that Networks Northwest be selected. The committee will meet on June 13 at 3PM at the Elk Township Hall.

There was a review of the LMWCC’s commitment to assume total responsibility for the cost of the Plan using LMWCC monies held by MCCF (Manistee County Community Fund).

The board wants to ensure that LMWCC will have final ownership of the Plan to be used in part or its entirety as it deems necessary.

GRANTS:

CRA and the LMWCC board continue to seek grant money to fund the Syers Dam removal project.

LMWCC will renew its membership in Grants. Org, a source of funding monies available to non-profits.

David Spruance will make contact with some corporate entities to ascertain interest in supporting the work of the LMWCC.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Annual Plan — see Treasurer's Report above, "Proposed Expenditures."
2. Website management — Anna Rogers continues to up-date information available on the website. Tim Phillips is acting as the conduit to Anna.
3. Annual meeting — Mark Tonello of the MDNR has agreed to address the meeting which will begin at 10AM on July 8, 2017 at Skinner Park in Irons. The board will meet at 5:30 on July 7.

The agenda for the annual meeting was finalized.

4. Membership — It was agreed that the membership roles will be up-dated twice yearly: in January following the membership drive and July following the annual meeting..

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Jim Squier attended the statewide watershed council meeting in Gaylord this past April. Interesting presentations.
2. Jim has identified a potential new printer, **Mission Graphics** in Ludington, as most board members have expressed dissatisfaction with the customer service provided by Jackpine.

Mission Graphics promises a more "professional appearance" to the newsletter, and reduced mailing costs by taking advantage of bulk mailing rates. David Spruance, newsletter editor, will contact the company and make the final decision.

3. Paddle Sports in Scottville has expressed an interest in being a sponsor of LMWCC and we will register with them.
4. On May 4, boy scouts completed a clean-up from Johnson Bridge to Fox Bridge.
5. Lake Osceola State Bank is a new member of the Watershed Management Plan steering committee.
6. Salmon-in-the-Classroom will continue for the 2017-18 academic year.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33AM

Next Board Meeting: July 7th at 5:30PM at Skinner Park.

Submitted by David Spruance June , 2017