

LMWCC Board of Trustees Meeting
February 3, 2023

Attendance: Mel Jacobs, Jim Squire, Nate Winkler (CRA), Wayne Anderson, David Gendler (Guest), David Spruance, Todd Nyson, Amanda Lick, Dan Sernick, Armas Soorus, Dan Snook (Guest), Karen Hoffman (Guest)

1. Call Meeting to Order
 - a. Armas called the meeting to order at 9:58 am.
2. Approval of December 2, 2023 Minutes
 - a. Jim made a motion to approve the December minutes, Wayne seconded and they were unanimously approved.
3. Treasurers Report
 - a. Current Status
 - i. Reconciliation
 1. We have one check outstanding for Benchmark Storage for \$715 for annual storage.
 - ii. Balance Sheet
 1. Checking account has \$39,531.06 balance.
 2. Savings account has \$9,176.37 balance
 3. Wells Fargo Advisors has \$50,000 balance
 - b. Forecasted Expenditures
 - i. We reviewed and updated to forecasted expenditures for the year. We expect the total to be about \$48,000.
 - c. Dan asked for a motion to transfer \$50 from checking to savings every month to keep the account active. We concluded he did not need a motion and that he would do so.
 - d. Dan also asked for a motion to pay the commercial liability insurance of \$850. David made a motion to approve, Armas seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - e. Dan has filed the annual IRS Form 990-N for 2024.
 - f. Armas will remind Jacob at TU they owe us payment for the sensor on the monitoring station they agreed to split the cost with us on.
 - g. Jim moved to accept the treasurers report, Wayne seconded. It was approved unanimously.
4. Items from LMWCC Calendar – Armas

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- a. Annual Meeting Preparation – Takes Place July 6 this year.
 - i. Submit Raffle License Application
 - 1. Mel will submit Raffle License Application
 - ii. Reserve Hall and Sound System
 - 1. Jim will reserve the hall and Sound System
 - iii. Determine Potential Speakers
 - 1. Nate will speak about what CRA is doing in the area and on our river and how the permitting process works.
 - 2. Armas will invite Dana to talk about next steps on NR.
 - iv. Door/Bucket Raffle Prizes – Check Stock
 - 1. We will move the newsletter up to May so we can ask for donations.
 - v. Main Prizes will be:
 - 1. Kayaks/Paddles/Life Jackets
 - 2. Irons Fish – Dan to follow up.
 - 3. Gouker Fly Fishing – Dan to Follow up
 - vi. Apparel Inventory – Check Stock
 - 1. Mel volunteered to do the inventory, including sizes so we can order new stock or get other prizes.
 - a. Water Bottles, Coffee Mugs
 - b. Fleece sweaters maybe?
 - 2. Dan will get Mel the name of local business for supplies. (O’Keefs Reef)
- 5. Membership Mailing Status
 - a. Membership forms are coming back in. Mel is coordinating with Jim. Anyone contributing over \$200 gets a letter from Jim.
- 6. West Michigan Watershed Partners Meeting
 - a. Armas will attend to see if we should develop a relationship.
- 7. Manistee Watersheds Partnership @ Manistee CD
 - a. Wayne will get with Renee and coordinate with Joyce.
 - b. They are trying to get together a Watershed Group at the Manistee level.
- 8. Project Management
 - a. Wager - 2025 Upstream of 37 in a low gradient depositional stretch with lots of dead ash.

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- i. Nate visited landowner in ~ September.
 - ii. About 200 feet on outside of bent would be good to augment habitat.
 - iii. No permit yet.
 - b. Klye Thomas - 2025
 - i. Permitted, preparing section 7 application
 - c. Tinker Bluff - 2024
 - i. Permitted
 - ii. Lost communications for a while so Nate is preparing a section 7 now
 - d. State Land Above M37 – 2024
 - i. About 200 ft on 3 sites
 - ii. Permitted and submitted section 7
 - e. USFS Properties – about 2028
 - i. By 6 mile bridge
 - ii. Nate is looking at some alternate sites in the area due to access problems and NEPA and may swap sites.
 - f. Construction probably next Year and the year after
 - g. Nate told us Amy Beyer is retiring. They will look for a replacement and Amy will train them so we don't have a firm date.
 - h. CRA will also hiring an additional biologist so they will have 5.
 - i. Nate will start talking with Lake County Road Commission and others about doing some road crossing on the Little Manistee at Cool Creek.
 - j. Nate pointed out we need a follow up survey on the Seyers Lake Dam removal Reptiles and Amphibians survey (\$7,000) and a fish survey. Nate can do the fish survey but is looking for funding for the reptiles and amphibians survey. Wayne made a motion the LMWCC fund half and Nate look for a grant on the other half, it was seconded by David and passed unanimously.
 - k. New projects:
 - i. One has come up between Old Grade and Spencer, Wayne will contact them.
 - ii. Nate will develop a plan for 2025 on state land around Caryville for critical sites.
 - iii. Armas asked Nate to take a look at a site on his property to see if work is justified there. Nate added it to his list to check on.
- 9. Road Crossing Signs

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- a. Done. Extra signs went to Jim.
10. Watershed Management Plan - Armas
- a. Annual Summit March 1, 2024 at Elk Township Hall
 - b. Subjects will be projects Survey Results, Manistee Watershed Council
11. Natural Rivers - Armas
- a. Status of Survey
 - b. Survey is complete and the results are not bad. A meeting is scheduled for Monday to review them.
 - c. Thank You Letters – Joyce has sent them all.
 - d. Letters of Support
 - i. We are starting to get some back.
 - 1. CRA, LRBOI and Spirit of the Woods Conservation Club have submitted signed letters.
 - ii. Armas will step up the requests once the results are public.
 - e. Letter to Stronach Township Board and Planning Commission
 - i. The draft letter was approved and Armas will send it out.
 - f. Two Follow Up Meetings February 12 and 22 at Elk Township Hall 6 PM.
12. News Letter
- a. Move up to May
 - b. Mostly about the NR survey, also Asian Carp
13. Web Site Update – Amanda
- a. Amanda is trying to coordinate with Anna.
 - i. Amanda now has Annas Phone number so she can call and talk,
14. Water Quality and Macro Studies – Joyce
- a. Nothing new.
15. Monitoring Stations – Armas
- a. We have the new sensor installed at the Widewater Road Station and it is updating automatically to the internet.
 - b. The Bear Track Station is working properly.
16. Violations We are Tracking
- a. Johnsons Bridge Fill – nothing new
 - b. Johnson and Nine Mile Pond – nothing new

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17. New Business

- a. David will follow up on possibility of getting GLE grants.
- b. International Fly-Fishing Film Festival – March 2 and 3. We will participate and are awaiting more information.
- c. Jack Epstein is proposing a Manistee Watershed level river group, Manistee CD is actively pursuing this.
- d. New Projector or Spare Bulb? Armas pointed out our projector spare bulb was lost last summer and we need one or a new projector. Wayne made a motion that we spend \$350 for a new projector, it was seconded by Mel and approved unanimously.

18. Next Meeting March 2, 2024.

19. Adjourn at 11:40.