



**TWO RIVERS COALITION**  
**October 8, 2014 BOARD MEETING**  
**Geneva Township Hall**  
**Draft**

**Call to order:** 6:02 PM

**Attendees:** Sam Ewbank, Kenneth Nesbitt, Tom Howe, Kevin Haight, Frank Jurenka, Colleen Forestieri, Vic Bogosian, Dave Foerster, Geoff Cripe (board members underlined)

**Motion** by Joe Parman, seconded by Kevin Haight to approve October 8, 2014 agenda as amended, all in favor

**Motion** by Kevin Haight, seconded by Frank Jurenka to approve September 10, 2014 minutes, all in favor

**Treasurer Report** - Kenneth Nesbitt reported that TRC had a \$7,070 balance with \$13.76 in expenditures and \$241.20 in revenues.

**Unfinished Business**

**Paw Paw River/Ox Creek 319 Grant Proposal – Geoffrey Cripe SWMLC**

Grant priorities; Protection & Restoration along the Paw Paw River. The Ox Creek sub-watershed is set for an outreach program for implementing BMP's to correct impairments, Berrien County Conservation District. The grant calls for TRC to match \$15,000, including a \$9,000 direct cash donation and \$6,000 of in-kind value over a three year period. TRC committed \$9,000 in cash during September's board meeting and discussed the \$6,000 in-kind match for approval in this meeting.

**Motion – Roll Call Vote:** Motion by Kevin Haight, seconded by Frank Jurenka for TRC to commit \$6,000 in-kind contribution over a three year period to the Paw Paw River Conservation and Restoration 319 Grant. The board authorizes Sam Ewbank to draft and sign the letter of commitment, all in favor, motion carries.

**VSMP Grant Sampling Event** – Haight/Forestieri –Event will be held on Sunday, October 12, 2014 at the Lawrence River Park, North Paw Paw Street. Event will be divided into two events; 9:00 a.m. session for training and collection of macro-invertebrates, and an afternoon session for species identification and education. Kevin was on WWMT, Channel 3 promoting event and Channel 3 may be on site for additional footage on the October 12<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed for the event and are encourage too contact TRC.

**Annual Meeting** – December 10, 2014, Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence MI – Speaker will be Peter Bane, a permaculture teacher and author. TRC will also provide information and a slide show on the MI Corps stream monitor grant event. Board held further discussion on possible silent action, raffle and set-up.

*The Two Rivers Coalition is a citizen-based Group working to protect the health of the Black River and Paw Paw River watersheds through conservation education, and advocacy.*



**Board Member Terms:** Board held discussion on board member terms expiring or termed limited; Board will need to confirm with Grant Poole and Joe von Walde that they would like to be placed on the ballot for TRC's annual meeting in December. Tom Howe and Sam Ewbank's terms expire according to TRC bylaws term limitations. TRC will need to find new candidates for the board prior to the annual meeting.

### **New Business**

**MiCorps Conference – Haight:** TRC will be sending Kevin Haigh and Colleen Forestieri to the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual MiCorps Conference and Training, October 27-28, Higgins Lake, MI.

**South Haven Park Project – Land & Water Conservation Fund Application, hand-out provided:** South Haven is requesting a letter of support for their grant to develop a park along the Black River on the former industrial/brownfield site. The board held discussion on the proposed project and grant.

Motion by Frank Jurenka, seconded by Joe Parman for Sam Ewbank to write a letter of support for South Haven's, Black River Park Project, Land & Water Conservation Fund grant application; all in favor, motion carries

### **Announcements, suggestions, comments:**

- 11-Oct B/SH HWTA Annual Members Meeting 6pm
- 12-Oct Volunteer Stream Monitoring Event, Lawrence River Park, 9:00 a.m.
- 27/28-Oct MiCorps Conference Higgins Lake MI
- 10-Dec TRC Annual Meeting VB Conference Center, Lawrence

**Adjourned:** 7:33 PM

Respectively submitted:

Joe Parman

TRC Secretary