



TWO RIVERS COALITION
March 11, 2015 BOARD MEETING
Geneva Township Hall

Call to order: 6:03 PM by

Attendees: Kevin Haight, Colleen Forestieri, Kenneth Nesbitt, Bette Pierman, Dave Foerster, Joe Parman, Grant Poole, Kyle Alexander, Jennifer Kanine, Paul Vanden Bosch, (board members underlined)

Agenda – March 11, 2015 agenda approved as amended

Motion by Grant Pool, seconded by Kevin Haight to approve February 11, 2015 minutes, all in favor.

Treasurer Report - Kenneth Nesbitt reported that TRC had \$7,300.00 in total resources. The Board reviewed committed funds for projects and grants. Finance committee is finalizing a list of project commitments, cash and in-kind contributions to be incorporated into accounting. It was noted that TRC's River Network's membership was \$150.00, \$50.00 more than previously reported.

Motion by Bette Pierman, seconded by Colleen Forestieri to approve the additional \$50.00 for TRC's River Network member, a total of \$150.00; all in favor

Unfinished Business

- **Quarterly speakers/topics: May, June & July**
 1. Hans Kok: No-till farming practices -\$1,000 speaking fee plus hotel, or \$1,700 for two days. It was suggested that TRC partner with another organization to help reduce TRC's cost.
 2. Jay Wesley, MDNR Fisheries Dept.: Upstream effects on Great Lakes and fisheries. Possible target groups: Lakeshore communities, Steelheaders Association, elected officials, etc...
 3. Natural Shoreline Plantings: Julia Kirkwood, MDEQ; Village of Paw Paw; Lake Associations
 4. Kalamazoo River Enbridge spill, 5 years later: How to prepare a community for a possible spill. Pipelines and inventory throughout the Black and Paw Paw River Watersheds.
 5. Lake Erie Algae Blooms...Could this happen in Lake Michigan and inland lakes?
 6. Phragmites: Programs for inland lakes; steps for permitting invasive species removal and treatment



New Business

Freshwater Future Spring/Fall grants: Handouts provided

The board held discussion on Freshwater Futures various grants in conjunction with TRC's goals and Watershed Plans. Can the grants be used toward the existing Volunteer Stream Monitoring Grants educational materials/program? Will grants facilitate improved agricultural BMP incentives in the Black River Watershed to reduce dredging in South Haven Harbor?; similar to the Village of Paw Paw's program on the South Branch of the Paw Paw River.

Strategic Planning 2015: Early Adaptors – Shoreline Restoration: Can TRC and partners such as Cardno or the Conservation District fund shoreline restoration projects on properties that are willing to put in practices to encourage other owners around inland lakes or Lake Michigan? Board members will contact lake associations to help facilitate such a program.

Fundraisers: Discussion was held on TRC sponsoring fundraiser movie events at theaters in the watershed; Coloma and Paw Paw. Possible movies: Gasland & An Inconvenient Truth

**TRC is still looking for programs and projects that members have a passion for to help facilitate water quality in the Black and Paw Paw River Watersheds.

Announcements, suggestions, comments:

March 17- Farming for the Future Van Buren CD
March 20- "Hold Your Water" FOTSJR
April 17-19- Tree Seedling Sale
May 2- Black River Preserve Workday
May 3- VSMP
July 22- Maple Lake Workday
September 20-VSMP
December 9 – TRC Annual Meeting – VB Conference Center

Adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Respectively submitted:
Joe Parman, Secretary