



*An alliance of the Black River
and Paw Paw River Watersheds*

**Board Meeting Minutes
Geneva Twp. Hall
Tuesday, December 18, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to order, 6:07

Present: Bette Pierman, Joe Parman, Kyak Kenneth, Kevin Haight, Sam Ewbank, Dave Foerster, Kyle Boone and Colleen Forestieri (TRC Board members underlined)

Minutes of October 16, 2018-corrections/approval:

Motion by Joe, seconded by Bette to approve October 16, 2018 minutes as corrected, all in favor, motion approved.

Treasurer's Report – November- Nesbitt, Hand-out provided. \$2,046.00 in Total Disbursements for water sampling tests and meeting supplies, \$10,448.00 in Resources Available

Old Business:

1) Reports from Pierman, reporting on Sierra Club, BCCD, and/or MSEF:

- Sierra Club: New board members
- BCCD: 108-acre property - donation finalized
- MSEF: Creating a Citizens Advisory Group for Palisades shutdown.

2) On-Going Grant Projects

a) CISMA:

- Michigan Sea Grant for 12 workshops to train paddlers to I.D. and report invasive species; classroom and on-the-water components.
- Eagle Lake Association, VBC, Paw Paw Twp.: Using biological treatment, native weevils to treat Eurasian Milfoil.

b) Mill/Pine: October 25th was a workgroup meeting. Information letter went out to residence with a list of septic haulers. Erin Fuller & AJ Brucks (VBCD) attended last Health Department meeting, reviewed septic map and discussed possible future ordinance for a TOST in VBC.

3) New Grant Project:

a) FwF grant, E. coli Project:

- Tested/3 events
- 10 Black River sites, 7 of 10 tested positive for E. coli
- 17 Paw Paw River site, 11 of 17 tested positive for E. coli

4) Non-Grant Projects:

- a) **PPRWT:** Paw Paw Twp. Voted to pay for cleaning their section on the river if Waverly and Village of Paw Paw joined in paying. Village of Paw Paw voted 4-3 not to participate. Harford Twp. Approved to pay. Watervliet City agreed to pay as well.
- b) **2019 Paddles:** TRC will promote paddles on Black and Paw Paw River with Nor Serocki (CISMA) specifically to educated paddlers about common invasive species.
- c) **Annual Meeting:** Bette agreed to write letter on behalf of TRC to WMU in appreciation of David Karowe speaking at the annual meeting. Thank-you letters will also be sent out to silent auction donors.
- d) **PPR Nation Wild and Scenic River Status – Kyle:** Presented to Pokagon tribal council on moving forward with PPR Wild and Scenic River Status. Council approved moving forward on designation process.

5) New Business:

- a) **Lame Duck Legislative Session – negative effects on environment:** Board held discussion on bill to create tunnel for Line 5 that was approve. Board members will monitor progress of this bill/project. Board also discussed the Wetlands Destruction Act which has passed the Senate and moves to the state House for final vote.
- b) Board held discussion on the need to fill 2 board seats. Suggestions for new board members, Nate Strong, Paul De Young and Dan Burton. Board member with contact individuals to see if they are interested to serve on board. The board tabled election of officers until January 2019 meeting.

Announcements, events, deadlines, etc.:

Sat Feb 16- meeting of Palisades Citizens Advisory Board @ SH library
January 5 – February 16 – Smithsonian Water/Ways Exhibit, Niles Library
Thur Feb 21- Berrien Conservation District Annual Meeting
Wed Mar 27- Volunteer Appreciation Night w/ VBCD
Sunday May 5- Macro collection, I.D. Monday May 6

Adjourn 7:47 p.m.

Joe Parman
Board Secretary