



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

**Board Meeting Minutes
Geneva Twp. Hall
Tuesday Feb. 19, 2019 6:00 p.m.**

Call to order 6:05pm.

Attendance: Kevin Haight, Kenneth Nesbitt, Dave Foerster, Kyle Boone, Bette Pierman, Joe Parman and Colleen Forestieri (board members underlined)

Minutes -corrections/approval:

Motion by Bette, seconded by Kyle to approve **December 18, 2018** minutes as presented, all in favor, motion approved.

Motion by Dave, seconded by Colleen to approve January 15, 2019 minutes as corrected, all in favor, motion approved.

Announcements, events, deadlines, etc.:

- Thur Feb 21- Berrien Conservation District Annual Meeting
- Tues Mar 19- TRC monthly meeting
- Fri Mar 22- FotSJR Annual Meeting in Sturgis
- Wed Mar 27- Volunteer Appreciation Night w/ VBCD @ Old Town Hall; 5:30
- Fri Apr 12- pre-orders due VBCD Tree Sales; sale on Apr 18, 19 and 20
- Tue Apr 16- TRC monthly meeting
- Sunday May 5- Macro collection, I.D. Monday May 6
- Sat Sept 7- Mich Sea Grant/CISMA paddle workshop on AIS

Treasurer's Report: Nesbitt - Jan-Feb: Hand-out provided. \$887 in receipts, \$11 in total disbursed and \$12,866 in resources available.

Motion by Joe, seconded by Bette to approve Treasurer's Report as presented, all in favor, motion approved.

Old Business:

- A) **Report from Pierman re:** Sierra Club, BCCD, and/or MSEF
 - Sierra Club: Planning more outings/events, see website for details; www.swmgsierra.org
 - Berrien Conservation District: Annual Meeting February 21, 2019
 - MSEF: Setting up Citizens Advisory Board for decommission of Palisades

- B) **TRC participation in Kazoo Earth Day Apr 20, 2018** (booth, 101,000 acts of green?) TBD



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C) On-going grant projects: CISMA, PPR Riparian/Ox Creek, Mill/Pine Creeks 319.

- 1) CISMA: Series of naturalist paddles being planned; Aquatic Invasive Species paddle workshop date set Sat Sept 7, 2019 (Graham Ave BH)
- 2) Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Paddle survey on lower Paw Paw River

D) New grant projects: PPR/BR Watershed Management Plans Update, Ox Creek 319, FwF grant for E. coli testing

- 1) Ox Creek: website is sustainoxcreek.org; also has a new FB page
- 2) E. coli project: Kevin had meetings w/ Erin F. and Kyle B; Kyle produced maps and graphs, Kevin and Kenneth presented data at Water/Ways Expo on Feb 16, 2019. Kevin will present data at Volunteer Appreciation Night, March 27, 2019; Kyle will create/print better poster board for E.coli testing data. Maps and Charts to be put on TRC website, Joe

E) Non-grant projects: VSMP, PPRWT, River Rescue

PPRWT: Kevin attended 100 Women Who Care on January 16, 2019 to ask for their support of PPRWT but was not selected. Try again at April meeting?

VSMP: Macro collection on Sunday May 5, 2019, **need team leaders** (Kevin will be gone)

F) Status of thank you letters: David Karowe; silent auction donors; PayPal and other 2018 TRC donors -Kevin has done Wright (GHCF), Evergreene, B. Ziebart, and P. Boerma.

-Colleen organized and sent out thank you letters for silent auction donors

G) PPR National Wild and Scenic River status- Kyle- Meeting postponed. TBD

H) Update of roster and terms of open board seats & new bi-laws: Dave presented board with new spreadsheet of board terms and seats. Joe posted newest bi-laws on TRC website.

New Business

A. Paw Paw River Poker Paddle fundraiser w/ Hartford Fire Dept: Kevin met again w/ HFD and Mike Chapell; looking at last Sat in July or 1st Sat in Aug, Wednesday November 6th.

B. Annual Meeting 2019: Choose date: **Roll call Vote** by Kevin via email, 2-25-19: 3 to 1 in favor off Annual Meeting, Thursday, November 7, 2019.

Kevin has spoken to Ryan Postema of COL who is interested in doing presentation;" Evolution of an Eco-system" re SW Mi river systems

C. Discussion was held on holding TRC business meetings every other month and meeting to discuss specific projects or other topics in more depth on intervening months. **Board in favor of...**

*Joe will send Board previous versions of the Strategic Plan for review.

Speakers/Events/Projects in 2019: Patrick Ertel of MDNR; S. Bend storm drain, Discussion **TBD**

8. Adjourn 8:05 pm