



**TWO RIVERS COALITION**  
**January 11, 2017 BOARD MEETING**  
**Geneva Township Hall**

**Call to order:** 6:00 PM

**Attendees:** Kevin Haight, Kenneth Nesbitt, Bette Pierman, Paul VandenBosch, Dave Foerster, Joe VonWalde, Kyle Alexander, Kyle Boone (Representing Grant Poole, Pokagon Band) (board members underlined)

**Agenda** – January 11, 2017 agenda approved as amended

**Minutes of Regular Meeting Nov. 9 – approval deferred**

**January 2017 Treasurer Report**, hand-out provided: TRC has \$11,536.00 in Total Resources.

**Motion** by Bette Pierman, seconded by Paul VandenBosch to approve January 2017 Treasurer's Report, all in favor, motion carried.

**Announcements, events, deadlines, etc.:**

Jan 19- VBCC septic committee organizational mtg VBCC 1:00pm  
Feb 8- TRC meeting 6:00 p.m.  
Feb 8- Ox Creek Stakeholders meeting 6:00 p.m.  
Mar 8- VBCC Farming for the Future – Colleen Forestieri needs to give more information  
Mar 15- Molly Rippke of DEQ on E. coli, 7:00 p.m. LMC SH  
March 20- Volunteer recognition event with VBCC  
May 7- VSMP macro collection event  
July 21- Cardno Nursery Open House Field Trip—Tentative date per Kenneth Nesbitt

**Old Business**

**Annual Meeting recap:** # of attendees, presentations well-received, silent auction a success. Kevin is creating a form that can be sent to acknowledge donors and asks that each of the board members be responsible for sending those to each of the donors that they recruited. Discussion of next year's annual meeting and Kevin is arranging for Wednesday, December 6, if available.

**Grants:**

1. **VSMP with VBCC:** Collection event May 7. This is the last on the grant but the plan is to reapply.
2. **Stream Crossing Inventory with VBCC:** Completed, over 200 sites inventoried. Kevin acknowledged Bette Pierman for her work. Berrien County may be doing one, too.(?)
3. **PPR/Ox Creek with SWMLC and SWMPC:**
  - a] Report re: Kevin and Bette attending Steering Committee meeting Dec. 1. Bette attending Stakeholder mtg on Feb 8.



- b] Report re: Dave and Kevin attending Sarett mtg on Dec 20. C.E.'s complete. Discussion re match, short film, farmer event w/ BCCD.
  - c] met w/ Nancy C. on 1/10/17 re: March speaker event w/ BCCD, summer wetland field day
  - d] Pat Wisniewski gave suggestions to create a film
4. **Website changes:** Dave Foerster gave update on the Jim Scott Tribute on the webpage and changes to acknowledge in memoriam donations. Still need to find out from Joe Parman if Kevin and Bette have access to the latest, clearest version of the letterhead art.
  5. **Pine/Mill Creek 319 Grant with VBCD, Colleen Forestieri:** Program Grant Starts in September 2016. Volunteer opportunities possible for TRC? Colleen needs to report. Septic Meeting on January 19.
  6. **VSMP:** All data now on MICorps Data Exchange; Spring collection is Sunday, May 7.
  7. **Paw Paw River Water Trail (PPRWT):** Marcy has hired two contractors to do limited amount of Winter Work, however, the water is too high right now. County park in Watervliet approved for MNRTF funding. Hagar Twp authorized Abonmarche to submit grant request for Twp park on river in Riverside. Kevin has presentations scheduled at Lawrence Village/Twp meeting on January 24 and with the Van Buren Supervisors on February 23.

### New Business

**Election of Officers:** Kevin asked if there were any board members interested in holding a executive office. Paul VandenBosch moved to re-elect the current slate of officers; Joe VonWalde second. Voice vote and motion carried.

**TRC role (monitoring/watching/reporting) re: Palisades decommissioning?:** Paul VandenBosch brought concerns and discussion to the board with a proposed motion:

“The Two Rivers Coalition supports the termination of the purchased power agreement between Consumers Energy and Entergy, and it supports the shutdown and decommissioning of Palisades nuclear power plant.” The Board approved this motion. We discussed sending a letter to the Public Service Commission. (See suggested drafts attached to these minutes)

**DEQ E. coli TMDL presentation** by Molly Rippke on Wednesday, March 15 at LMC-SH, 7 PM

**TRC Sponsored Paddle Events:** Kenneth Nesbitt handed out a preliminary/tentative outline of events being considered for the upcoming year.

**VBCD/Notre Dame Pine Creek Grant Request:** Kevin Haight sent a letter of support per a request from Colleen Forestieri and Erin Fuller.

### **Fundraising:**

- a) We have been asked by the Livery to do another Community Pint Night in the spring on a Thursday from 5-8. We are also in discussion to do something with ArcLight in the summer in conjunction with a paddle.



- b) **Raffle License:** We still need to submit additional information to SOM to be qualified for raffle license.

**Annual Meeting date:** Discussion about possible dates and it was decided that the earlier date was better with all of the holiday activities. Kevin Haight is contacting the Van Buren Conference Center to reserve Wednesday, December 6.

**Freshwater Future Grants:** They have \$500-\$3,500 available. Spring cycle deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Check out what is available under the "Program Grant Category." Need to discuss next month.

**River Rally 2017 by River Network, May 8-11 at Amway Grand in Grand Rapids:** Member rate is \$449 or \$225/day (not including lodging). Kenneth wondered if cost sharing is a possibility.

**Future Speakers: Suggestions:** DEQ E.coli TMDL event with BCCD, Palisades Decommissioning Issues, ????

**TRC Board Open Seat:** We still have a TRC Board opening; please consider suggesting possible candidates.

**TRC T-shirts:** Kevin asked for approval to ask/pay PJ Chmiel to work on logo for T-shirt design.

**Next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, February 8 at Geneva Twp Hall.**

Adjourn. 8:10 PM

Respectively submitted:

Bette Pierman for Joe Parman, Secretary

**--SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES ATTACHED--**



Suggested Letters to Public Service Commission and Press Release from Paul VandenBosch re: Palisades Decommissioning—

**DRAFT**

January 11, 2017

Ms. Kavita Kale  
Executive Secretary  
Michigan Public Service Commission  
7109 West Saginaw Highway  
Post Office Box 30221  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

RE: Case No. U-18218

Dear Ms. Kale;

The Two Rivers Coalition is an environmental advocacy group with a focus on Lake Michigan, the Black River watershed and Paw Paw River watershed, which surround the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant.

The Two Rivers Coalition supports the Consumer's Energy Company's decision to terminate the power purchase agreement with Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC.

The Two Rivers Coalition supports shutdown and decommissioning of Palisades Nuclear Power Plant.

Sincerely;

Kevin Haight  
Chairman, Two Rivers Coalition



**DRAFT**

Press Release

January 11, 2017

The Two Rivers Coalition  
Kevin Haight, Chairman  
kevinhaight58@gmail.com

For Immediate Distribution

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The Two Rivers Coalition is an environmental advocacy group with a focus on Lake Michigan, the Black River watershed and Paw Paw River watershed, which surround the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant.

At its meeting of January 11, 2017, the Two Rivers Coalition approved a statement regarding the power purchase agreement between Consumer's Energy Company and Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC, as follows:

The Two Rivers Coalition supports the Consumer's Energy Company's decision to terminate the power purchase agreement with Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC.

The Two Rivers Coalition supports shutdown and decommissioning of Palisades Nuclear Power Plant.

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