

Two Rivers Coalition
July Board Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2017

Attendance: Kevin Haight, Bette Pierman, Paul VanderBosch, Kenneth Nesbitt, Grant Poole, Sam Ewbank and Colleen Forestieri

1. Meeting called to order at 6:09 pm
2. Minutes from June's meeting were approved. Paul approved, Grant seconds.
 - a. Minutes from November, March & February have not been approved. They are all on the website.
3. Announcements:
 - July 13 – MSEF-SH Speaker re decommissioning nuclear power plants
 - July 19 – Kevin sitting in on a panel about the future of MI air and water quality, 1PM
 - July 21- Cardno Native Plant Nursery open house/field trip, 9:30-4, must RSVP
 - July 25 – “Working with Cover Crops Field Day”, Niles 4-9
 - July 27- VBCD annual picnic (37360 52nd Ave. Paw Paw) 6-8:30
 - Aug 5- River Rescue (on hold?)
 - Aug 16 – next board meeting at Kevin's house
 - Sept 16 – Household Chemical Collection/ Tire Recycling South Haven 9-1
 - Sept 17 – Van Buren 4All Fall Bash at Camp Ronora – TRC host Line 5 petition table?
 - Oct 1- Fall macro collection, I.D. on Oct. 2
 - Oct 14- joint paddle on Black River w/SWMLC and B/SHHWTA
 - Oct 14- Grand Opening for Portman Preserve
 - Dec 13- TRC 9th Annual Meeting
4. Treasurer's Report: Little activity in June
 - a. Paul suggested allocating/authorizing/holding funds for the E.coli sampling project
5. Old Business

A] E.coli monitoring – Kevin Moved forward on gathering info for this project. Spoke with Marcy on sampling Ox Creek and was given site suggestions. There will also be 8 sites sampled in the Black River Watershed as well as 8 sites along the main tributaries of the Paw Paw. He also spoke with Dr. Wayne Gleiber who will provide bottles and analyze the samples.

Looking to take samples twice/year from about 25 sites (main tributaries). Dave motions to reserve \$1,000 for testing baseline data for E.coli in the Paw Paw and Black river watersheds. Paul seconds. All members agree to pass the motion.

B] PPR/Ox Creek with SWMLC and SWMPC-Trying to interest HP in another story; Kevin writing piece for SWMLC newsletter, grant period ends 12/31/17. Last month's wetlands event in Berrien County was a success.

C] Sam brought some T-shirt designs. The board agreed on his son's design and potentially using PJ's to revamp a letter head or use on the website. Discussion on getting a few different colors, so board member can have a choice. TRC will purchase each board member a shirt.

D] Paw Paw River Water Trail (PPRWT) – TRC attended the last stakeholder meeting. A URL was purchased and there was discussion on TRC acting as a fiduciary account for the PPRWT donations. No decisions were made on whether or not to accept that role.

E] Cardno Native Plant Nursery Open House- discussion on getting a carpool together. Kevin will put an announcement on Facebook.

F] Updating the PPRW Management Plan – Marcy has reached out to TRC about doing drive-by site visits to see if land management has changed and what improvements have been made. Still nothing new.

6. New Business

A] Line 5 shutdown campaign – Last month TRC motioned to write a letter to governor, Attorney general, Senators and local state representatives about supporting the shutdown of Line 5. Kevin shared a short and long version of the proposed resolution. Paul motioned to support Kevin's short resolution with edits discussed at the meeting. Bette supported motion. All members present at the meeting also supported resolution.

There will be an email or blog/letter (press release) and web update about this proposed resolution, so member know what position we take. Communication of decision to Oil and Water don't Mic campaign. Here is what the resolution looks like:

Two Rivers Coalition Resolution Calling for Shutdown of Line 5 under the Straits of Mackinac

IT IS RESOLVED THAT,

Because of Two Rivers Coalition's paramount interest in protecting the waters of the State of Michigan and the entire Great Lakes Basin to which the Paw Paw River and Black River flow, and because the potential risk to those waters from a spill or leak from the sixty-four year old Line 5 pipelines under the Straits of Mackinac is potentially catastrophic in terms of both environmental and economic damage, and because the risks of such a catastrophe far outweigh any short-term benefits to the people of the State of Michigan from continued transportation of crude oil products through Line 5,

THEREFORE, Two Rivers Coalition calls upon elected state and federal governmental representatives and relevant regulatory entities to immediately shut down Line 5.

Adopted July 12, 2017

B] Kevin proposed to move August's meeting to August 6 at his home in Lawrence. Paul motioned to approve moving the meeting back a week and Bette supported motion.

C] Maple Lake Drawdown/Sediment Issue – Kevin will write Larry Nielsen (and copy Dave Sons) at the Village asking 1) TRC needs to see if the village is going to attempt testing the suspended solids at drawdown and encourage them to do so. 2) TRC needs to ask if they have done testing on sediment, if not testing needs to be done. See letter next page.

D] Kevin has contacted Dr. St. Amand of Phycotech as speaker for either Fall or Annual Meeting; maybe find speaker on Line 5, sometime have A.J. Brucks do summary of data from 3 year VSMP project. Decided this needs to be a fall speaker verses and annual meeting speaker. She will speak between Oct. 16-20.

Spoke on other ideas for annual meeting. History of Pokagon Band area (Grant looking into), Calumet/N Indiana area being relocated for lead contamination...what is the remediation/action plan? MEANDERS (Sp) what projects are they working on? Dog sniffers, Turtle Dave, Sierra Club projects?

Meeting adjourned 8:15 pm

Notes taken by Colleen Forestieri

Maple Lake Drawdown/Sediment Issue Letter to Larry Nielsen 7/13/17

Hi Larry,

As you know, TRC has been asked to take a position on future permit applications by the Village to the MDEQ to perform drawdowns on Maple Lake. We discussed this again last night at our monthly board meeting. A consensus has emerged as follows:

- 1] TRC strongly supports additional testing for TSS during any future drawdowns to better analyze and understand the amount of increased sediments (especially during rain events) that may be carried over the dam into the river;
- 2] TRC would like to be provided the data/test results from the testing for TSS which was gathered during this past winter's drawdown;
- 3] TRC would like to be provided any and all data/test results from past testing of the lake bottom sediments, specifically as it relates to concentrations of toxic or hazardous materials. I realize that we may have been previously provided this information and, therefore, would appreciate being pointed to the location of this data/test results in what we were previously provided;
- 4] TRC strongly urges the MDEQ and/or Village to perform additional/follow-up testing of lake bottom sediments in both the southern and northern basins to better understand the nature of any concentrations of toxic/hazardous material and thus be better able to analyze and assess the risk to the environment and users of Maple Lake.
- 5] Pending receipt and analysis of the additional information, TRC is not taking a formal position at this time with regard to any future permit applications to perform drawdowns.

I am copying Dave Sons on this email so that he knows where TRC stands on this issue.

Thanks,
Kevin