



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

**Board Meeting Minutes
Geneva Twp. Hall
Tuesday July 17, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to order, 6:09

Present: Dave Foerster, Bette Pierman, Kyle Boone, Joe Parman, Kyak Kenneth, Kevin Haight, Paul Vanden Bosch and Dick Curtis (TRC Board members underlined)

2. Minutes of June 19, 2018-corrections/approval:

Motion by Dave, seconded by Bette to approve June 19, 2018 minutes as corrected, all in favor, motion approved.

3. Announcements, events, deadlines, etc.:

July- Series of community paddles on PPR

COLOMA- Sat July 21 RIVERSIDE- Sun July 22

LAWRENCE- Sat July 28 PAW PAW- Sun July 29

July 25 (Wed) - AJ Brucks to speak on 5 years of VSMP data at VBCC. Coffee, cookies, and socializing at 6:30, program at 7:00.

Aug 4 (Sat) - River Rescue w/ VBCD. Need segment leaders.

Aug 15 (Wed) - VBCD Annual picnic, Stanley Johnston Park S. Haven 5:30

Aug 21 (Tues) - next TRC meeting

Sept. 12 (Wed) - VBCD Conservation Fair 3-7 pm; Ely Park Hartford. TRC invited.

Sept 15 (Sat) - Joint paddle/picnic on Black River w/ B/SH HWTA

Sept 30 (Sun) - VSMP (Need leaders); identification on Oct.1

Oct 17 (Wed) BSHWTA Annual Meeting

Nov 8 (Thur) - TRC 10th Annual Meeting, Van Buren Conference Center

4. Treasurer's Report, May - Nesbitt, Handout provided: \$12,235 Total Resources, \$250 in Expenditures: Freshwater Future and River Network dues.

5. Old Business:

A) Report from Pierman re: Sierra Club (co-host films?), BCCD, and/or MSEF

Three videos on CAFO's, showing a Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence, 6:00 pm social, 7:00 pm showing

TRC possibly partner on showing movie, Tapped: water bottle industry, plastics pollution and climate change.

B) Sam re T-shirt accounting. KH giving KN check for \$24. VBCD owes \$40

C) Haight to continue to work on by-law changes, **no new update currently.**

D) Pint Night fundraiser: \$80 from The Livery, \$55 in donations.

6. New Business/Projects/Funded Grants

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

Ox Creek redevelopment draft version of website link: <http://oxcreek.twopiers.com/> The permanent site will be at www.sustainoxcreek.org when finished next month. Marcy Hamilton applied for \$800,000, information coming soon.

B) Pine/Mill Creek: Kevin attended septic meeting on July 12th. Green festival to highlight septic health/maintenance is September 12th. TOST on hold pending gathering data this summer and depending on status of statewide legislative initiative (pre-emption issue). Bill in State Legislature on state wide TOST, possible state committee?

Kyle Boone: Grant Poole, Pokagon Band is testing Pine Creek on Pokagon property for E. coli, EDNA testing.

7. New grant projects: PPR/BR Watershed Management Plans Update, Ox Creek 319, Hall Park Invasives, E. coli testing
Testing sampling for human waste will be done at the lab and dog sniffers.

A) E. coli sampling: TRC has received a \$1500 grant from Freshwater Future to be used between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. TRC voted last meeting to spend up to \$1500 of own funds to fully implement project. Need to finalize sampling protocol. Final report due July 31, 2019.

- Need sampling sticks and 500ml HDPE bottles

- Sampling Protocol:

1. Sample after rain event and manure spreading
2. Dry weather, no rain for 3 days
3. Re-sample areas of concern from South Haven Lab bottles

8. Non grant projects: VSMP, PPRWT, River Rescue

A) PPRWT- Community paddles: 12 paddlers at Hartford, 20 at Watervliet. KH presented today to SJ/BH Kiwanis. River level has finally come down and contractors have started working on various priority segments. Watervliet and Coloma paid to have their section cleaned.

B) River Rescue on Sat Aug 4. Still need PPR segment leaders to lead groups of paddlers. B/SH HWTA not able to participate.

C) Speakers: AJ on 7/25; Ryan Postema of COL agreed to speak on date TBD; no response yet from WMU prof David Karowe re climate change and lakes. **no new update currently.**

D) 10th Annual meeting has been changed and VBCC now reserved for Thursday Nov 8th, Van Buren Conference Center

Van Buren ISD in Lawrence is starting a new program for student call Reconnect with nature/outdoors.

7. Adjourn 7:25 p.m.