



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

**Board Meeting Minutes
Geneva Twp. Hall
Tuesday, October 16, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to order, 6:07

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

2. Minutes of September 18, 2018-corrections/approval:

Motion by Colleen, seconded by Sam to approve September 18, 2018 minutes as corrected, all in favor, motion approved.

3. Announcements, events, deadlines, etc.:

- Oct 17 (Wed) B/SH HWTA Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m., 652 Phoenix Rd., South Haven
- Oct 25 (Thur) Septic System Committee, Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence, 10-12:00
- Nov 8 (Thur) - TRC 10th Annual Meeting

4. Treasurer's Report - October: Nesbitt: Hand-out provided. \$2,319.00 in Total Disbursements for sampling tests and meeting supplies, \$11,174.00 in Resources Available

5. Old Business:

- Report from Pierman, report on **Sierra Club**, BCCD, and/or MSEF:
 - Sierra Club electing new Executive Committee.
 - BCCD: Hired new Produce Safety/food Safety person.
- FwF E.coli testing grant: Need final dry event sampling, current high waters would skew results, Need 4-6 days of dry weather.

6. Non-Grant Projects:

- Paw Paw River Trail: Marcy Hamilton is meeting with local governmental units on funding for administration of the water trail. Proposal would have 10 units of government pay \$500 each plus monies for maintenance.
- Berrien County had the grand opening of the Paw Paw River County Park on October 4th, canoe and kayak launch.
- VSMP: 2018 sampling and collecting have been completed. Isaac Walding League is creating a VSMP data base, Goal is 100,000 sites.

6. New Business/Projects/Funded Grants:

- TRC's proposed funding of herbicide treatment for Japanese Knotweed: 2 areas along Ox Creek in the City of Benton Harbor. Pet Boerma, a local philanthropist would donate monies to TRC for treatment and TRC would pay the bill for Spraying.

Motion by Kevin, 2nd by Joe Parman to fund the treatment of Japanese Knotweed along the Ox Creek watershed (Benton Harbor area), not to exceed \$1,000.

Roll Call Vote: Y-Bette Pierman, Y-Kyle Boone, Y-Joe Parman, Y-Kyak Kenneth, Y-Kevin Haight, Y-Joe von Wahlde, Y- Dave Foerster, Y-Sam Ewbank and Y-Colleen Forestieri, motion approved.

-Proposed amendments to Articles V and X of bylaws: Board discussed possible new bylaw changes.

Article V, Section F. Election of Board Members:

Motion by Joe Parman, seconded by Bette to amend Article V, Section F. Election of Board Members to the following;

The Board of Directors has the sole authority to elect members of the Board and shall elect Directors to fill specific terms when those terms expire or when there is a vacancy. No name may be placed in nomination without consent of the nominee. To the extent possible, consideration shall be given to have representation on the board from both the Black River and Paw Paw River watersheds.

Roll Call Vote: Y-Bette Pierman, Y-Kyle Boone, Y-Joe Parman, Y-Kyak Kenneth, Y-Kevin Haight, Y-Joe von Wahlde, Y- Dave Foerster, Y-Sam Ewbank and Y-Colleen Forestieri, motion approved.

Article X. Membership Meetings, Sections A & B:

Motion by Kenneth, seconded by Sam to amend Article X. Membership Meetings, Sections A & B to the following;

- A. *A membership meeting of TRC will be held at least annually in the 4th quarter of each year, or as soon thereafter as possible, at a place designated by the Board of Directors.*
- B. *The membership meeting in the 4th quarter of each year will be known as the annual meeting for the purpose of receiving reports from officers and committees and for any other business which shall properly come before the meeting.*

Roll Call Vote: Y-Bette Pierman, Y-Kyle Boone, Y-Joe Parman, Y-Kyak Kenneth, Y-Kevin Haight, Y-Joe von Wahlde, Y- Dave Foerster, Y-Sam Ewbank and Y-Colleen Forestieri, motion approved.

7. Annual Meeting: Board held discussion on final plans for 10th Annual Meeting on November 8th, Van Buren Conference Center, Doors open at 6:30. Board member will meet at 6:00 pm for set-up.

Schedule is as follow:

-6:00 set-up

-6:30 Doors open, social time/desserts and auction items

-7:00 Kevin, opening remarks

-7:30 Last chance, silent auction bidding

-7:45 Guest speaker, David Karowe

Motion by Sam, seconded by Collen to adjourn, all in favor, motion carries.

Adjourn 7:42 p.m.

Joe Parman
Board Secretary