



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

**Board Meeting Minutes
Geneva Twp. Hall
Tuesday, September 18, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.**

1. Call to order, 6:07

Present: Bette Pierman, Grant Poole, Joe Parman, Kyak Kenneth, Kevin Haight, Paul Vanden Bosch and Colleen Forestieri (TRC Board members underlined)

2. Minutes of August 21, 2018-corrections/approval:

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

3. Announcements, events, deadlines, etc.:

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

Oct 10 (Wed) Nancy Carpenter, Oak Wilt Disease, SMC Niles Campus, 6:30-8:30

Nov 8 (Thur) - TRC 10th Annual Meeting

4. Treasurer's Report - September: Nesbitt: Hand-out provided. \$859.00 in Total Disbursements for sampling tests and meeting supplies, \$11,174.00 in Resources Available

5. Old Business:

A) Report from Pierman, report on **Sierra Club**, BCCD, and/or MSEF

Less = More films well received. The Politics of the Environment presentation was held on August 31st with 11 Candidates and 58 people in attendance.

B) Haight plans to present by-law changes to board at next meeting; time of annual meeting, voting for board members (Directorship organization conflict)

C) **Black River Fall Paddle and Picnic:** report by Kenneth: 7 boats needed while 30 others brought own boats with 42 participants.

6. New Business/Projects/Funded Grants:

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

Ox Creek redevelopment website link: www.sustainoxcreek.org

Pine/Mill: Healthy Home Fair at Ely Park well attended in Hartford, 180 participants

B) **New grant projects:** PPR/BR Watershed Management Plans Update, Ox Creek 319, Hall Park Invasives, E. coli testing

1) **E. coli sampling:** Kevin and Paul have both completed 2 out of 3 rounds of testing. 3rd round will involve ship and sniff.

2) **Ox Creek 319:** large grant provisionally awarded, issues w/ contract?

C) **Colleen -VBCD Report:** Health Department is not a motivated partner in programs on septic system education. MDEQ has new maps on spreading of human and bovine waste for ag. Conservation District recycling event in South Haven on September 15th was received well with 200+ attending.

D) **Non-grant projects: VSMP, PPRWT, River Rescue**

- 1) **PPRWT:** Steering committee met Sept 11. Trail maintenance work complete. Discussed future structure and funding of PPRWT group. Grant and monies done/gone. SWMPC offered to manage program for \$5,000. PPRWT will still need monies for trail maintenance work needed annually.
- 2) **VSMP:** Need leaders for Sept 30th; need experts for ID on Monday Oct 1st.

E) **Benton Harbor/St. Joe- harbor design visioning focus group** on September 25, 2018, 6:00 pm at Kinexus (old Michigan Works Building)

7. **Planning for 10th Annual Meeting on November 8th:** WMU prof David Karowe will deliver keynote Re: climate change and local effects. **Need donors of items for silent auction.** Need flier.

Bette to discuss commemorative gifts for attendees. Whose terms are up? Slate of candidates?

- 1) Board discussed Bette's idea of 16 oz. glasses with TRC logo for annual meeting.
Motion by Joe, seconded by Kevin for Bette to order 100 plus 16 oz., pint glasses for TRC annual meeting, not to exceed \$600; all in favor, motion carries.
- 2) Board held discussion on annual meeting flyer: Joe Parman will create flyer and email to board for approval.
- 3) Bette suggested recognizing 3-4 founding board members at annual meeting in honor of 10th Anniversary.

8. Adjourn 7:45 p.m.

Joe Parman
Board Secretary