



RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED COUNCIL

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**River Raisin Watershed Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2021 - 10:30 AM
Via Zoom/320 Springbrook Avenue, Suite 102 Meeting Room
Adrian MI 49221**

1. Roll Call

Chairman Calhoun called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

Executive Committee members present: John Calhoun, Sybil Kolon, Harry Sheehan, KZ Bolton, and Trudi Cooper

Executive Committee members absent: David Hoffman, Phil Kittredge

Others present: Stephen May – RRWC Executive Director, Meija Knafl – RRWC Outreach Coordinator, Gerald Schorin, Dawn Parsons (Zoom) - Sand Lake Property Owners Association, Annette Roesch (Zoom)- Cambridge Township Clerk, Jerry Isom (Zoom), Bill Gentner - Cambridge Township Supervisor

2. Approval of Agenda - October 19, 2021

Motion by Cooper, second by Kolon to approve the agenda with the addition of Hane Conservation Easement and Manchester Canoe Race under New Business.

MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

3. Approval of Minutes - September 21, 2021 and the special meeting minutes of October 1, 2021

a. Motion by Kolon to approve the September 21 Minutes as presented, second by Sheehan. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

b. Motion by Kolon, second by Sheehan to correct the October 1 Special Meeting Minutes by removing the final paragraph after the section "Further Discussion" and approve them. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

4. Treasurer's Report

a. The Treasurer's Report for the period September 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021 was distributed and reviewed by Bolton. Revenue – **\$240.19** - Expenses - **\$38,609.35** – Balance to date: **\$43,212.18**. Motion by Bolton, second by Sheehan to accept and file the September Treasurer's Report. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

b. 2021 Budget YTD – revenue: \$88,221.80; expenditures: \$106,460.19.

c. Approve Disbursements for Outstanding Bills: New bills reported August 18, 2021 – September 21, 2021: Lenawee Conservation District - \$250; Niswander Environmental - \$13,500; Meija Knafl Mileage Reimbursement - \$215.38; Lenawee County Drain Commission Printing and Purchasing - \$24,643.97; Total - \$38,609.35. Motion by Kolon, second by Bolton to authorize payment of these bills. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

- d. 2022 Budget
 - i. Motion by Bolton to approve budget to present to the general members, second by Cooper. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

5. Public Comments

Bolton brought up the need for approval of powers granted to the check signers on the new bank account for County National Bank. Motion by Cooper, second by Sheehan, to authorize Calhoun, Sheehan and Bolton to exercise all powers granted in the bank resolution. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

6. Executive Director Updates (See Report – on file)

- a. Updated giving:
 - i. All 52 municipal memberships are accounted for.
 - ii. 4 corporate memberships
 - iii. 24 individual memberships
- b. Watershed Support Grant
 - i. Official offer has been made to the candidate, Gerry Schorin, who has accepted, and has met with staff several times to begin official duties. A one page contract was distributed.
- c. Upper Wolf Creek Watershed Management Grant
 - i. Conservation District has agreed to participate in grant activities
 - ii. New Limnotech staff member joining the team
- d. Water School
 - i. Met for Water School with Representative Yousef Rabhi
 - ii. Representative Sarah Lightner will be attending October 28
- e. Brooklyn Dam Removal
 - i. Initial assessment complete
 - ii. Still analyzing initial survey data before moving into next steps
- f. RRWC Banking Update
 - i. Last payments will be made to Premier Banking as we officially move into County National Bank

7. Outreach Updates

- a. Past activities
 - i. Water School with Representative Rabhi
 - ii. Meeting with new Limnotech Staff Member joining the Upper Wolf Creek Watershed Management Plan team
 - iii. Adopt-a-Stream Stream Searches have been going well, and will be wrapping up in the next week. Also began bug ID, which we expect to continue into next month
 - iv. Included two LISD classes in Stream Search activities in Adrian at Heritage Park
 - v. Attended the LISD Advisory Council Meeting
 - vi. Assisted in coordination of Conservation Stewards Program, which will be wrapping up on November 10
 - vii. Tales on the Trails program with Saline Public Library
 - viii. Attended Tecumseh Appleumpkin
 - ix. LEPOA Board Meeting presentation
 - x. River Clean Up in Adrian on Oct 16

- xi. Upcoming Nature Walk in Saline on the 21 of October
- xii. Upcoming Autumn 2021 Semi-Annual Meeting

8. Programs/Partnership Updates

- a. JLW CISMA
 - i. Agreed to a staff time match support for 2022
- b. Erb Family Foundation Farmer-Led Conservation Working Group
 - i. Working on Year 3 of the 3-Year Grant, will have a planning meeting to launch year 3.
 - ii. Dec 9 is the Annual Meeting

9. Committee Reports

Outreach – None.

Technical – None.

Development – Working toward setting a significant, 5 to 10 year goal for RRWC and the member community. Fundraising is still in the planning stages, with major focus being on corporate and individual membership. The 50 Year Anniversary is also coming up!

Administrative – None.

Financial – None.

10. Old Business

- a. Semi-Annual Meeting
 - i. Speaker, location, date, and time are set.

11. New Business

- a. Cambridge Township Easement - This item was addressed after approval of minutes due to schedules of interested attendees.
 - i. Kolon explained that the Raisin Valley Land Trust is dissolving and passing easements and assets on to Legacy Land Conservancy. An easement in Cambridge Township along a channel to Sand Lake does not meet the Legacy Land Conservancy qualifications, and therefore Raisin Valley Land Trust asks to have the River Raisin Watershed Council take on this easement. After discussion, motion by Bolton, second by Cooper to proceed with investigation on the transfer of the easement to RRWC pending attorney review of documents, with interest in acquiring it. Kolon abstained from the vote. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**
- b. Canoe and Kayak Race in Manchester
 - i. Kolon explained the difficulty the Manchester community is having with obtaining affordable insurance for the race, which RRWC has assisted with the past two years. RRWC is willing to assume sponsorship this coming year, in cooperation with community groups in Manchester who will continue to perform most of the duties. Kolon will assist with this effort and expects that funds will be raised to offset RRWC expenses.
- c. EGLE Watershed Support Grant 2022
 - i. Decide on and submit a proposal.

12. Next Meeting - November 16, 2021 from 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

In Tecumseh if available, otherwise at the Lenawee County Drain Commissioner Office or via Zoom

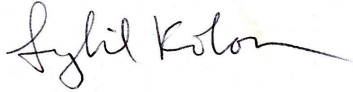
13. Adjournment

Motion by Cooper, seconded by Bolton to adjourn at 12:01 PM. **MOTION CARRIED
BY VOICE VOTE**

Respectfully submitted by Meija Knafel - Outreach Coordinator - 11/11/21

Date: _____

Secretary:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sybil Kolon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "n".