

# **RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED COUNCIL**

320 Springbrook Avenue □ Suite 102 □ Adrian, MI □ 49221 □ 517-264-4754  
[rrwc@lenawee.mi.us](mailto:rrwc@lenawee.mi.us) □ [www.riverraisin.org](http://www.riverraisin.org)

## **RRWC Semi-Annual Spring Meeting – Minutes April 27, 2017 Cabela’s – Dundee, MI**

### **Representatives Present:**

#### **City/Twp./Village/County:**

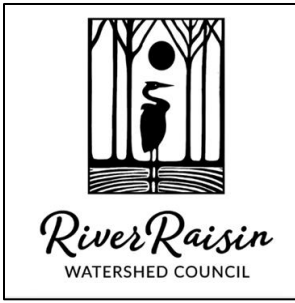
#### **Name:**

<u>Blissfield Township</u>	Al Navarro
<u>Bridgewater Township</u>	Laurie Fromhart
<u>Cambridge Township</u>	Laurie Johncox
<u>City of Monroe</u>	Robert Clark
<u>City of Saline</u>	Christen Mitchell
<u>City of Saline</u>	Dennis Kittel
<u>Clinton Township</u>	Buck Alar
<u>Columbia Township</u>	John Calhoun
<u>Dundee Township</u>	Gary Lazette
<u>Fairfield Township</u>	Martha Oard
<u>Frenchtown Charter Township</u>	Hedi Kaufman
<u>Frenchtown Charter Township</u>	David Smith
<u>Lenawee County</u>	Karol Bolton
<u>Lenawee County</u>	John Lapham
<u>Madison Township</u>	Matt Carpenter
<u>Manchester Township</u>	Sybil Kolon
<u>Milan Township</u>	Olga Mancik
<u>Monroe Charter Township</u>	Richard Janssens
<u>Monroe County</u>	David Hoffman
<u>Norvell Township</u>	David Lamb
<u>Raisinville Township</u>	Chuck Haddix
<u>Rollin Township</u>	Irma David
<u>Sharon Township</u>	Jim Mann
<u>Summerfield Township</u>	John Chandler
<u>Village of Blissfield</u>	James Wonacott
<u>Village of Brooklyn</u>	Bob Jenson
<u>Village of Brooklyn</u>	Jae Guetschow
<u>Village of Manchester</u>	Pat Vaillencourt
<u>Village of Onsted</u>	Robert Wolverton
<u>Washtenaw County</u>	Harry Sheehan
<u>Woodstock Township</u>	Randy Kennard

### **Others Present:**

#### **Name:**

Allie Hoeft
Amy Gilhouse
Ann Lacasse
Bill Koebbe
Bonnie Foss
Brittany Santure
Cherry Haddix
Chris Hoeft
Dale Zorn
David Rhoads
George Service
Gerry Donaldson
Jen Johnson
Jim Martin
John Farmer
John Hummer
Larry Feldspaush
Laurie Ashline
Lindsay Garrison
Mark Johnson
Martha Churchill
Marty Kaufman
Michael McClenden
Scott Bentley
Vicki Coscarelli



## ***RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED COUNCIL***

*320 Springbrook Avenue □ Suite 102 □ Adrian, MI □ 49221 □ 517-264-4754*

*[rrwc@lenawee.mi.us](mailto:rrwc@lenawee.mi.us) □ [www.riverraisin.org](http://www.riverraisin.org)*

### **1. Call to Order:**

- Semi-Annual meeting was called to order by John Calhoun, Chair of the Council at 6:30pm.

### **2. Introductions:**

- Various introductions of special guests from the Lenawee Conservation District, River Raisin Institute, and Adopt-A-Stream were offered by John Calhoun.

### **3. Roll Call:**

- Roll call found 31 representatives from 28 paid municipalities of the watershed present.

### **4. Approval of the Agenda:**

- Christen Mitchell from City of Saline made the motion, seconded by Bob Jenson from Village of Brooklyn to approve the agenda. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

### **5. Approval of the Fall Business Meeting Minutes – October 20, 2016:**

- Motion was made by Hedi Kaufman from Frenchtown Charter Township and seconded by Robert Wolverton of Village of Onsted to approve the minutes as amended. Amendments to the minutes included three corrections including: (1) Under the approval of the spring business meeting minutes: It was stated that it (not is) was for the Executive Committee... (2) Under Treasurer's Report: Last sentence...that would have income of approximately \$4,500 (not \$45,00). (3) Under the programs: Last sentence...currently have a loss of 202,000 acres of wetlands (not watershed) in the River Raisin Watershed. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

### **6. Treasurer's Report:**

- The Treasurer's report was given by Laurie Johncox. Bob Jenson of Village of Brooklyn motioned, and Richard Janssens of Monroe Township seconded to accept the Treasurer's report and place it on file. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

### **7. Chairman Update:**

- The Nominating Committee slate of officers was presented, those include: Jim Wonacott of Village of Blissfield, George Service of Village of Clinton, & Hedi Kaufman of Frenchtown Charter Township.
- The poll for Executive Committee officers opened. Hedi Kaufman of Frenchtown Charter Township reported that the officers have agreed to serve again on the River Raisin Watershed Council. A motion was made by Hedi Kaufman, and Bob Jenson seconded to approve the officers of the Executive Committee. **Motion carried by voice vote.**



## ***RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED COUNCIL***

***320 Springbrook Avenue □ Suite 102 □ Adrian, MI □ 49221 □ 517-264-4754***

***[rrwc@lenawee.mi.us](mailto:rrwc@lenawee.mi.us) □ [www.riverraisin.org](http://www.riverraisin.org)***

- Mark and Jen Johnson of Tecumseh Paddling Company were honored with a certificate of excellence, RRWC t-shirts, and a fish carved of wood, for their tremendous support and assistance they provided by cleaning parts of the River alongside the 2016 AmeriCorps Cedar 3 Team.
- Sybil Kolon of Manchester Township announced the results of our second annual “Discover the Raisin” awards. The four schools were highlighted and received \$200.00 each to put towards educational materials for their class project related to the watershed. The following school teachers were awarded:
  - Vicki Coscarelli – 3rd grade class of Clinton Elementary – Project: Water, Water Everywhere.
  - Alexandra Hoefft - 3rd grade class of Herrick Park Elementary, Tecumseh Public Schools – Ecosystem Organisms at Globe Mill Pond.
  - Bill Koebbe – 3rd grade class of Madison School – Project: Weather Unit.
  - Jennifer Marlatt – 5th grade class of Onsted Elementary – Project: Pollution & Runoff.
- The Honorable Michigan Senator Dale Zorn was introduced.

### **8. Executive Director (Steve May) Update:**

- Steve May discussed the 2017 initiatives, including partnership, assistance, conservation, preservation in the River Raisin Watershed.
- Brittany Jacobs was introduced as the Watershed Planner.
- Steve talked about many items the River Raisin Watershed Council was involved in, including:
  - 2017 Membership – 63 total municipalities with 47 paid memberships, 10 individual memberships and 4 corporate sponsorships, thus far.
  - Updates referring to the 2016 AmeriCorps Cedar 3 Team and the new application deadlines for a second team for later in the 2017 year. Community assistance and partners are requested to be involved in the application and hosting the team. The AmeriCorps Team of 2016 had cleaned approximately 2 miles of River in the City of Adrian and removed 72 tons of debris!
  - Regional Watershed Meetings – the River Raisin Watershed was divided into four groups (Regions: Northwest, Northeast, Southwest, & Southeast) of delegates and representatives in order to focus and customize action and involvement for each region.
  - Adopt-A-Stream spring 2017 dates and updates were announced as tentative.
  - An update on the “Cooling the Hot Spots” funding as continuation for 3 years starting in 2015. Dr. Martin from Adrian College is organizing the sampling with his Biology classes. (Handout)
  - ERB Family Foundation – Farmer-Led Watershed Conservation was discussed. This grant provides \$160,000 per year for three years, with yearly review and renewal. RRWC has partnered with Lenawee Conservation District as well as Michigan Association of Conservation Districts to organize and continue with the previously known Farmers Advisory Committee. Farmer-Led Conservation goals were presented. (Handout)
  - The Watershed Council is also working with the National Parks Service. Technical assistance is requested for the river trails and conservation assistance.
  - Watershed signage was updated. There have been numerous River Raisin logo signs installed throughout the watershed within Lenawee County for road crossings over the River including the Kiwanis Trail river crossings. Funding is needed to expand signage throughout the Watershed into Washtenaw, Monroe & Jackson Counties.

***PARTNER □ PROTECT □ PRESERVE***



## **RIVER RAISIN WATERSHED COUNCIL**

320 Springbrook Avenue □ Suite 102 □ Adrian, MI □ 49221 □ 517-264-4754

[rrwc@lenawee.mi.us](mailto:rrwc@lenawee.mi.us) □ [www.riverraisin.org](http://www.riverraisin.org)

- The Clinton Art Center partnership was highlighted. The beautiful tiles with our logo were shown, as well as the cups.
- Upcoming events were listed and anyone interested in attending or helping out at any event is welcome! One other addition: May 21 is the Manchester Canoe Race.
- Steve also talked about the 2017 Watershed tasks and initiatives. A handout listed the targets for the year.

### **9. Programs:**

- Speaker – Scott Bentley, National Parks Service, “River Raisin Battlefield Park and Visitor Center” He presented a wonderful history of the area and park ranging from the Anishanabee Indians, the importance of the natural resources in the area, what life was like for the 1600’s, 1700’s and 1800’s, to the War of 1812 and beyond. He reported that the Battlefield Park saw 202,375 visitors last year.

### **10. Old Business:**

- None

### **11. New Business:**

- Clinton Arts Center products will be on sale at Hidden Lake Gardens on May 13 and 14 (Mother’s Day).
- Amy Gilhouse spoke about the “Fields to the Great Lakes” program with the Tall Ship Sail Workshops and the Western Lake Erie Basin MAEAP & Conservation Practices Day Conferences. (Handout).

### **12. Adjournment:**

- With no further business to come before us at this time a motion was made by Bob Jenson, seconded by David Hoffman to adjourn the meeting. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karol “KZ” Bolton, Secretary  
River Raisin Watershed Council