

Approved Minutes

Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed

Board of Directors' Meeting
Thursday, February 18, 10:00 am
Wirt Public Library – 2nd Floor Large Study Room
500 Center Street Bay City, MI

Meeting Attendees

Bill Wright -- PSBW – Chair

Laura Ogar -- Bay County, PSBW V/Chair

Dennis Zimmerman -- PSBW, SPAC

John Riley – MDEQ – OGL

Jo Ellen Strieter – Administrative Services Contractor

Summary of Meeting's Action Items

- Discuss Annual Meeting
- Dues Requirement
- Nominating Committee
- Strategic Planning
- Next Meeting is TBD. Location TBA
- Meeting was adjourned at 12:12 pm

Unapproved Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2016

Attachments & Pass-out Items for the Meeting included:

Minutes of January 28, 2016 Meeting

Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed – Moving Forward (A strategic planning discussion starter)

Michigan Planner (provided by Dennis)

The meeting of the PSBW Board of Directors' was convened by **Chair/Wright** at 10:12 am. It was determined that a quorum was not present, we would serve as a Committee of the Partnership. Minutes were not addressed.

Treasurer – No Treasurer Report was given

Riley explained process for paying Administrative Services Contractor. Bay County is the Grantee for the PAC Support Grant issued by the DEQ. Therefore, the DEQ will pay Bay County, according to invoices, receipts, etc. that the county submits in support of its expenses. That means the Administrative Services Contractor invoices either the Partnership or the County (it doesn't matter to the DEQ), then Bay County applies to the DEQ for reimbursement, showing the appropriate supporting documentation. The Contractor should NOT invoice the DEQ.

Wright mentioned a letter **Ogar** had submitted to fulfill board openings and that the **Hill** position with Board has expired. **Jensen** submitted a letter of resignation.

Group discussed the difficulty we are having in setting a date for the Annual Meeting in February that would have a quorum. **Ogar** mentioned she could relook at the 29th. **Zimmerman** cannot adjust his schedule after March 11th due to unavailability. Group is looking at potentially holding Annual Meeting in April and a regular board meeting in March.

Discussion followed on dues and that we would need to look at a bi law change for dues and our 11 member board with two members from each watershed switching to 1 from each watershed and the rest being at large. **Ogar** mentioned in 2013 the Partnership did a big drive for new members geographically and we never got 11 members.

Ogar mentioned an April 22 SBCI event. **Jansen** stated there's no right or wrong interest in larger watershed. Group discussion proceeded on what is the capacity of the Partnership and **Wright** stated a public advisory committee for the AOC.

With respect to strategic planning **Ogar** mentioned AOC work. Let's focus some of the problems come from the land. **Zimmerman** stated nutrients are our primary problem.

Discussion followed on need for geographic spread; **Riley** will assist **Wright** on wording. **Wright** on Remedial Action Plan; public advisory is not driving the bus. The attached discussion document is heading in that direction. In regards to multiple stressors document we don't know how we can do a lot with this without expertise. **Riley** mentioned we have the ability to get experts to handle this. We have experts on beaches. SBI brought in a real good one. **Zimmerman** suggested beach closing would be at the top of the list. Discussion followed on BUI's as outlined in document. Have we adequately defined targets? **Riley** stated that targets are defined for Saginaw Bay Habitats and Deregulations. Discussion followed that they may have been premature. **Riley** mentioned that we can reopen, when we do things, we learn certain things. Sometimes it is an educated guess. If we have numbers-targets, we can embark on part of the Strategic Plan. We should address our organizational structure, once board is engaged we can relook at these targets. Once engaged we can relook at these targets; Acceptance of Loss of Fish and Wildlife/removed from BUI's. **Riley** will look at this. **Ogar** based on approved criteria Habitat dealt with wetlands and that did not adequately deal with Habitat. If we could build Habitat/population will flourish.

Group decided we should focus on organization and single priority.

Our next meeting should focus on Bi-Law changes, Board Membership, opening up PSPW membership requirements and eliminated dues. Also to encourage donations. Discussion followed on SBCI being a subset of our geography and that it misses the intimacy of the AOC. If Partnership wants to be Watershed should we look at SBCI becoming the public advisory group without PAC designation it is difficult to see how the Partnership would survive without PAC support.

Next Steps: Restructure to be more open enrollment or Partnership states that it is the AOC.

Resolution needed – the key is to get local units of government involved. **Zimmerman** stated too much time is spent on science and not on economic development. Economics is based on muck, beach closing and fish.

Riley, let him know how he can help

Adjourn at 12.15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo Ellen Strieter – Administrative Services Contractor

January 28, 2016