

## Minutes February 2019

### Board of Director Minutes

### Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed

#### *Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed Board Members are:*

**Taylor Brook** – Director  
**Jim Hergott** - Director  
**Robin Oeming** – Director  
**Dennis Zimmerman** - Secretary

**Zygmunt Dworzecki** - Director  
**Elan Lipschitz** - Director  
**Glenn Rowley** – Director

**Pete Frauson**- Treasurer  
**Laura Ogar**-Vice-Chair  
**Bill Wright** – Chair

**February 5, 2019 – 10:00 pm to 12:00 pm - Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes**

Bay County Building- 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
515 Center Avenue - Bay City, Michigan

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#### Summary of Meeting's Action Items:

- Submission and acceptance of January 7, 2019 Minutes.
  - **Frauson** will look into a \$20 service charge from Huntington Bank.
  - **Wright** will see about bringing Rhonda Wuycheck in to speak at the March or April board meeting.
  - **Next Meeting Date, March 5, 2019 from 10:00 – Noon at the Bay County Building 515 Center Avenue in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Personnel Conference Room. Restoration Sub-committee to meet after this meeting at 12 pm at the same location.**
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**Wright** convened the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Board Members present included: **Brook, Dworzecki, Frauson, Ogar, Rowley, Zimmerman, and Wright.** Also, present were: **John Riley**, AOC Coordinator, **Clark McCreedy**, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, **Jim Barcia**, Bay County Executive, **Mike Kelly**, Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network, **Meaghan Gass**, MSU Sea Grant Agent, **Zachary Branigan**, Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy, and **Kylee Williams**, Administrative Assistant.

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**Motion by Zimmerman** to approve the minutes of our Regular Board Meeting from January 2019. **Motion seconded by Rowley. Motion carried.**

#### **Amendments:**

- Avoid using “delist” in reference to BUIs
- OGL is putting together a Request For Proposals, not a list of proposals, for the next PAC Support Grant.
- Correction on spelling of Dworzecki.

#### **Administrative Matters:**

**Treasurer's Report** submitted by **Frauson**, December's end balance was \$5,032.95. Currently waiting on \$3,640.00 (July through September) from the state. A quarterly report and invoice was submitted for \$2,400 for October through December. **Action Item: Frauson** will look into a \$20 service charge from Huntington Bank. If **Frauson** can not get the charge reversed, he requests permission to shop around for another bank. **Motion by Zimmerman** to accept the treasurer's report. **Motion seconded by Dworzecki. Motion carried without dissent.**

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**SPAC Report – Zimmerman** did not have anything new to report. **Riley** mentioned SPAC is working on new by-laws in subcommittee, hope to be finalized by the next meeting.

**AOC Coordinator Report** – Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed an executive order restructuring/renaming the DEQ to now be the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. Details on the restructuring are still being worked out. The Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy will continue to do the same work the DEQ has done, and the PSBW should not notice a change. The current water strategy should not change. **Riley** passed out copies of the projects matrix, as updated from our 2012 Remedial Action Plan. The matrix is a framework and is meant to be a living document that can be added to/changed as work is done. The matrix seems to contain objectives, rather than projects for many BUIs, and it may be a good thing for the board to come up with achievable tasks for each objective. It would possibly be a good thing for the Partnership to look at the restoration criteria for each BUI and develop a work action plan, and see what is for us and what is for others to work on. **Brook** again mentioned that she and **Hergott** were still willing to work on grant writing for this. A possible first step could be looking at the BUIs and prioritize them. Take one BUI at a time and move through the whole process. It may also be necessary to look at multiple BUIs as some are closely related.

## Old Business

**Future Meeting Schedule** - For now the meeting schedule will remain on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. Board is encouraged to continue to provide feedback to **Wright** on whether the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday is working or not. We will revisit this again in March.

**U of M Grad Student Activity - Wright** forwarded the board the email from the U of M grad students. They will visit on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, from 12pm - 3pm. A location has not been determined yet.

**Eutrophication Education** - Continuing to work on public education.

**Eutrophication Restoration** – No meeting held last month. Will meet after the board meeting.

**Declaration of Interest Form – Zimmerman** handed out a declaration of interest form to all voting board members. Provide feedback to **Wright**. Will revisit next month.

**Natural Resource Damage Assessment** - Speaker **Clark McCreedy**. 1998 General Motors Settlement provided for substantial cleanup of contamination resulting from the release of PCBs. The settlement allowed for the purchase of several properties and funding for dredging projects to remove PCBs to confined disposal sites. There is currently around \$5.7 Million in 2 restoration accounts and \$500,000 in the GreenPoint account. A problem with the acquired land is that the money was spent on purchasing the land, and there is not money left over to restore/maintain the land. NRDA is working on establishing a skeleton for the Stewardship Alternative Plan. This plan will focus on restoration and maintenance of acquired land over a 20 year period. A portion of this plan would involve providing equipment and 1 or 2 workers for a 5 year period. NRDA is looking at having a Stakeholder Summit in 2019. Priority is on engaging stakeholders. All projects proposed through NRDA will be available for the public to view.

**Wright** mentioned that the bird and animal deformities/reproductive BUI at confined disposal sites was of concern to the group. McCreedy mentioned that various monitoring steps for this issue will be included in the Stewardship Alternative Plan. **Riley** recommended that any major concerns be put in writing and sent to McCreedy. **Jim Barcia** stated that while the work the Partnership and other agencies are doing is very good, awareness should be brought to the fact that when private land is purchased and given to governmental or non-profit conservation organizations, that local governments are likely to lose property tax base. If this is done with too many properties, it can cause a significant loss of revenue, making it more difficult to provide needed services.

**Other** - The sticker designed by Dworzecki will now be a sign/poster instead of a sticker. **Brook** will pass the design along to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe graphic designer.

## New Business

**PAC Support Grant Extension** - The grant has been extended through April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Partnerships - Dworzecki** spoke on possible partner organizations for the PSBW. The Board was in support of bringing the possible partners in to speak at board meetings. **Action Item: Wright** will see about bringing Rhonda Wuycheck, from Michigan's Coastal Management Program, in to speak at the March or April board meeting.

**Other** - March 5<sup>th</sup> is the Annual Great Lakes Conference. Dr. Howard Tanner will be speaking. Several Board members plan to attend the Conference. After discussion, it was decided that the board meeting will still take place on March 5<sup>th</sup> from 10a.m. - 12p.m. for those not going to the conference. The Eutrophication Education and Outreach meeting will not be held March 5<sup>th</sup>, but will be postponed until April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Restoration subgroup is still planning to meet on March 5.

**Motion by Zimmerman** to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 a.m., **seconded by Rowley**.

Respectfully Submitted, Kylee Williams – Administrative Assistant

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