



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING KAWKAWLIN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

### Meeting Minutes, October 8, 2014

1. President Jeff Staudacher called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.
2. Roll Call: Jeff Staudacher, Mike Darbee, Julie Kleinau, Jerome Bartkowiak, Dave Bledsoe, Connie Kudrow, Ben Ramsay, Bob Rau, John Roszatycki, and Paul Woods were present. Joe Vogl, Doug Horner, Tim Mark, Glenn Rowley, and Darryl Steiner were excused. Special guest for the evening was Sarah McDonnell from UM Flint.
3. Sarah McDonnell – UM Flint – Sarah reported on the status of the “Care for the Kawkawlin” project, presently in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of 3 year project from a GLRI grant. Project update – There will be a free watershed tour tomorrow, including a stop at the Mclean Nature Preserve (Sarah provided promotional flyers for the event). Connie will attend, and Bob may attend. Sarah plans to attend some of our board meetings over the next year or so. She has talked to Charlie Bauer who is concerned about sustainability after the 3 year project is complete. Sarah provided a flyer with 3 project updates. The first addresses the goal to reduce phosphorous. The old plan available for farmers was to establish a 50 foot filter strip for 15 years, which was a prohibitively long time period. The new program is for a 10 foot filter strip for 1 year. Kevin Wilson working on this part of the project and has over 3000 acres enrolled. See the Bay County Conservation District website for details. Approximately one third of the \$900K grant/project monies are being used for this project. The second major allocation of grant funds went to the Bay County Health Department. It was used to computerize property records including septic system permits with links back to tax assessor’s office. This will be used for door to door outreach to encourage septic inspections and proper system maintenance. The third allocation is Little Forks Conservancy to establish conservation easements. The project involves working with landowners on the North Branch. The tour tomorrow will visit several farm fields (the good & the bad), in addition to the property which may become part of a conservation easement. Future Events on back of sheet – Sarah would like our input. Homeowner’s guide? Bob suggested talking to the Green team in Bangor Township in addition to our members at our Annual meeting in April. An article for newsletter would also be appreciated. Dave brought up the topic of hobby farm practices as presenting potential opportunities for improvement. There are issues with area horse farm’s manure management – both off State park drive and Barnett. John is concerned that push for sounder land management practices should come from another body, such as the health department, and not our association. Sarah understands our concerns on this issue. Kevin Wilson will do the soil health workshop. She would like to do a river tour along the river. We will work with her to plan the best time to do this next year.
4. Secretary’s Report: The minutes from the September board meeting were sent out in advance of the meeting. There were no additions or correction proposed. Dave moved to approve the minutes as submitted, Bob seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Treasurer's Report: Joe Vogl – provided copies of the report in advance of the meeting. Expenses recorded since the last meeting included boat motor (paid for with grant funds) and miscellaneous golf outing expenses. John moved to approve the expenses on the report and Bob seconded the motion. All expenses were unanimously approved. Revenues included payment from one golf outing hole sponsor (more sponsorship payments were received after the monthly report was generated.)
6. Bills Before the Board: Dave – provided an itemized list of buoy tender project expenses applied to the grant (see attached). He reported a very positive experience working with Linwood Beach Marine. They were very helpful and gave us things at cost. Our remaining balance on the grant is \$657.44. John move d to approve the remaining expenses, Mike seconded the motion. Reimbursement of the expenses were unanimously approved.
7. Committees:
  - a. Environmental
    - i. Weed Control – Jerome – no update.
    - ii. River Restoration – John: Called Russ Beaubien today –the project is moving slowly now, but he is still confident restoration work will start shortly. He is waiting on the return of permits from the DNR. John would like the project to start before the end of the year due to concerns with the new legislature coming in affecting funds. Dave reported that the sediment sampling has been done – some contamination found in a deep area of channel that shouldn't need to be dredged. Bids have not been let yet – as the DNR approval is needed first.
    - iii. Water Quality – no update.
    - iv. River Clean Up – Bob will not chair the river cleanup next year - Glenn will chair the cleanup. The board thanked Bob for his service in chairing many successful river cleanup events.
  - b. Government – John reported on the Bay City town hall meeting with State Sen. Mike Green and State Sen. Phil Pavlov of St. Clair Shores regarding a proposed nuclear waste dump in a salt mine in Ontario less than one mile from Lake Huron. There is presently a petition drive to block the dump. John & Dave put together a resolution draft opposing the dump for our association on this issue. Jerome moved to approve the resolution, Bob supported. The resolution was approved. Copies will be sent to Senator Green, Senator Pavlov, Rep. Brunner, and the province of Ontario.
  - c. Safety
    - i. Buoy Tender – Dave – Still need to finalize boat registration (we have a plate for the trailer) and insurance. Still working through the paperwork, IRS documentation, etc. Jeff will support as needed.
  - d. Education
    - i. Membership – 2014 membership is still at 117 household memberships, or 241total household members. There is one new membership recently turned in that is not part of that count.
    - ii. Fun: Golf Outing (Connie) successful - Ice Fire next event. Mike proposed adding a polar plunge. However, that would add a lot of complexity, emergency services, liability insurance, etc. Mike will do more research on this before proposing we move forward with it.

- iii. History – Bob will take on the history committee ....
  - iv. Newsletter Articles – the next issue will be in December focusing on the 2015 membership drive.
  - v. Website/Facebook – The board minutes and board member list is up to date. Kevin is putting the logo on the website and had questions on the color scheme. Jeff will work on getting a Facebook page set up and decide on administrators.
  - e. Finance Committee – due to management changes, Jeff recommends moving the bond funds from Pimco to JP Morgan. More conservative fund. John moved to approve the change, Dave seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
8. Old Business –
- a. Grant Recommendations – John discussed his proposal from last month’s meeting with a few board members who had concerns over the idea of hiring a director funded by grants.
  - b. KRWA Board long range plan (5 year plan) – John is concerned we don’t have a firm plan to grow the board and bring in new people. We presently have a very experienced board. However, if we lose any one person we have a huge void. Dave added we need more involvement from membership, not just the board members. Jeff asked Dave if there are people at Delta who could facilitate long range planning sessions for the board. Jeff will look into getting something like this going early next year.
  - c. Most thank-yous sent for golf outing, a few invoices to go out for hole sponsors.
9. New Business –
- a. John – discussed moving forward with funding on Phase II of the restoration project. Russ needs feedback on whether we should push for some available GLRI grant money. John would like direction from the board on whether he should work with Russ Beaubien of Spicer Group on applying for that grant of \$750,000. Mike moved to have John work with Russ on this, Bob seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
  - b. Trevor Edmunds of the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy is putting together a grant application and needs a letter of support. They will send a draft letter to Jeff and he will forward it to the board.
  - c. Dave requests that we require life jackets to be worn by people on the buoy tender doing association work. The proposal is that we make a commitment to wear the jackets, and enforce that others we’ve brought with us will wear them when working on the buoys. John moved to approve Dave’s proposal, Connie seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
  - d. There will be a 5:30 pm boat finishing party tomorrow at the Delta College Sailing School. Julie will send an e-mail to the board with details.
10. Next Board Meeting: November 12, 2014, at the Bangor Township Meeting Room.
11. Dave moved to adjourn the meeting, Bob seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie A. Kleinau  
Secretary - KRWA