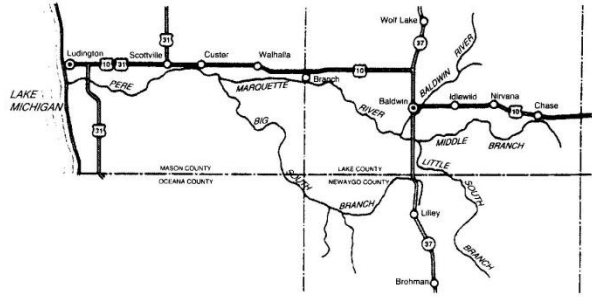


Pere Marquette Watershed Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 212, Baldwin, Michigan 49304



Board of Directors' Meeting 9:00 A.M. May 7, 2016 Lake-Osceola State Bank, Baldwin Meeting Minutes

Administrative

1. Meeting was called to order by President, Paul Bigford at 9:03 a.m.
2. Attendance: Wayne Andersen, Paul Bigford, Jay Barnhart, Mike Batcke, Jim Bos, Marty Corson, Marv Hanna, Michael Hoag, John Karakashian, Scott Lachniet, Mark Raven, Tom Seroczynski, Chuck Turk
Excused: Jeff Carpenter, Dave Gabrielson
Absent:
Guests:
3. Minutes of the April 2, 2016 meeting of the PMWC. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Jim Bos and seconded by Marv Hanna – minutes were approved.
4. President's Notices:
 - A. Welcome Guest: No guests were present.
 - B. A TU fundraiser will occur at the PM River Lodge on June 4, 2016. A private company has been hired to run their online auction.

Old Business

5. Financial Integrity:
 - A. The treasurer's report was made by Jay Barnhart. The April 30, 2016 financial report was given. Our balance as of 4/30/16 was \$88,552.31. A motion to approve the report was made by Wayne Andersen and seconded by Jim Bos. Motion passed
6. Watershed Restoration/ River Management:
 - A. Restoration Committee:
 - No meetings have been held since March. The next meeting will be 10 am June 28, 2016 at the Lake Osceola State Bank in Baldwin.
 - B. PMWC project planning document
 - Wayne Anderson passed out the PMWC project planning and progress summary.
 - Current Active projects
 - River Improvement Projects
 - The railroad erosion site was discussed. A meeting was held on the site which included the Federal Railroad administrator, Robert Gubernick, USFS geomorphologist, Pam Repp USFS, Flint Rainbow club representative, and PMWC members. No representatives from the railroad, State Natural Rivers, or CRA were in attendance. The Geomorphologist mentioned the possibility of reopening the historic river channel which would redirect the river back from the current erosion site. The geomorphologist's report is due by July 1, 2016 with recommendations and alternatives.
 - Right-of-way trimming will take place Wednesday May 18 at 9:00 AM, the area being covered is from M- 37 launch, to Bowman Bridge landing.

- Sanborn Creek impoundment was removed from River improvement project list as it is complete.
 - Lower Branch Launch Site-A decision on what action to take will be made based on the 2008 River plan and implementation will take place in 2017. Comments on the project can be sent to Kathy Bietau of USFS. Her email address is: kbietau@fs.fed.us
 - Policy, Legal, Engineering, and Management
 - River volunteer meeting was held on April 22. Topic was how to use data to write grants to DNR . Next year the meeting will be held in Cadillac. Nineteen watersheds were represented.
 - The zoning and review board will meet April 18, 2016 at 4:30 pm at the Pleasant Plains Township Hall. Two proposals for variance requests will be heard.
 - Water sampling-Wayne Anderson took water samples at 13 locations along the river during high water. Very low levels of phosphorus were detected. The highest readings came from the Black Creek tributaries from agricultural runoff. Wayne reported the river temperature is more important than phosphorus levels for alge bloom. We now have baseline data. Wayne will sample again in the middle of the summer\mid August during low clear flow. The cost of resampling is \$250.
 - Future Projects
 - River Improvement Projects
 - Policy, Legal, Engineering, and Management
- C. Natural Rivers Zoning Review Board – The Board met April 18, 2016 at 4:30 pm at the Pleasant Plains Township Hall. Two requests were heard, one from Whirlpool Corporation to replace docks and improve parking lot identification. The second request was from Mike Batcke to build a deck and stairs to provide entrance and egress from a house that had been raised making ground level entrance and egress impossible. Both requests were approved.
- D. River Interns - Paul Bigford will send out an email with summer intern names and their starting date.
7. Communication and Information
- A. The next issue of the Mainstream is almost ready. It will include updates on the railroad site, phosphorus testing, summary of Natural River Permits, and PMWC banquet.
- B. Mike Batcke reported on the website progress. Mike has updated some information but PFD's and photos are missing from the website. The person managing our website has been ill and not able to keep up with changes. Paul Bigford, Dave Gabrielson and Mike Batche will meet with the webmaster to try to restore lost content with a memory stick of information from past secretary of PMWC.
8. Public Comment: None

New Business

9. New business –
- A. A meeting will be held at Mike Oostermeyer's home regarding conservation easements. The idea is to allow several smaller land owners (less than 20 acres) to form a consortium to apply for conservation easements. Pete DeBoer from West Michigan Land Conservancy will be in attendance.
- B. Salmon in the Classroom-Wayne Anderson reported that the science teacher at Baldwin schools has applied to PMWC for a grant to teach students the salmon in the classroom fish life program. The feeling was that this program request is best suited to the Lake County Community Foundation grant program and will be referred to that organization for their next grant cycle in 2017.
- C. Chumming Issue-PMWC is against allowing chumming in State Natural Rivers. There will be a meeting next Thursday regarding the chumming issue at the state level. The recommendation is to send emails against this to : nelsonc6@michigan.gov President Bigford will send an email against the practice on on behalf of the PMWC . The rest of the board was also urged to send individual emails to help with the numbers of people objecting to this practice. This practice could help introduce harmful materials into the river as well as changing the natural feeding pattern of fish

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM

Next meeting will be held June 4, 2016 at Lake-Osceola State Bank at 9AM.

Minutes submitted by Marty Corson