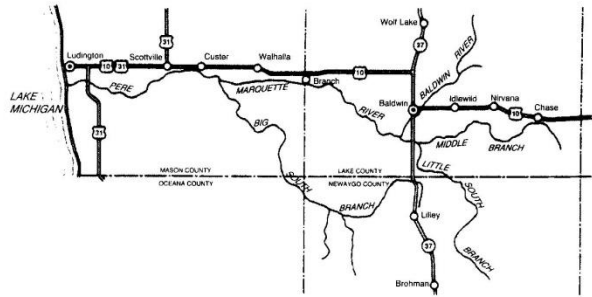


Pere Marquette Watershed Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 212, Baldwin, Michigan 49304



Board of Directors' Meeting 9:00 A.M. March 4, 2017 Lake-Osceola State Bank, Baldwin Meeting Minutes

Administrative

1. Meeting was called to order by President, Paul Bigford at 9:00 a.m.
2. Attendance: Wayne Andersen, Paul Bigford, Jim Bos, Jay Barnhart, Jeff Carpenter, Dave Gabrielson, Marv Hanna, Tom Seroczynski, Chuck Turk
Excused: Mike Batcke, Michael Hoag, John Karakashian, Scott Lachniet, Mark Raven
Absent:
Guests: Paul Kogelschatz, from CRA, and Jeremy Geist, from TU
3. Minutes of the February 4, 2017 meeting of the PMWC. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Chuck Turk and seconded by Jeff Carpenter – minutes were approved.
4. President's Notices:
 - A. Welcome Guest:
 - B. Jeremy Geist from TU reported that the in-stream habitat study would be conducted this summer using interns and volunteers. All participants will have a training session that will take about a day with both classroom presentations followed by an in-stream field laboratory. The training will most likely take place in Baldwin during May or June with the survey to be completed at a later date by the volunteers. The river will be divided into stretches that will take about 4-6 hours to complete.
 - C. Paul Kogelschatz from CRA reported that their survey of stream bank erosion sites had been completed and will be available on-line in a few weeks. This survey will be matched with the in-stream survey that TU is doing. The rail road engineering study is progressing slowly. The engineering staff has completed their application for access to the site to conduct soil boring samples. The rail road indicated that they needed to have a rail road employee on site during the sampling activity. We are awaiting the final approved form to be returned so the sampling can take place. The improvements to the Sanborn Creek crossing sites at Broadway and at Spruce will be done this summer. It was noted that these grant dollars to do the work are spent locally and add an economic benefit to the community in addition to protecting the stream.
 - D. It was reported that the City of Baldwin will be doing some fundraising to support the world's largest brown trout sculpture that will be located near the historical society buildings.

Old Business

5. Financial Integrity:
 - A. The treasurer's report indicated that as of February 28, 2017 we had \$90,047.57 available and were on budget for the year. Jim Bos moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Marv Hanna – motion passed
 - B. The PMWC insurance policy was updated and resulted in a 50% premium reduction.
6. Watershed Restoration/ River Management:
 - A. Restoration Committee:
 - The next meeting will be in March 28 2017.
 - B. PMWC project planning document
 - Wayne Anderson passed out the PMWC project planning and progress summary.

- Current Active projects
 - River Improvement Projects
 - A request from the Pere Marquette Charter Township was approved (moved by Wayne Andersen and seconded by Tom Seroczynski) to provide a letter of support for their efforts to buy land from Dow Chemical for the purpose of putting the land into a conservation easement to prevent future development on PM Lake.
 - Wayne Andersen reported that as a result of the support, the transfer of the Dow property to public ownership was moving forward and will keep the land in its natural state.
 - Policy, Legal, Engineering, and Management
 - The zoning review board is scheduled to meet to discuss an application from the Shrine in the Pines to build a gazebo near the river. The intended use is to host weddings and receptions to add another source of revenue. Brian Bury will meet with the group to help them prepare a proposal that meets Natural Rivers conditions.
 - The volunteer's meeting is scheduled for April 21 2017 in Cadillac at the Carl T Johnson Center.
 - The report all poaching tip line will now accept text messages. This is a plus since many sites on the river do not have phone service but do have texting service. The use of texting is also a plus since photos can be attached.
- Future Projects
 - River Improvement Projects
 - There will be an upper Baldwin Creek field trip following the restoration committee meeting on the 28th to look for possible projects. Chuck Turk will lead the group.
 - Policy, Legal, Engineering, and Management

C. Natural Rivers Zoning Review Board – The zoning review board may schedule a meeting to discuss an application from the Shrine in the Pines to build a gazebo near the river.

D. River Interns – The plan for two interns is in place and Diane Walker has identified two candidates.

7. Communication and Information

A. The next issue of the Mainstream is being organized by Paul Bigford who is seeking input regarding possible articles.

8. Public Comment: No public comment.

New Business

9. New business –

A.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM

Next meeting will be held on April 1, 2017 at the Lake-Osceola State Bank at 9:00 AM.

Minutes submitted by Dave Gabrielson, Secretary

Remaining schedule of meetings for 2017:

April 1, 2017

May 6, 2017

June 3, 2017

July 15, 2017 – note that the July meeting is held during the evening of the annual banquet

August 5, 2017

September 9, 2017 – note that this is the second Saturday due to Labor Day being on the 4th

October 7, 2017

November 4, 2017

December 2, 2017