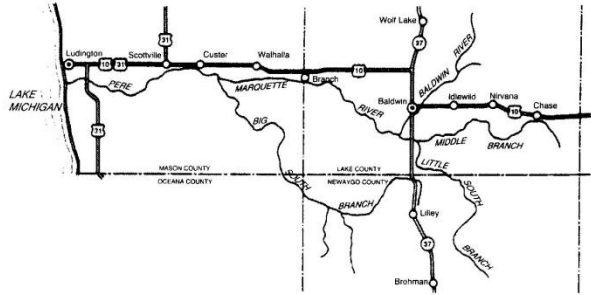


Pere Marquette Watershed Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 212, Baldwin, Michigan 49304



Board of Directors' Meeting 9:00 A.M. April 2, 2016 Lake-Osceola State Bank, Baldwin Meeting Minutes

Administrative

1. Meeting was called to order by President, Paul Bigford at 9:07 a.m.
2. Attendance: Wayne Andersen, Paul Bigford, Jay Barnhart, Mike Batcke, Jim Bos, Dave Gabrielson, Marv Hanna, Michael Hoag, Scott Lachniet, Tom Seroczynski
Excused: Jeff Carpenter, Marty Corson, John Karakashian, Mark Raven, Chuck Turk
Absent:
Guests: Paul Kogelschatz, CRA
3. Minutes of the March 5, 2016 meeting of the PMWC. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Wayne Andersen and seconded by Marv Hanna – minutes were approved.
4. President's Notices:
 - A. Welcome Guest: President Bigford welcomed Paul Kogelschatz, from CRA to the meeting.
 - B. The Volunteer meeting has been set for April 22, 2016 at the Frederic Township Hall in Frederic Michigan.
 - C. Trout Unlimited is expecting to sponsor a symposium on the New Zealand Mud Snail had to be postponed due to weather and a new date will be set.
 - D. A TU fundraiser will occur at the PM River Lodge on June 4, 2016

Old Business

5. Financial Integrity:
 - A. The treasurer's report was made by Jay Barnhart. The March 31, 2016 financial report was given. Our balance as of 2/29/16 was \$81,954.36. A motion to approve the report was made by Jim Bos and seconded by Wayne Andersen. Motion passed
6. Watershed Restoration/ River Management:
 - A. Trout Unlimited Habitat Survey discussion – There was discussion about asking the guides to map gravel locations and include the size of gravel in these areas as well as woody debris and erosion sites. It was suggested to invite Paul Kogelschatz, from CRA, and Tom McGraw, from the local TU chapter, to get together and coordinate inventory efforts. After discussion the consensus feeling was that it may be best to have CRA do the mapping and TU and the PMWC could provide assistance where needed. President Bigford explained the historical documents the PMWC has and how these PMWC materials could also provide some historical perspective with respect to past efforts. May and June are the months targeted to do the inventory which will include erosion sites, invasive species, and general habitat conditions. The river would be done in several stretches.
 - On the PM, the Forks to PM Highway – about 66.4 miles
 - On the Middle Branch, Bonney Road in Chase Township to the Forks – about 12.4 miles
 - On the Little South, Forest Service Road 5309 in Monroe Township to the Forks – about 9.9 miles

Wayne Andersen made a motion that the PMWC provide \$5,000 to support the CRA inventory survey, as described above, with the expectation being that the survey work will be completed by August 2016. The motion was seconded by Jim Bos. Motion passed

B. Restoration Committee:

- The Lake County Road Commission will be doing some preliminary work on the Sanborn Creek and the Carr Creek road crossings.
- There is discussion on doing a habitat survey on the PM marsh.
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C. PMWC project planning document

- Wayne Anderson passed out the PMWC project planning and progress summary.
 - Current Active projects
 - River Improvement Projects
 - Paul Kogelschatz reported that he had visited with Toby Tobias from the railroad. The feeling was that while the erosion site was not a railroad priority at this time, he did not know why we had not received a response to our offer to cooperate with some preliminary engineering study. His plan was to review the proposed cooperative agreement we had offered and send it to the railroad legal team for review. He indicated that he did not believe that it would be a problem to provide access to the site from railroad property. Pam Repp, in an email exchange, indicated that the US Forest Service R9 watershed restoration specialist, Bob Gubernick, would be in the area sometime in April and could visit the site to see it and possibly offer some ideas and alternatives for erosion control at the site.
 - Right of way trimming was done from Rainbow Rapids to Walhalla. There should be 2 more trips by volunteers during April and May.
 - Jeremy Geist, TU, has indicated that a habitat survey from the Forks to M37 may still get done this year.
 - Policy, Legal, Engineering, and Management
 - The cold water steering committee will meet on May 4, 2016
 - The next volunteer meeting will be held May 22, 2016
 - 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 samples for phosphorus testing were collected at 13 locations on the river. The data should be ready to present at the next meeting.
 - Future Projects
 - River Improvement Projects
 - Policy, Legal, Engineering, and Management

D. Natural Rivers Zoning Review Board – Next meeting, April 18, 2016 at 4:30 pm at the Pleasant Plains Township Hall..

7. Communication and Information

Mike Batcke is still working with our tech consultant to develop strategies for keeping the site current. Health problems for our consultant have hindered communication.

8. Public Comment: None

New Business

9. New business –

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM

Next meeting will be held May 7, 2016 at Lake-Osceola State Bank at 9AM.

Minutes submitted by Dave Gabrielson