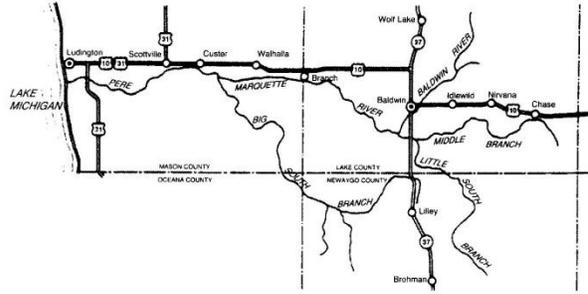


# Pere Marquette Watershed Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 212, Baldwin, Michigan 49304



## Board of Directors' Meeting 10:00 A.M. March 2, 2019 Lake-Osceola State Bank, Baldwin, MI Meeting Minutes

### Administrative

1. Meeting was called to order by President, Jim Bos at 10:00 AM
2. Attendance: Jay Barnhart, Mike Batcke, Jim Bos, Jeff Carpenter, Marv Hanna, John Karakashian, Scott Lachniet, Dick Schwikert, Tom Seroczynski  
Excused: Paul Bigford, Ian Davison, Dave Gabrielson, Troy Harrison, Michael Hoag, Mark Raven, Chuck Turk  
Absent:  
Guests: Dani McGarry, Mason Lake Conservation District
3. Minutes of the February 2, 2019 meeting of the PMWC. Motion to approve the minutes with minor corrections was made by Jeff Carpenter and seconded by Jay Barnhart – minutes were approved
4. President's Notices:
  - A. Welcome Guest: Dani McGarry, executive director of the Mason Lake Conservation District, was welcomed as a guest and made a presentation on the Chinnery erosion site. The work was largely funded by a federal grant awarded jointly to the Conservation District and CRA for remediation of the Chinnery site, the Sanborn Creek road crossing, and work on invasive vegetation in Pere Marquette Lake. The Chinnery site is downstream from Scottville, on private property owned by the Conrad family. The unvegetated slope measured 80 by 400 feet with an average slope of 45 degrees. It had been used as a log slide in the lumbering era and was estimated to contribute anywhere from 15 to 200 tons of sediment to the river per year. The grant was awarded in 2015, the environmental study was completed in 2016, engineering permit and acquisition in 2017, and the actual work done from July to October of 2018. Excavation was done to pull back the crown and decrease the slope, rock rip-rap was placed at the toe, both above and below the waterline and the slope was vegetated and seeded.

#### Costs included:

\$ 30,000	engineering and design
\$200,000	excavation
\$ 9,000	materials
\$ 5,000	seeding and vegetation
\$ 9,000	staff time

TOTAL \$260,649

In addition to the federal grant, Mason County and Amber Township made contributions to the project. CRA was actively involved throughout the process, and this experience should be valuable in the management of our railroad bank erosion.

- B. Emerson Lake property owners are concerned about falling water levels and have hired Nordlund Consulting for advice about remedying this situation. One of the options is reported to involve diverting water from Weldon Creek to

the lake. This is of concern to the PMWC because of diversion of cold water from the PM mainstream. The PMWC will continue to monitor the situation.

## Old Business

### 5. Financial Integrity:

- A. The treasurer's report was presented by Jay Barnhart. There was a good response to the membership notice with approximately \$3,000 in donations received. There is approximately \$21,000 in accrued earnings on the Endowment available at this time. We are awaiting year end numbers from the Fremont Area Foundation. A motion was made by Jeff Carpenter, seconded by Tom Seroczynski to accept the report.

B.

### 6. Watershed Restoration/ River Management:

- A. Restoration Committee: A Restoration Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 26, 2019.

#### B. PMWC project planning document

- PMWC project planning and progress summary.
  - Current Active projects
    - River Improvement Projects
      - RR erosion site update: There was excellent media coverage of the problem in the Ludington Daily News, the Lake County Star, and TV 9 and 10 News between February 4 and 21 which seems to have raised public awareness of problem.
      - A pre-permitting meeting at the site with the Rainbow Club and all permitting agencies was held. All parties seem to be in agreement with the plan and no difficulties with permitting are anticipated. The railroad has not responded to any attempts at communication.
      -
    - Policy, Legal, Engineering, and Management
      -
  - Future Projects
    - River Improvement Projects
      - Other CRA projects include:
        - Small-scale habitat restoration projects on the FRC and Rod and Gun Club properties funded by the PM Chapter of Trout Unlimited (PMTU) in 2019.
        - The PMTU projects are addressing the inventory of PM erosion sites funded by PMWC projects.
        - There are three other landowner funded erosion projects on the PM (basically to protect landowner property), including one by the City of Scottville at the riverside park to control erosion caused by kayakers and canoers who climb up the bank to reach picnic tables.
        - A project called "wild root" funded by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) to provide native trees and shrubs to landowners in the PM and Big Sable watersheds. CRA planted 3000 trees (on federal land) in 2018, the goal is to double this in 2019.
    - Policy, Legal, and Engineering Projects
      -

- C. Natural Rivers Zoning Review Board – Approval was granted for a project at the Henry's Landing Campground and canoe rental site.

### 7. Communication and Information

- A. Mainstream Newsletter: No update

### 8. Public Comment - None

## **New Business**

### 9. New business:

- A. A USFS temporary ban on possession of alcoholic beverages on portions of the Pine, Au Sable, and Manistee Rivers was speedily rescinded.
- B. State TU is sponsoring a "trees for trout" initiative to work with the conservation districts to identify stream improvement projects on private property on cold water rivers.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM

Minutes submitted by Dave Gabrielson, Secretary

Schedule of remaining meetings for 2019

April 6, 2019

May 4, 2019

June 1, 2019 – Memorial Day is May 27, 2019 so there is no conflict

July 13, 2019 – held in conjunction with the annual Banquet

August 3, 2019

September 7, 2019 – Labor Day is Monday September 2, 2019 so there is no conflict

October 5, 2019

November 2, 2019

December 7, 2019