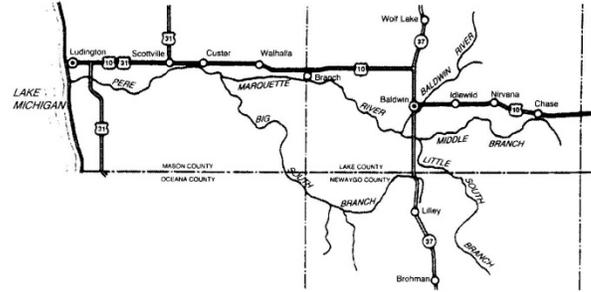


# Pere Marquette Watershed Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 212, Baldwin, Michigan 49304



## Board of Directors' Meeting 10:00 A.M. October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Lake-Osceola State Bank, Baldwin, MI Meeting Minutes

### Administrative

1. Meeting was called to order by President, Jim Bos at 10:00 a.m.

Attendance: Michael Hoag, Paul Bigford, Jim Bos, Marv Hanna, Matt Jacobson, Dick Schwikert, Mark Anderson, Ian Davison, Mike Batcke, Jay Barnhart, Jeffrey Carpenter.

Excused: Jason Hackney, Mark Raven, Tom Seroczynski, John Karakashian, Scott Lachniet.

Guests: None

3. The minutes of the September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Board of Directors' meetings were approved with corrections.
4. President's Notices:
  - a. A report on the railroad project aired on the local Michigan Public Radio station.
  - b. There is pending legislation in Lansing about septic tanks; Michigan is the only state with no state-wide code or requirement for periodic inspection.

### Old Business

5. Financial Integrity:

- A. Treasurer's Report: The treasurer gave a verbal report.
  - a. The Cast for Conservation raised \$14,523 (net)
  - b. Revenue for the year is approximately \$26,000 exceeding the approved budget of \$21,000.
  - c. Expenses are currently approximately \$9,000, which is below the approved budget of \$41,000; this is primarily because major projected expenditures for the railroad project have not yet been incurred.
  - d. The current balance for the PMWC is approximately \$71,000 in cash, \$56,000 in the PMWC foundation fund and \$91,000 in the endowment, of which \$20,000 is spendable (accrued interest).

A motion to approve the treasurer's report (Carpenter, seconded by Bigford) was passed.

6. Watershed Restoration/River Management:

A. RR erosion site update.

- a. A contract for the final design has not yet been issued but the Pere Marquette chapter of Trout Unlimited has committed \$20,000 so the funds are available without requiring PMWC to allocate more than the \$25,000 in the approved budget.
- b. Kira Davis and Kim Balke of the Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA) will attend the November Board meeting.
- c. CRA would prefer PMWC to hold the design and construction contracts; this may require obtaining additional insurance.
- d. The Great Lakes chapter and National office of the Fly Fishers International (FFI) have committed \$1,500 and \$2,500, respectively.
- e. The grant proposal to Lake County Community Foundation was declined; it may be possible to resubmit next year.

B. Restoration Committee:

- a. The next meeting of the committee is October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.

C. Natural River Zoning Review Board:

- a. The next meeting of the Natural Rivers Review Board will be on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
- b. Paul Bigford and Marv Hanna server on the Board.
- c. The Board will consider a request for a variance on the requirement for a 150-foot set-back to allow the construction of a boat slide; the PMWC board discussed this and expressed concern that this might establish a precedent along the Pere Marquette but concluded that they did not have sufficient information to take a position.
- d. The proposal to construct a deck on a house on the South Branch of the PM was approved at the last meeting based on an amended proposal that addressed the Review Board's concerns.

7. Communication & Information:

- A. Mainstream Newsletter: Possible topics for a newsletter in December were discussed and the focus will probably be on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the PMWC in 2020.

**New Business**

8. Website: The website is now functioning and it is possible to download the form to make donations to the PMWC. Further improvements are planned including using PayPal for online donations. There was discussion about whether or not to allow non-member to sign up to receive the newsletter; the consensus was that doing so might lead to new members and increased donations.

9. Trademark:

There is no evidence that PMWC holds a trademark or copyright on the name Cast for Conservation C4C. The consensus of the board was that the risk of having to change the name of the event in the event of

another entity claiming copyright infringement was low and that the event was so well established that changing the name would not have a material effect,

10. Director's Insurance:

The PMWC council discussed personal liability for decisions taken by the Board; the Board concluded they require more information about Michigan laws that cover the boards of 501(c)(3) organizations and our current insurance policy.

11. Emerson Lake Association:

The PMWC reviewed and discussed a draft letter from Nordland and Associates Inc. that will be sent to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Nordland is under contract with the Emerson Lake Association to engineer a solution to the low and fluctuating water levels in Emerson Lake. One option is to dredge Emerson Creek, which is the only inflow into Emerson Lake and feeds water from Weldon Creek (a trout stream) into the lake. Dredging would increase the water flow into the lake but might be a temporary solution as Emerson creek would likely again become filled with sediment. The PMWC Board expressed concern that the project might have negative impacts on the trout population of Weldon creek but decided against taking a position on the project until asked to do so by the DEQ.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM

Next meeting will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at the Lake Osceola State Bank in Baldwin, MI at 10:00 am

Minutes submitted by Ian Davison, Secretary

**Next Meetings:**

November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019