

Little Manistee Watershed Conservation Council

Board of Trustees Meeting

August 3, 2024

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Armas Soorus at 10am.

1. Trustees Present: Armas Soorus, Dan Sernick, Joyce Durdel, Tod Nyson, Mel Jacobs, Amanda Lick, Dennis Depp, Wayne Anderson, Blake Krueger and Chas Gouker. Gordon Lewis was present in his capacity as Trustee Emeritus.

Guest Present: Tyler Bengry

2. The Minutes of the June 8, 2024 LMWCC Meeting were approved as presented. A motion was made by Joyce to approve and seconded by Dan. They were approved unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report, presented by Treasurer Dan Sernick:
 - a. LMWCC has a balance, current as of July, of \$35,286 in its bank account at Lake Osceola State Bank.
 - b. Mr. Sernick detailed various investments held by the LMWCC including funds at the MCCF and Wells Fargo.
 - c. The 2025 budget is a work in progress. Dan has put Manistee County Community Foundation accounts as "Holding" in the Budget.
 - d. Total sales at the annual meeting of July 6, 2024 were \$4527. Net revenue from the meeting was \$2629. Revenue is down as is attendance at our annual meeting. Dan will add our headcount at the meeting to the annual meeting summary.
 - e. Wayne made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, it was seconded by Wayne and approved unanimously.
4. Items from the LMWCC Calendar. President Soorus reviewed the status for the following items:
 - a. Annual Meeting Follow-Up
 - i. Raffle License Results were submitted to the State of Michigan and were accepted.
 - ii. All prizes were awarded.
 - iii. Critique of Annual meeting
 - It was noted that attendance was down and we need a marketing person or maybe a committee to publicize the meeting and make it more exciting. We need a better experience for the people that attend. Further discussion is tabled until the next meeting.
 - Tod suggested he would talk to Glen Myer about possibly doing the marketing for us on the meeting and will speak to him.
 - iv. Status of Annual Meeting Minutes – Tod sent them out 2 weeks ago.
 - b. Membership list – Mel is updating.
5. Project Management – Wayne provided a brief update on the projects in progress.
 - a. Wager

- b. Klye Thomas – permits in place, waiting on confirmation of landowner funding.
- c. Tinker Bluff
- d. State Land Above M37 – Permits are in place, now In process of getting estimates.
- e. USFS Properties – Wayne has met with them, Scott Peedle has transferred out and he has to establish a new contact to work with.

We had a brief discussion regarding the use of wood versus stone for bank remediation projects.

6. Website Development

There was a lengthy discussion of the LMWCC website, focusing on the following:

- a. What the website should be doing for us – Scope and Objectives
- b. What specifically do we need on the website.
- c. Review of the current website and how it meets our needs.
- d. Define how we update and maintain the website

Amanda will be the project lead for redesigning the website. She will be assisted by Dale and Glen. The Kalamazoo River Watershed Council website was cited as an effective website. The website design team will also examine how social media can better coordinate with the website to keep our members and other interested persons better informed.

- 7. Trustee Positions: There are currently 19 LMWCC Trustees. It is desired that everyone is engaged to the extent they want to be engaged. Consideration of new Trustee roles and responsibilities will be discussed at a future meeting.
- 8. Water Quality and Macro Studies: Water quality and Macro studies are done and data is being summarized to be reported in our fall newsletter,
- 9. Monitoring Stations: Armas reported both stations are working. Bear Track is manually updated to the internet, Widewaters Road updates via cell. We had a discussion about making the Bear Track station update via cell and Tod will work with Armas to see if we can get this working, or even move it where it will update via cell.
- 10. Next Meeting: September 7, 2024
- 11. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.