

**Warm Springs Watershed Association
Minutes, August 29, 2012**

Attendance: Directors: Norman Dean, Betty Harmison, Kate Lehman, Rebecca MacLeod, and Andy Swaim were present.

Jim Price, Stacy Dugan, Susan Jones and Larry Lower have been excused due to previous commitments.

Other Participants: Matthew Pennington, Greg Carnill, Alana Hartman and Glory Houck

Condolences were extended to Susan Jones upon the death of her older sister.

Minutes from the July Meeting: Hearing no comments or corrections, Betty moved and Rebecca seconded that the July Minutes be accepted as written. The vote was unanimous

Treasurer's Report: Andy reported that there has been very little activity since the last meeting. PHRC&D was reimbursed for the pre-grant (CBRAP) expenses of \$116.08

Two microscopes were donated for use in stream monitoring

Announcements:

We have received our **certificate of incorporation**; the paperwork is almost completed and will be submitted in the near future

Six people sprayed for **purple loosestrife** on 8/24; there are fewer plants than in past years.

Some good micros, including two stone flies, were found at the **Widmyer stream monitoring site**. However, the habitat is sub-optimal with degrading banks and increased sediment in stream.

Actions Items from the July Meeting:

Send newsletters to people living on the Run – done; nothing more to report

Establish date to prioritize potential projects listed in the comp plan – done; report at next meeting

The synopsis of the comp plan is nearly completed

Research on how to establish/maintain a website has been done; there will be report at next meeting

Heather has worked with school personnel on some of the issues with the wetlands area south of Widmyer Elementary School. Further discussion is postponed until October. It was suggested that an inventory of plants be done a couple of times during the year.

Action Item: Norman will organize and lead that effort.

Unfinished Business:

Winchester Grade Road tributary project: Bob Denton advised that there is no point in restoring the riparian buffer until various problems in the tributary are repaired. The 319 grant can be used for these purposes. However, the proposal drawn up by GeoConcepts costs as much money as we currently have available, leaving no funds to do the actual work.

At Bob Denton's suggestion, we are exploring alternative ways to acquire a set of engineering drawings of the area, which will reduce the cost of GeoConcept's proposal. Various possibilities were suggested. Alana suggested that we approach Jennifer Pauer about using the remaining money from our 2011 Stream Partners grant, either to cover the cost of design or the cost of implementation of the project. **Action Item:** Kate will approach Jennifer with this possibility.

Rebecca pointed out the importance of putting down temporary ground cover such as oats within the next few weeks. **Action Item:** Kate will find a source for an appropriate ground cover and put together a team to help with the planting.

Dates for the rescheduled **tour of the sewage treatment plant** were discussed. **Action Item:** Kate will contact Rodney to reschedule; we will also invite the public and the press to attend the tour.

Kate has decided to attend the Saturday session of **Watershed Celebration Day**.

New Business:

A first draft is done for the 2012 Stream Partners Grant Proposal. If awarded the grant, our proposal is to hire a certified WV lab to test the Run for parameters used to establish a TMDL; this baseline will help us to know what progress is being made as we undertake projects recommended in the comprehensive plan.

In order for the DEP/EPA to accept the data collected and analyzed, it is necessary to establish a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). Essentially, the QAPP lets the lab know exactly what must be done, and how. Bob Denton provided a template in the comp plan; Alana pointed out that there is also a template on the WVDEP website. Our proposed QAPP must be signed by the appropriate personnel before the work can be done. We can do the work required to make the QAPP specific to our project. The time spent establishing a QAPP, which may be substantial, will be used as part of our in-kind contribution.

There was discussion about holding a workshop on QAPPs for other watershed associations that have raised questions about this issue. In addition to inviting interested watershed associations, we can involve the following people: Alana Harman; Neil Gillies; Frank Rodgers, John Wirts, Matthew Monroe, Tim Craddock and Peter Tango.

Action Item: Matt will see if Region 9 is interested in putting together such a workshop. We can check to see if PHRC&D might want to partner with Region 9 people.

Rebecca moved and Norman seconded that the recommended board policies prohibiting conflict of interest and discrimination be accepted as written. The vote for this motion was unanimous.

Other

Andy announced that next Tuesday (9/4) Matthew will talk to the Town Council about reworking the stormwater ordinance for the Town of Bath. A committee is being formed to address this issue.

Tuesday September 11 is the United Way Day of Caring. As part of this effort the Town of Bath Tree Board will mulch trees in town. There will also be a tree-planting at Greenway Cemetery on Sept 27 and 28th. WSWA participation is encouraged.

On Saturday, September 29, Starting Points will have a fair designed to inform people about various organizations in the community. Pertinent organizations can arrange for tables in the effort to recruit new members. **Action Item:** Andy will explore what WSWA needs to do to have a table at the event; volunteers are needed to talk to interested persons.

Glenn Nelson, the current head of the WV SOS program expressed an interest in conducting a stream monitoring class in this area. It was suggested that this is an activity that could be spearheaded by PHRC&D. If the class is held in this area, we could invite students from various high school science classes. **Action Item:** Kate will ask Greg if this activity is something PHRC&D wants to sponsor.

Time and Date of Next Meeting: the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept 26 at 7:00 at the Extension Office

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30AM