

RCP Board Meeting May 25, 2016
6:30 pm, Bldg. 22, The Ridges

In Attendance: Amy Mackey, Dustin Gross, Steve Malueg, Bob Eichenberg, Sarah Landers, Chelsi Hempstead, Vance Rannels, Molly Gurien, Glenn Stout, Heike Perko, Jessica Makosky, Lincoln Whitlow (OU student), Alex Horvath (OU student), and Marcus Perko

Minutes

Sarah's name was removed from the attendance list of the April meeting. Vance moved and Heike seconded approval of the minutes from April, as amended. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Chelsi

- AEP bill was \$17.84
- RCWTA \$2,032.69
- Waterloo \$3,412.29
- Quidel \$1,108.27 (could be used for a storage bldg. at Waterloo)
- Checking \$8,579.26
- Savings \$244.25

Director's Report-Amy

Office of Surface Mining funds have previously been funneled through the Ohio Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council. That agency has closed its doors. The funding request is soon due to OSM (for the Daniels and Ilesboro reclamation projects) and the Board must decide whether it wants to handle the administration of the grant money. Amy will get details on administrative requirements from ODNR. Since ODNR handles the construction administration, the funds are largely a pass through but we need to know what all the requirements will be. There was a discussion whether having this large amount of cash would hurt our chances of getting other funding and it was agreed that this is not likely. There was a general willingness to proceed with administering this money pending additional information from ODNR. We also need to research whether someone who handles our funds should be bonded.

Funding for Amy and Sarah was discussed next. Sarah is now an Environmental Specialist for the Voinovich School and can perform 75 hours per year for education and outreach for RCP. Amy's contract ended in December and was extended to July 1st. At that time ODNR will have new demands on her time. For example, Amy and Sarah will not be able to come to every RCP Board meeting or event. Amy will still have an RCP focus but will likely need some RCP \$ kicked in to maintain RCP as a focus. ODNR will maintain support for project monitoring and maintenance but outreach and education is what will be cut first and where RCP assistance will be needed.

Amy met with Division of Wildlife Supervisors Ken Ritchi and Ryan Harris about Waterloo and issues that we need to address. Since our lease only covers the building and immediately surrounding property, we need to submit a document for what we are doing elsewhere such as camps, outdoor activities, storage, research, etc. There is an underground fuel storage tank adjacent to the cistern and it is scheduled to be removed by the end of 2017. ODNR will let us know when excavation is scheduled. We are only to be mowing the area immediately adjacent to the building. ODNR will need to approve if we need to mow elsewhere and there is to be no tractor mowing. We are not to do any major renovations without ODNR approval.

Nothing is happening to the house any time soon. Water at the house will be turned off soon. We can pay the bill to keep it turned on but it is not worth it for only several months' need for potable water. The house will be saved from demolition if SHPO says it is historic. ODNR does not plan to put any funding in for maintenance while it is vacant. The Aquatic Center is leased to RCP until the end of 2018.

The McArthur VFW wants to donate some money to RCP.

A question was asked whether Raccoon Cr. gets tested for E. Coli bacteria and it was decided this is not likely.

Environmental Specialist-Sarah

There are student researchers (Alex, Lincoln, Taylor) in Raccoon Creek. One research area is testing the amount of post-storm sediment in Hewett Fork. ODNR wants to know results. These and a map will be posted on our website.

More volunteers are needed for macro sampling. 40 sampling sites will be started in mid-June. We are still performing chemical monitoring. Not all 19 project sites will have continual monitoring or maintenance. Some steel slag beds will be abandoned as they never worked well or have become dysfunctional with age. Valves break, there are clogs, or the source ponds fill up with sediment.

The doser channel cleaning went well. Thanks to all who helped. There will be another scheduled in 6 months.

June 8th is a Technical Advisory Committee meeting.

We are at the State Fair for two days, Wednesday, August 3rd and Sunday, August 7th. Volunteers to staff the booth are needed.

Everyone is invited to A Day In The Woods presented by Vinton SWCD and OSU Extension on Friday, August 26th at the Hope School. Sarah and Amy are among the presenters.

Upcoming events include the Ohio Stormwater Conference, the Captina Cr. tree planting, and wetlands training for Amy and Sarah.

The Americorps for 2017 are Chad Ghatt and Kara Roberts. Chad has some field experience and Kara's background is in the sustainability field. They start on August 15th.

Americorps-Dustin

There has been an effort to get out to the schools for education programming.

Thanks to all who helped with the Family Outdoor Day. It is worth making it an annual event. Steve will prepare a press release summary.

There was a Waterfest at Athens HS for area 3rd graders. Athens SWCD sponsored the event.

Camps coming up:

June 21st-25th for 1st through 4th grades.

July 18th-22nd for 5th through 8th grades.

For transportation we can use the Perry Co. SWCD bus. Charge is \$200/week and we will need it for 2 weeks.

Steve will check to make sure our insurance still covers us. With the bus, field trips can now be planned for wetlands in the WNF-Ora Anderson Trail and the Gore-Greendale. For future reference, Pickerington Ponds and Slate Run also have wetlands. The cost for one night of camping is \$25. Bob will provide stargazing one night. We received a Step Outside Grant from ODNR for food and some archery supplies.

It is suggested that we make a tri-fold display of all we accomplished this year.

Steve

Discussions are underway with OU's Outdoor Pursuits for camping gear rental and costs.

June 10th won't work for a fundraising date at Jackie O's. The cost for a sound person is \$100. We can only ask for a suggested donation amount. **We will keep working on dates.**

The Vinton County Middle School Education event needs to be made an annual event so the new Americorps will have to pick this up. River Valley School also wants an annual event. **The new Americorps need an event list and also notes on where to find resource materials.**

RCWTA-Molly

Cleanup Day as part of Ohio River Sweep is June 18th. It will be on land to keep things a bit simpler. SR 677 and Vinton Station Road are two possible locations that need a cleanup. **Dustin and Steve will finalize (special use permit, trash pick up, etc.)**

The fundraiser canoe slalom is July 31st and will feature a canoe race and community potluck. We have rented the Lake Hope shelter. The entry fee is \$10. You can register at the event. **The Americorps will advertise.** Registration will begin at 1pm. The race will be from 2-4pm and then we can eat. RCWTA can provide canoes if necessary. **This could be the annual RCWTA Board meeting also.**

The Moonville Rail Trail Association contacted ODOT to get 26 square steel posts for our signs. **Glenn will pick them up in Marietta. It will be best to get galvanized bolts and nuts.**

New Business

The Monday Cr. float is June 12th.

We have a laminator to waterproof our canoe registration papers.

Keep selling kayak raffle tickets!!

The raft needs to be dismantled on June 8th at 1pm.

Jess suggested we have cards at events so people can write what they did and what they liked. A survey can also be put on our FACEBOOK page.

AOA wants to borrow the canoes for a July 10th Scioto River float.

Our next meeting will be June 29th at 6:30 at Waterloo.

Chelsi motioned to adjourn, Heike seconded.