

**Minutes**  
**Winter River - Tracadie Bay Watershed Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Brackley Commons, Brackley**  
**July 8, 2010, 7:00 – 10:15 p.m.**

---

**Present:**

Jason Affleck, Watershed Resident  
George Coade  
Cathy Corrigan  
Rod Dempsey  
John Hughes  
Sean Ledgerwood, P.E.I. Dept. of Env.

Don Mazer  
Nicolle Murtagh, Crew Member  
Chris Mutch, Crew Supervisor  
Luke Peters, Crew Member  
Bruce Smith  
Lowell Vessey

**1. Welcome**

The meeting was convened with a majority of Board members present.

**2. Business**

- a) Coordinator Bruce Smith reported to the Board. A summary of his report, in point form, is provided below.
- In May, Bruce and John H. had walked portions of the river to review the work completed in 2009 and to assess current conditions.
  - The river has a high level of silt which can only be removed through the use of silt traps. Bruce has met with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and they are satisfied with the trap locations. He is currently in the process of obtaining permission from the Department of the Environment. Workers from the Abegweit Band have cut an access road in to one of the silt trap locations. Bruce hopes to have two silt traps in place in a week or so.
  - Our summer work crew is currently working in the upper part of the river (Brackley, Union Road). (The crew is comprised of supervisor, Chris Mutch, and members Luke Peters, Nicolie Murtagh, and Danielle Lacey.)
  - At the end of May and in early June, students provided by the Province planted trees in the riparian zone of the Cudmore property.
  - About 18 people participated in the trail walk (Winter River Trail) held on June 5. Bruce supplied chowder.
  - All of the landowner permission letters have been sent to landowners.
- b) Crew Supervisor Chris Mutch is very pleased with the crew's work ethic; crew members are hard working and dependable. He notes that the river has major siltation problems and that having the use of a chain saw is a major benefit as it greatly improves their rate of progress.

- c) Sean Ledgerwood presented a funding scenario for watershed groups whereby groups would be encouraged to amalgamate and funding would be granted based on the area of land contained within the combined watershed area. Below, is a scenario involving amalgamation with the Friends of Covehead and Brackley Bays.

<b>Watershed</b>	<b>Area (Ha)</b>	<b>Percent of PEI</b>	<b>Actual 2010 Funding</b>	<b>Future Funding Based on Area</b>
Winter River-Tracadie Bay	10,170	1.8	22,867	16,137
Friends of Covehead and Brackley Bays	8,032	1.4	31,764	12,744
Deroche Pond	3,527	0.6	0	5,596
Dalvay Lake	1,648	0.3	0	2,615
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,377</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>54,631</b>	<b>37,092</b>

The current total amount of provincial funds available for watershed groups is \$900,000.

There was considerable discussion on the funding scenario including how equitable such a process would be, and, how it may impact the sense of identity volunteers and residents have with their watershed organizations. It was also mentioned that the Point Deroche area has been identified as part of our watershed as indicated on the map of the watershed on our website. Sean indicated he would add this area to the Winter River-Tracadie Bay area.

- d) Cathy is interested in attending an "Action H<sub>2</sub>O Summit on Water Quality and Conservation" to be held at Acadia University on August 14 and 15. The event is sponsored by the Atlantic Chapter of the Sierra Club.
- e) Don brought up several suggestions on ways to involve members of the community in watershed activities.
- Have an annual working day in the river. This may involve a short training session to prepare the volunteers. Bruce will look into options for volunteer stream workers.
  - Have volunteers help maintain the Winter River Trail. (Island Trails is interested in having someone, or some group, serve as a representative for the trail.) John will contact Island Trails to indicate our interest.
  - Organize volunteers to participate in the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup in September (as we did last year). Don has indicated he will register our Association with the event organizers.
- f) Some discussion occurred on the property at Hardy Dam which includes a tree nursery and a walking trail. It was agreed that this property should be included in our activity plan.
- g) Bruce and Lowell hope to meet with a small group of farmers to discuss the ALUS program.

**3. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 29, at 7:00 p.m. at a location that is to be determined. Association members and the public are welcome to attend.

**4. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.