

Winter River – Tracadie Bay Watershed Association (WRTBWA)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the WRTBWA

Held on October 16, 2019, 7:00 pm at the WRTBWA office at 13977 St. Peters Road, Marshfield, PE

Present: John Hughes, Sarah Wheatley, Clare Martin, Ryan Winters, Lowell Vessey, George Coade, Matt Steeves, Dwayne McNeill, Jeff Bysterveldt

Absent: Sarah Donald, Jean-Paul Arsenault, Scott Stevens

Clare called the meeting called to order at 7:01PM

1. Minutes from the Sept 18, 2019 meeting

Minutes from the Sept 18, 2019 meeting were circulated by Ryan prior to the meeting. Clare motioned to accept the minutes. Lowell seconded. All were in favour, none opposed. Minutes were approved.

2. Chairperson's Report – Clare Martin

- Watershed Management Fund
 - When the Province implemented the new formula, they gave all watershed associations a three-year grace period before they would experience any reduction in funding.
 - Our submission scored well, but other watersheds also scored well. Therefore, the funding had to be pro-rated. The impact was \$2,385 less funding than our score warranted.
- City of Charlottetown
 - Sarah W. to write a letter to the City of Charlottetown seeking untapped grant money. The letter will include specific examples of things we weren't able to do when the City cut our funding. A second letter will seek funding for next fiscal.

3. Treasurer's Report – Lowell Vessey

	<i>Chequing account</i>	<i>Savings Account</i>
Opening Balance: Sept 1, 2019	\$31,842.16	\$70,648.22
Less o/s cheques clearing	\$11,110.17	-
Plus deposits	\$19,569.30	\$58.07
Less expenses	\$16,610.01	-
Plus o/s cheques	\$555.34	-
Closing balance: Sept 30, 2019	\$24,246.62	\$70,706.29

4. Committees: Field Committee – Vacant (Committee Chair)

- Next meeting will be scheduled in the Fall. Committee Chair will be elected at that meeting. Sarah W. will organize a pre-planning session, which will start with a review of this year's field work and data.

5. Winter River Water Committee

- George will propose November 12th to hold the next meeting with city and province. A planning meeting will be organized prior to that for members of our board to prepare.

6. Communications Committee

- Clare thanked the communications committee for sending out the newsletter.

7. WRTBWA Property Committee

- John mentioned that trail work/maintenance needs to be completed before we can lay down woodchips.

8. Coordinator's Report – Sarah Wheatley reported (see report)

- Newsletter was emailed to everyone on our list. Two people sent call-to-action emails and copied Sarah W. The newsletter also led to a conference call with the Potato Board.
- There is some money leftover in the Percé program that we can access.
- Agriculture Canada program will pay funding at the end of the project.
- Canada Summer Jobs funding is almost all paid out.
- Atlantic Water Network might provide some additional funding.
- Sarah W. is getting applications ready for next year's grants.
- Sarah W. is reading up on Water Act regulations.

- Sarah W. is also trying to get a research project going with UPEI. Electrofishing will provide baseline data for our watershed.
- More chainsaw work completed – cleared some of the worst blockages in the spawning area.
- Environment Canada and DFO field trips were successful.
- Stantec shoreline cleanup was also a success.

9. Meeting with farmers

- The theme of the first meeting would be potato farming (subsequent meetings might be organized for beef, dairy, and grain farmers).
- Potato farmers in the watershed would be invited; WRTBWA would voice concerns; and the Potato Board would help mediate.
- Next step: Sarah W. to go back to Potato Board and propose a few dates for the three-party meeting before the end of the year.

10. Water Withdrawal Regulations

- Oct 30th public meeting at Charlottetown Rural – Clare, Ryan, Matt, Jeff, Dwayne and others will be in attendance.
- Sarah W. is starting to prepare for the private meeting with government staff to voice our concerns about these regulations – some of that content may also be submitted to the online public feedback website.
- Next step: Sarah W. to propose a few dates for the private meeting.

11. Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:56

Next meeting: Nov 20, 2019

Signature – Clare Martin, Chair of WRTBWA	Date
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Signature – Ryan Winters, Secretary of WRTBWA	Date
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