

TMAGOG
PORTAGE RIVER BASIN COUNCIL MEETING
April 3, 2018 – 2:00 PM
Pemberville Opera House
Pemberville, OH

Call to Order/Welcome:

Gordon Bowman, Village of Pemberville, Chair, called the meeting to order. Those in attendance are noted on the sign-in sheet, and are listed at the end of the minutes. Round table introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda:

Mayor Gordon Bowman asked for a *motion to approve* today's agenda and the meeting minutes from the November 2, 2017 of the PRBC. Mayor Matt Damschroeder, Village of Elmore, *moved to approve* the minutes and agenda, and Virginia Park, Ottawa County, *seconded*. **Motion carried.**

PRESENTATIONS:

“Lake Lovers” – Woodmore Elementary 5th & 6th grade students of the Destination Imagination Team

Under the direction of Krista Jackson, seven 5th and 6th graders from Woodmore Elementary school presented a short skit to PRBC that focused on algae blooms in Lake Erie. The skit was created as part of the service learning challenge category, that involves real-life community issues, a category, of the Destination Imagination competition. The team won 1st place in the regional competition in February, and won 1st place in the State competition in March. The team will compete in the Global competition at the University of Kentucky in Knoxville, TN on May 23 – 26.

Water Trail Proposal for State Capital Funds
Kari Gerwin, TMACOG

TMACOG submitted a Portage River Water Trail proposal in November 2017 requesting funding through the State Capital Budget. The proposed trail would begin in Pemberville and travel to near Port Clinton. The funding request was for planning, design, and the construction and improvements of access points. Informational and safety materials were part of the proposal that would include maps, brochures, signage, and website development. Several accessible sites, sites that needed improvements, and new construction sites were shown and explained.

Although the project was not awarded for funding, a possible collaboration with TMACOG, Portage River jurisdictions, and ODNR may be formed.

The presentation was followed by Q & A

Ohio Water Trail Program
Gary Obermiller, Assistant Director of Ohio DNR
Tom Arbour, Ohio DNR Division of Parks & Watercraft

Explanation was given on how ODNR can help jurisdictions with designating a water trail. The first step is to secure a sponsor for the project that would front starting costs (to be reimbursed by

ODNR) and maintain the trail over time. Ohio DNR can help with technical assistance, regional coordination, access development, signage development, brochure development, and funding. Mr. Arbour discussed the application process, examples of small scale projects (\$4k - \$8k), and the benefits of a designated water trail. Any jurisdictions the water trail would run through would need to submit a resolution of support to ODNR. Approximately 10 ODNR trails have been designated, there are a dozen more in process including the Maumee River, Lake Erie Islands, Blanchard River, and the Portage River. The presentation was followed by Q & A

FY 2018 Annual Work Plan:

Mayor Gordon Bowman asked for a *motion to approve* the Portage River Basin Council FY2019 Annual Work Plan. Doug Clark, Wood County, *moved to approve* the plan, and this was *seconded* by Mayor Matt Damschroeder, Village of Elmore. **Motion carried.**

Staff Reports:

Beth Landers, Wood SWCD

- 319 Bull Creek grant - Closing out.
- Portage/Toussaint Grant: working on site visits and documentation to reimburse farmers signed up specific practices.
- Gave update on a complaints involving manure odor and a small diesel spill that made its way into the watershed.

Mike Libben, Ottawa SWCD

- Work continues on promoting the GLRI Cost Share grant in Ottawa County. Three farmers have signed up for water control structures.
- Ottawa County hosted the Farm Forum Ag Breakfast in March. Very well attended.

Kari Gerwin, TMACOG

- Cost Share Program- for Ottawa and Wood counties – A postcard was distributed to farmers in the watershed in early March.
- TMACOG will host a visit from USEPA to review the Cost-share GLRI grant. This is not an audit.
- TMACOG Water/Wastewater training will be held May 9, 2018. A brochure was included in the meeting packet that includes specific details and registration.
- Agenda for Lake Erie – the policy briefs continue to be updated. Stakeholder feedback will continue through the end of April. A flyer was included in the meeting packet with information on the feedback process. Approval of the document will be asked of the Water Quality Council in May 2018, if passed, will be recommended for approval by the Board of Trustees in June 2018.
- Tim Brown, TMACOG President invited PRBC members and partners to attend the TMACOG 50th Anniversary celebration on April 26 in the Grand Lobby of the TMACOG offices.

Public Comment:

Gene Steele, Pemberville citizen, asked who do you contact for stewardship? How do you resolve a problem in the Portage River?

His concern is shredded timber on 105 that could possibly runoff into the Portage River. Beth Landers, WSCD, will follow up on this issue.

Future Meeting:

The next meeting of the PRBC will be held Tuesday, August 7, 2018. Commissioner Jim Sass, Ottawa County, will look into securing the Schedel Gardens meeting room.

All meetings begin at 2:00 P.M.

Adjourn:

Hearing no other business, Gordon Bowman, Chair, adjourned.

ATTENDEES			
Jim	Sass	Commissioner	Ottawa County
Mike	Libben		Ottawa Soil & Water Conservation Dist.
James	Amburgey		Materion, Elmore Facility
Virginia	Park	Ottawa County Recorder	Ottawa County Township Association
Jerry	Bingham	Director Environmental Health	Ottawa County Health Department
Mark	Coppeler	Commissioner – VP	Ottawa County
Gene	Steele	Citizen	Village of Pemberville
Christina	Yaniga	Village Council	Village of Pemberville
Beth	Landers	Watershed Coordinator	Wood SWCD
Doug	Clark	Wastewater Superintendent	City of Bowling Green
Matt	Damschroder	Mayor, PRBC Vice Chair	Village of Elmore
Gordon	Bowman	Mayor, PRBC Chair	Village of Pemberville
Tom	Spieß		Riverbend Campground
Bryan	Floro		Portage River Paddling Company
Gary	Obermiller	Assistant Director	ODNR
Tom	Arbour	Div. of Parks & Watercraft	ODNR
Sara	Guiher	WQ Planner	TMACOG
Joy	Minarcin	Administrative Assistant	TMACOG
Kari	Gerwin	Director, WQ Dept.	TMACOG
Tim	Brown	President	TMACOG