



Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

Pres. - Dave Hacker

V. Pres. - John Gettinger

Treasurer - Robert Shepherd

Secretary - Dale Brier

September 9, 2015 1:00 pm

Montezuma Community Center

800 N. Jackson Street, Montezuma, IN

Attendance

Voting Members Present:

Carroll County - George Mears
Cass County- Arin Shaver
Fountain County – Bob Shepherd
Gibson County - Bill Knowles
Huntington County - Dave Hacker
Knox County - Rama Sobhani
Miami County – Ken Einselen
Parke County - Penny Cox
Sullivan County - John Gettinger
Tippecanoe County - Jim Andrew
Vermillion County – Larry Southard
Vigo County - Kara Kish
Warren County – Louise Jewell (proxy)
DNR - Dale Brier (alternate)

Non-Voting Members Present:

Bill Smith - INDOT

Guests:

Penney Barton – Vermillion Co. alternate
Phil Cox – Parke Co. alternate
Dan Goen
Dorothy Goen
Jeff Gosnell – Clinton boat club
Mike Kelly – Clinton Boat Club
Jim Meese – Parke Co. Commissioner
Randy Nowaskie – Knox Co. alternate
Pam Sanders – Daily Clintonian

Voting Members Absent:

Adams County - Ryan Noblitt
Allen County – Ron Zartman
Jay County - Doug Inman
Posey County - Ralph Weinzapfel
Wabash County - Mike Beauchamp
Wells County - Scott Elzey

Meeting minutes

Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda

President Dave Hacker called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves. Dale Brier read the proxies; Ralph Weinzapfel gave his votes to Bill Knowles, Keith Poole gave his votes to Ken Einselen, and Steve Eberly gave his proxy to Louise Jewell. There were no changes suggested for the agenda.

Review and Approval of July 8, 2015 Minutes

The minutes were approved as written.

Comments from Visitors or Guests

Jeff Gosnell reported on the Abnet paddling adventure and their stop in Clinton, Indiana. He had a handout about the trip and newspaper article about their local stop. He also gave a brief description and history of the Clinton Boat club that has been in existence since 1953.

Dan Goen had a presentation about a riverboat project he is working on. He is looking for financial partners to build a historic steamboat that works and operates on the Wabash River. The project is estimated to be \$1.5 million. The Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund (WRHCF) grants would not be able to fund this project with the current grant criteria.

Finance Report

Dale Brier handed out the current finance report (see attached). With the soon-to-be encumbered \$250,000 for Prophetstown State Park, the balance is \$51,381. Bob Shepherd moved to approve the finance report, Kara Kish seconded. Motion passed.

2016 Appointments

Brier reminded everyone that Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission (WRHCC) member terms expire at the end of this year. New appointments will need to be in place before the January 2016 meeting. He will be contacting county commissioners for the 2016-17 appointments in early November. Hacker will work on a report to include with the request that lists the accomplishments of the WRHCC over the last 2 years. Brier reminded everyone that wanted to be reappointed to contact their county commissioner.

Committee Reports

Budget - Bob Shepherd had a handout showing the proposed budget for fiscal year 2015. It was asked why the DNR salary expenses were higher on the most recent budget report. Brier said that the DNR spends more hours on grant years processing WRHCF grants.

Grants - Kara Kish discussed getting the new grant criteria and program manual out for the 2016 grant round. With the recent funds that have gone to Prophetstown State Park for a trail project along the Wabash River and expected expenses coming for the river road route signs, the grant round will have to be postponed. Larry Southard motioned to not have a grant round in 2016, Kish seconded. Motion passed. The WRHCC will look at fund balances next year and decide when the next grant round should be.

Executive – Hacker has been discussing items with DNR and the executive members, but there have been no official meetings since the last regular WRHCC meeting.

Policy and Procedure - Shepherd gave everyone a draft version of the proposed policy regarding sponsorship funds. It is the same version that was emailed to everyone last week. Commissioners were asked to review it and send comments to Shepherd before the next meeting. A vote will be taken then to adopt the new policy.

Banks of the Wabash (BOW) – Ken Einselen reported that the last meeting was cancelled due to lack of interest or an agenda. Hacker had a report from Rae Schnapp about the 200 years of the river project and a financial report. There have been delays and website is not set up yet. The project had a budget of \$6000; \$1500 from BOW funds earmarked for WRHCC projects, \$1500 from BOW general funds, and \$3000 from WRHCC sponsorship funds. BOW has not submitted paperwork for funds from the WRHCC.

Old Business

Strategic planning action item updates – Kish led the group discussion about project deadlines, upcoming tasks and accomplishments. Kish talked about the strategic planning meeting the WRHCC normally does in March of even years. The commission still wants to have this meeting in 2016 and likes the location at Turkey Run State Park. The regularly scheduled WRHCC and strategic planning meeting for March will conflict with the Purdue Road School. Many of the commissioners will be attending, so an alternate date was chosen. The retreat will be March 1-2, 2016 with the regular meeting being on March 2 (one week earlier). The retreat will follow a similar format and time frame as past retreats.

Ken Einselen has received all the road routes and resolutions from the counties except Allen County. Einselen will work with Bill Smith from INDOT on sign locations for the route. Smith will use standard sign placement guidelines for consistency. Signs will be placed at intersections and confirmation points and will use the standard INDOT sign standards for reflectivity and size. Hacker mentioned how many signs might be used in just his county (30+) and the group briefly discussed how much it might cost. The sign inventory created by Einselen and Smith will give the WRHCC a place to start for budget discussions. George Mears brought up sign theft as a potential problem. The state will install and maintain signs on the state roads; there needs to be a plan for counties and cities. The current agreement vaguely mentions sign placement, but it is recommended that WRHCC members confirm with local road agencies that they will place and maintain signs.

Smith brought up the access sites along the Wabash River and showed an outdated 2003 access site map. After the river road route is defined, we need to start working on placement of signs showing public access sites. Brier has an updated map, but it's still a few years old. Kish suggested we finish the road route plans and inventory before tackling the access site issues. Brier will work with Smith and Einselen to merge his access site map with their road route map.

BREAK

Prophetstown funding update – Dale Brier announced that DNR State Parks found the remaining funds and the trail project is moving forward. Hacker reported he visited the park, met with the property manager, and looked at the trail. He said the project is good and fits within the scope of other WRHCF grants. The project will go out for bid in October or November of this year. Dale thanked the Commission for saving the project on such short notice. John Gettinger asked about camping along the river at Prophetstown State Park. Brier didn't know, but there is modern camping available at the state park now and they may be hesitant to add river camping. Dave Hacker asked for a map that shows all DNR property along the Wabash River and Brier said he could make a map showing DNR and other public property. It would be a good place to start looking for public camping along the Wabash River.

Funding requests – Hacker announced that the Posey County Paddlefest had been cancelled. He reported that Ralph Weinzapfel asked that the funding request be withdrawn.

New Business

New funding requests – none

Grant project updates –

- Jim Meese discussed some of the options they are looking at for replacing the decking on the bridge in Montezuma connecting to Vermillion County.
- Shepherd had a handout and some photos and gave an update to the Attica project. All the bids far exceeded the budgeted amount. The project had to have many reductions and changes to get the cost down to the funded grant amount. Shepherd thanked the DNR grants team for all their help making the project work.
- Hacker said the Historic Forks project is moving along again now that the water levels are back to normal. Concrete was poured last week and the ramp is in.
- George Mears announce the Pittsburg site has not moved forward. The DNR is now building a boat ramp, so BOW is working to change the plans to include a park near the access. Land ownership is still an issue; it has been difficult to determine who own some of the property. There is still not a managing entity to manage and maintain the site.

Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion

Upcoming committee meetings – none

Other county or special event announcements, Festival dates for next year, etc.

John Gettinger mentioned the Sullivan County Wabash River expeditions.

Dale asked for help with the Ford Hoosier Outdoor Experience paddling event on September 19-20. Last year they put 3000 people on the water in two days.

Final comments by Commission members, alternates, and guests

The entire commission thanked Penny Cox for hosting the meeting and giving them a pre-meeting tour of Reeder Park and showing the progress of the WRHCF grant project.

Next Meeting: Please Note that the meeting has been moved from its regular date (one week forward) due to the Veterans Day holiday.

November 18, 2015 at 1:00 pm

Morton Community Center

222 N Chauncey Ave

West Lafayette, IN 47906

48686 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund

FY15 as of 06/30/2015

| <u>Account</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Expense</u> | <u>Revenue</u> |
|----------------|--|----------------|----------------|
| 431401 | Oil and Gas royalty along the Wabash River | | \$ 25,204.00 |
| 510101 | Payroll Salaries & Wages | \$ 2,062.00 | |
| 516003 | Payroll Social Security | \$ 147.00 | |
| 517003 | Payroll Perf St Pd Em COntr | \$ 62.00 | |
| 517005 | Payroll PERF State Share | \$ 231.00 | |
| 518105 | Anthem CDHP1 | \$ 184.00 | |
| 518107 | Payroll Anthem Trad HDHP | \$ - | |
| 518151 | Anthem Trad 2 | \$ 46.00 | |
| 518606 | Payroll Life Insurance | \$ 3.00 | |
| 518798 | Payroll Delta Dental Trad | \$ 12.00 | |
| 518800 | Anthem Vision | \$ 1.00 | |
| 518901 | Payroll Employee Assistance | \$ - | |
| 519006 | Payroll Long Term Disability | \$ 36.00 | |
| 519503 | Payroll Def Comp - StateMatch | \$ 12.00 | |
| 519721 | Payroll Health Savings Acct 1 | \$ 17.00 | |
| 519725 | HSA Health Savings Acct 2 | \$ - | |
| 541002 | Mot Veh Ex - Gasoline | \$ 33.00 | |
| 591024 | NonRealEstRnt-Vehicle Rentals | \$ - | |
| 595110 | InState Travel - Mileage | \$ 1,335.00 | |
| 595120 | InState Travel - Per Diem&Meal | \$ 300.00 | |
| 595130 | InState Travel - Lodging | \$ 259.00 | |
| 595170 | InState Travel - Parking&Tolls | \$ - | |
| 595180 | InState Travel - Board Member | \$ - | |
| 599107 | AdmOp - Art & Design | \$ - | |
| 599116 | AdmOp-Event Sponsor | \$ 2,000.00 | |
| 659410 | Postage | \$ 196.00 | |
| 759910 | Dedicated Indirect | \$ - | |

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|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| DNR payroll | \$ 2,813.00 |
| travel costs | \$ 1,927.00 |
| sponsorships | \$ 2,000.00 |
| operating | \$ 196.00 |
| Total FY15 Expense To Date: | \$ 6,936.00 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Fund Balance: | |
| Balance on 6/30/2015 | \$ 283,113.00 |
| FY15 revenues | \$ 25,204.00 |
| FY15 Expenses | \$ 6,936.00 |
| FY15 Encumbrances | \$ 250,000.00 |
| balance as of 08/31/2015 | \$ 51,381.00 |