



Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

Pres. – Dave Hacker V. Pres. – Kara Kish
Treasurer – Robert Shepherd Secretary – Dale Brier

March 15, 2018 1:00 pm (Thursday)
Turkey Run State Park Inn
8102 East Park Rd. Marshall, IN, 47859

Attendance

Voting Members Present:

Adams County- Keith Poole (proxy)
Allen County – Ron Zartman
Carroll County – Tom VanSickle (alt)
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 – Phi Cox (alt)
Posey County – Ralph Weinzapfel
Sullivan County - John Gettinger
Tippecanoe County– Vanessa Rainwater (alt)
Vermillion County – Larry Southard
Vigo County – Kara Kish
Wabash County – Michael Beauchamp
Warren County – Steve Eberly
Wells County – Doug Sundling
DNR – Dale Brier

Advisory Members Present:

Bill Smith - INDOT

Guests:

Brendan Kearns – Healthy Rivers Initiative
Kyle Quandt – Allen County alternate
Tim Shumaker – Fountain County alternate

Voting Members not present:

Jay County – Barry Hudson

Meeting minutes

Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda

President Dave Hacker called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. Everyone in attendance introduced himself or herself. Dale Brier announced that Sandy Voglewede gave her proxy to Keith Poole. Hacked added grants discussion and river curriculum under new business.

Review and Approval of January 10, 2018 Minutes

There were no proposed changes or additions to the minutes. John Gettinger motioned to approve the minutes as written, Bob Shepherd seconded. Motion carried.

Comments from Visitors or Guests

Brendan Kearns answered a question from his earlier presentation. The question was about federal purchases of flooded land and if Indiana controlled it. Healthy Rivers Initiative (HRI) land is bought by the state and open the public. He also described the difference between some

of the federal land protection programs such as the wetland reserve program and the state programs. The federal programs bought the rights to the property so it could not be farmed or developed, but the land remained in private ownership. HRI will often buy that land at the residual value, which is much cheaper.

Retreat Review

Because everyone at the meeting was also at the meeting earlier in the day, there was no need for a review.

Finance Report

Dale Brier handed out the current finance report (see attached). The current balance in the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund (WRHCF) is \$307,285. Brier believes this is enough for a grant round. The group discussed administration costs of processing a grant. Bob Shepherd motioned to approve the report, Ken Einselen seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report

Shepherd presented a handout on the budget. It is based on the DNR financial report and includes money that is held by Historic Forks of the Wabash for Wabash River projects. Donations to the WRHCC could go to either account; the state fund does not revert as it did in the past.

Committee Reports

Executive – no report.

Membership – no report.

River Road – Brier, Kish, and Hacker met with Tourism in February to discuss the river road project. At the meeting Noelle Szydyk from Tourism gave the group some suggestions to make the route more user friendly and marketable. It should be a single route that avoids gravel roads. She suggested it would make a good motorcycle tour route. She liked the attractions list the WRHCC had put together, but wants to make sure the road goes by those tourist attractions. This project might still cost money, but her outlook was positive. The project will be better not done in house by the DNR and a phone application would be more cost than it is worth. Even as a web only route, there will still be long-term maintenance to keep it up to date. Hacker asked that we comply with Tourism's requests and change the route. There was a lot of discussion about the counties that have the split routes, they want to be involved with choosing the new route. Kish asked that we re-form the River Road committee. Hacker, Einselen and Bill Smith volunteered. Brier will assist as needed.

Old Business

Previous Funding Requests

- RiverFest in Tippecanoe County - Kish motioned to approve the \$1000 request, Shepherd seconded. Motion passed.
- Health and Wellness Sports Series in Wells County - Kish motioned to approve the \$1000 request, Rama Sobhani seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

New Funding Requests

- Wonderful Wabash in Posey County – Brier and Ralph Weinzapfel requested \$1000 for the event on 8/11/18. It has been sponsored by the WRHCC in the past and the event is very successful, there were 100 people at the last event.
- Splash on the Wabash in Huntington County – Dave Hacker requested \$1000 for the event. They expect about 600 people for the event based on previous years.
- Third annual Peddle, Paddle, and Play in Allen and surrounding counties – Kyle Quandt requested \$1000 for the event that will be on 6/9/18. There are two tickets available to Commission members.

Grants

With the fund balance above \$300,000, now was the time to talk about a 2018 grant round. Three topics need addressed; to do a grant round, how much money, and grant criteria. Kish motioned to accept the 2016 grant criteria as written and use it for a 2018 grant round. Shepherd seconded it. This criteria has not been used before, it was created after voting and discussion from the WRHCC in 2016. After some more discussion on how the criteria work, the motion passed. The group discussed the pros and cons of changing the grant amounts for projects. The administration costs for these grants is about \$5000. This grant is 80% state money and 20% local match. Brier recommended a \$300,000 grant round with a total project cost of \$150,000. Recommendations of \$125,000 and \$200,000 were also brought up. Einselen motioned to open a 2018 grant round with \$300,000 available, a maximum grant amount of \$150,000, and a minimum amount of \$50,000, Weinzapfel seconded. There was some discussion of changing the maximum amount to \$200,000 and Zartman made a motion to amend the first motion to raise the amount. The motion was not seconded, so the amendment did not move forward. Motion passed. The DNR Grants team will set the due date, but it has been in October for the last two grant rounds. Brier will send an electronic copy of the criteria to everyone after the meeting.

River Curriculum

Hacker brought up the topic of having resources, educational curriculum, and information available to those that want to put on events on the Wabash River. There could be a website where all this information is kept, it would include events, dates, resources, and other information. Hacker asked if the WRHCC should buy boats or other supplies that could be loaned or rented to groups to help put on events on educational programs. Brier said that would not work very well having the Commission own and manage equipment. Liability was also a concern. Brier said there was no problem hosting information on the WRHCC websites.

Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion

Other event announcements, festival dates, etc.

- There is a cleanup at Wabashiki on April 14 at Dewey Point.

Other announcements and final comments

- Quandt asked why we didn't have reports on completed sponsorship projects. It was suggested that sponsorship recipients turn in a brief report about the event.
- Brier let all members know that the ethics training that all WRHCC members must take has been fixed. Everyone needs to complete this soon. He will send a reminder email.
- Austin Taylor in Outdoor Recreation, who was working on the river road maps, has moved to DNR Fish & Wildlife.
- Brier announced that he was promoted to Division Director for the Division of Outdoor Recreation. He is replacing Steve Morris who retired back in August 2017. His role with the WRHCC will not change for a while, if at all.

Adjournment – Bill Knowles motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ralph Weinzapfel seconded. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Next Meeting: May 9, 2018 at 1:00 pm.
West Mill Social Hall
115 W. Mill Street
Attica, IN 47918

48686 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund

FY18 as of 02/28/2018

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
431401	AD - Oil and Gas royalty along		\$ 78,249.01
510101	Payroll Salaries & Wages	\$ 3,609.27	
516003	Payroll Social Security	\$ 265.10	
517003	Payroll Perf St Pd Em COntr	\$ 108.25	
517005	Payroll PERF State Share	\$ 404.21	
518105	Anthem CDHP1	\$ 378.06	
518606	Payroll Life Insurance	\$ 5.37	
518796	Payroll Anthem Dental Trad	\$ 18.81	
518800	Anthem Vision	\$ 2.33	
518901	Payroll Employee Assistance	\$ 0.66	
519006	Payroll Long Term Disability	\$ 60.86	
519503	Payroll Def Comp - StateMatch	\$ 20.65	
519721	Payroll Health Savings Acct 1	\$ 47.94	
541002	Mot Veh Ex - Gasoline	\$ 90.81	
591024	NonRealEstRnt-Vehicle Rentals	\$ 32.56	
595110	InState Travel - Mileage	\$ 4,215.72	
595120	InState Travel - Per Diem&Meal	\$ 312.00	
595130	InState Travel - Lodging	\$ 621.15	
599036	AdmOp-PostageMeter/Potage	\$ 338.28	
599116	AdmOp-Event Sponsor	\$ 3,000.00	

Total FY18 Expense To Date: \$ 13,532.03

Fund Balance:		
	7/1/2017	\$ 242,568
FY18 revenues		\$ 78,249
FY18 Expenses		\$ 13,532
balance as of 2/28/2018		\$ 307,285

DNR payroll	\$ 4,921.51
travel costs	\$ 5,181.43
sponsorships	\$ 3,000.00
operating	\$ 429.09
Total	\$ 13,532.03