



Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

Pres. - Dave Hacker

V. Pres. - John Gettinger

Treasurer - Robert Shepherd

Secretary - Dale Brier

May 13, 2015 1:00 pm

Owensville Community Center
302 E. Warrick Street, Owensville, IN 47665

Attendance

Voting Members Present:

Allen County – Keith Poole (proxy)
Carroll County - George Mears
Fountain County – Cindy Einselen (proxy)
Gibson County - Bill Knowles
Huntington County - Dave Hacker
Knox County - Rama Sobhani
Miami County – Ken Einselen
Parke County - Penny Cox
Posey County - Ralph Weinzapfel
Sullivan County - John Gettinger
Tippecanoe County - Jim Andrew
Vermillion County – Penny Barton
Vigo County - Kara Kish
Wabash County - Mike Beauchamp
Warren County – Louise Jewell (proxy)
DNR - Dale Brier (alternate)

Non-Voting Members Present:

None

Guests:

Jewell Baxter – DNR
Gerald Bledsoe
Jack Harmon
Colleen Harvey – Purdue/AACC
Kay Miller - AACC
Ryan Nowaskie – Knox Co. alternate
Bourke Patton – Natural Resources
Foundation.
Rae Schnapp – Banks of the Wabash

Voting Members Absent:

Adams County - Ryan Noblitt
Cass County- Arin Shaver
Jay County - Doug Inman
Wells County - Scott Elzey

Meeting minutes

Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda

Dave Hacker called the meeting to order at 1:43 pm. Introductions were made and Hacker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Mike Beauchamp wanted to add something to the strategic plan portion of the agenda; Kara Kish wanted to present grant criteria during committee reports. Hacker then asked for proxies. Bob Shepherd gave his proxy to Cindy Einselen, Ron Zartman gave his proxy to Keith Poole, Steve Eberly gave his proxy to Louise Jewell, and Ryan Noblitt delegated his vote to the president.

Review and Approval of March 11, 2015 minutes

Hacker asked if there were any changes or corrections to the March 11, 2015 minutes. There were none. Kish made a motion to approve the minutes and James Andrew seconded. The motion passed.

Comments from Visitor or Guests:

Americus Group - Kay Miller from the Americus Area Community Coalition (AACC) gave a presentation about a Stone Query that the group is opposed of having built in the Wabash River Corridor near an Americus neighborhood. She had an information packet with the issues and maps that was given to the commission members. She requested the WRHCC help in stopping the project. They asked the WRHCC for a resolution letter to show their support of the Americus group position and opposing the project. Kish asked where did the project stand in regards to what was happening at this time. Kate said that the project was in the hands of the courts at this time and that the land is owned by Henry and Larry Bosman's father but the Rodgers Group is the company trying to lease the land. Kish asked who could stop the project and Kate said that a special exceptions from 7 members of the board of zoning could stop it.

President's Report - Hacker thanked Bill Knowles for hosting the meeting and for giving the tour of the oil wells that provide the Wabash Heritage Corridor Fund its revenue.

Financial Report - Brier passed out a copy of his report (see attached) and said that the balance did include the last grant round. He explained that there may be a drop in revenue due to oil prices dropping; but that the commission still had a balance to cover their expense incurred so far. John Gettinger made a motion to approve the report and Jim Andrew seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

- **Budget** - No Report
- **Grants** - Kish said that the committee worked with the IDNR on the criteria for grant funding. Kish talked about how they wanted the points constructed around the voting results of the commission. She said that they did a mock up on the scoring and that the committee was pleased with the results. Hacker went over the point system/criteria. Kish motioned to accept the grant criteria as presented and Ken Einselen seconded the motion. Motion passed
- **Executive** - No Report
- **Policy and procedures** - No Report
- **Banks of the Wabash (BOW)** – Ken Einselen reported that BOW had a meeting on April 15 in Delphi Canal Park. He said that they are working on the Wabash River 2016 project and they are looking for media partners. Einselen said the website and calendar are under construction. They have been contacting different event planners to offer them the chance to tie their event in with that of the Wabash 2016 event. Einselen said they have had expenses of around \$600 for the development of the website, but many services are being donated and helping keep costs down.

Old Business

- **Wabash River Road Routes** - Ken Einselen said that he has received resolutions from several counties and some cities. He pointed out that the roads he suggested do not have to be used; each member can choose their own routes. Kish said that they needed to discuss the counties that are not represented and not doing anything. Hacker said he had talked with Jay and Adams counties and they have resolutions. Einselen said that he spoke with Tippecanoe County and they had mentioned adding a placement for a QR

code on the signs to access the roads electronically. Beauchamp asked about using the empty space on the signs purchased earlier for directional purposes. The commission discussed what size signs it would need to order to put on state highway or county roads. Each member has another 60 days to get his/her done.

New Business

- **Wabash River Defenders Funding Request** Beauchamp said that the Wabash River Defenders are doing another cleanup of the river and are asking for \$1500. He said that this would help fund activities because they are diverting a lot of their money to the watershed initiative. He said they had been working with the Purdue extension and the NRCS to build a 3 HUC watershed. Beauchamp explained how they had done water sampling and found a lot of unacceptable levels of *e. coli* in the water. The cleanup will happen on July 25, 2015. The commission would be the key financial supporter of this event. Hacker stated that in the past the limit for this type of grant has been \$1000. Beauchamp changed the request to \$1000 to stay within policy. The request will be voted on at the next meeting.
- **HRI funding request** - Burke Patton, the Director of the Natural Resources Foundation requested a \$1000 sponsorship grant to help with the celebration of their 25th anniversary and the 5th anniversary for the Healthy River Initiative (HRI) program. Patton explained what they will be using the money for and how the WRHCC would be recognized. The WRHCC logo would be printed on all of the material for the event and mentioned on social media outlets. He said the plan is to have a 90 mile river paddling event, hiking at the new properties and a dinner is planned. The funding would pay for the supplies and food for the event. The event is going to be the 3rd week in June on the Wabash River and Sugar Creek. Patton said the HRI would be able to cover the expense until the WRHCC could issue the grant if necessary. Hacker asked if there was any opposition in the commission funding the project, but there was none. The commission will vote on the funding at the next meeting per policy.

Strategic Planning

Kish said she wanted to discuss the three goals that she had highlighted on her hand out. She stated that the first goal was to assign someone to help with the creation of printed and electronic documents. Kish asked for a volunteer to take on the responsibility, but no one volunteered. She said that they would keep the discussion open because they might need to contract with someone outside the group to do this for them. Brier mentioned working with the state's tourism bureau and said that he would help with this project. Kish said the second goal for the WRHCC was to distribute grant criteria and manual for the October 2016 grant round. Brier said that he did not see a problem with having the manual online by September 2015 with a statement that the grant amount has yet to be determined. Kish said that they needed to discuss officially recognizing grant recipients. The commission will discuss this at the next meeting. Kish spoke of a new requirement that the commission wanted to add to the grant contract. The new requirement is that before the one year anniversary of the contract signing of a project, a written progress report would have to be given to the commission and within a year after the completion of a project a presentation must be made to the commission. The grant committee will get together to discuss what can be done if this requirement is not met. Kish explained that the third goal is to have full

participation at the meetings. The president would be assigned with this task. Beauchamp mentioned his suggestion of giving a report to the mayors and county commissioners. Kish said this strategy was listed under county commissioners' education. The president could conduct an on sight meeting with the county commissioners and the commission member. Brier said that a report could be sent out with the commission appointment request. Kish said that an annual executive summary would be done once every 2 years. Kish said under member education there should be a bi annual retreat and that when hosting a meeting each host is responsible for the speakers at the meetings. Rama Sobhani, Kish and Penny Cox will work on this committee to help Dave Hacker, president, stay on track with the report. Brier suggested that the strategic planning section remain on the agenda to keep the members and the goals moving forward.

Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion

- **Committee meetings** - Policy and Procedure and the Grant committees will meet soon.
- **Other counties or special event announcement**—Brier mentioned Patton contacting some commission members when in their area during his event planned in June of 2015.
- **Final comments by the commission members**—Beauchamp mentioned John and LaNae Abnet paddling from the start of the Wabash River to the Gulf of Mexico. Their trip is documented on www.separateboats.com.
- **Adjournment** – A motion was made by Sobhani to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 pm. Kish seconded and motion passed.

Next Meeting

July 8th at 1:00 pm

Historic Forks of the Wabash in Huntington County.

Pre-meeting activities will start at 10:00 am.

48686 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund

FY15 as of 04/30/2015

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
431401	AD - Oil and Gas royalty along		\$ 234,532.34
510101	Payroll Salaries & Wages	\$ 7,510.12	
516003	Payroll Social Security	\$ 528.86	
517003	Payroll Perf St Pd Em COntr	\$ 225.31	
517005	Payroll PERF State Share	\$ 841.15	
518105	Anthem CDHP1	\$ 482.66	
518107	Payroll Anthem Trad HDHP	\$ 1.33	
518151	Anthem Trad 2	\$ 404.65	
518606	Payroll Life Insurance	\$ 11.12	
518798	Payroll Delta Dental Trad	\$ 43.71	
518800	Anthem Vision	\$ 5.20	
518901	Payroll Employee Assistance	\$ 1.22	
519006	Payroll Long Term Disability	\$ 128.05	
519503	Payroll Def Comp - StateMatch	\$ 47.40	
519721	Payroll Health Savings Acct 1	\$ 49.33	
519725	HSA Health Savings Acct 2	\$ 0.08	
541002	Mot Veh Ex - Gasoline	\$ 133.63	
591024	NonRealEstRnt-Vehicle Rentals	\$ 153.95	
595110	InState Travel - Mileage	\$ 5,451.60	
595120	InState Travel - Per Diem&Meal	\$ 230.60	
595130	InState Travel - Lodging	\$ 375.80	
595170	InState Travel - Parking&Tolls	\$ 3.00	
595180	InState Travel - Board Member	\$ 39.00	
599107	AdmOp - Art & Design	\$ 1,000.00	
599116	AdmOp-Event Sponsor	\$ 5,500.00	
659410	Postage	\$ 306.93	

Total FY15 Expense To Date: \$ 23,474.70

Fund Balance:		
	6/30/2014	415,011
FY15 revenues		234,532
FY15 Expenses		23,475
FY15 Encumbrances		215,550
balance as of 04/30/2015		410,519

DNR payroll	\$ 10,280.19
travel costs	\$ 6,387.58
sponsorships	\$ 6,500.00
operating	\$ 306.93
Total	\$ 23,474.70