

Winter River – Tracadie Bay Watershed Association (WRTBWA)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the WRTBWA
Held at the WRTBWA office on May 20, 2026, at 6:00 pm

Present: Dwayne McNeill, Jean-Paul Arsenault, Clare Martin, Kelly Watson, Raena Parent, Roger Roy, Shauna Barry, Philip Murphy, Alexa MacPhail and Jack Rossiter

Absent: Matt Steeves, Abby Cameron, Brian Gillis, Jeff Bysterveldt and Lowell Vessey

1. Minutes of the April 15 meeting

Draft minutes of the April 15 meeting were reviewed.

Moved by Clare, seconded by Roger, that the minutes of the meeting be adopted. Motion carried.

2. Report from the Chair

- Kris Hunter, a member of the Watershed Alliance Board of Directors and aquatic habitat specialist, will be invited to our June meeting. It was suggested that his thoughts and experience may help us navigate the Watershed Management Plan updating project.

3. Report from the Treasurer

	<i>Chequing account</i>	<i>Savings Account</i>
Opening Balance: April 1, 2026	\$34,033.37	\$86,084.16
Less o/s cheques	\$17,657.12	
Plus deposits	\$15,349.96	\$178.89 (Interest)
Plus o/s cheques	\$0	
Less expenses	<u>\$13,093.04</u>	\$5,000.00
Closing balance: April 30, 2026	\$18,633.17	\$91,263.05

- Raena explained that the \$5,000 withdrawn from the savings account to be used as a cash flow contingency has not yet been returned to the account.
- In Lowell's absence, it was decided to carry over approval of the March and April Treasurer's Reports to the June meeting.

4. Field Committee Report

- Raena reported that field staff are focusing on the following activities: smelt surveys, headwater surveys, site preparation and tree planting, tree swallow monitoring, invasive species removal and water monitoring.

5. HR Committee Report

- There was nothing to report.

6. Communications and Outreach

- Shauna reported that Jack Rossiter's term will finish with this meeting.
- A very successful bird box building workshop was held on May 2 with several volunteers participating.
- The Lady's Slipper Hike will be held on June 13. As with last year's, the event will be held in cooperation with the City.
- A tree swallow event with Fiep de Bie will be held on June 27.
- Planning for the fall Seniors College is underway.

7. Watershed Management Plan

- Raena has contacted the three proponents and has advised Leading Impact that they were the successful bidder. The Committee (Clare, Roger and Jean-Paul) will meet the week of May 25 to discuss a professional services contract and a work plan, and to arrange a first meeting with Leading Impact.

8. Coordinator's Report (sent in advance)

- Raena reported that we have yet to hear on our application to the Climate Challenge Fund. Our request was for \$100,000 over two years to work on a water conservation project in cooperation with the City.
- Most summer staff positions have now been staffed.
- We are currently assisting the Watershed Alliance with tree planting because they are short staffed. We will be compensated for our staff's time.
- Raena reported that we have a new arrangement with Arbor Nursery, a private nursery in Vernon River. We provide labour for their operation in return for large-caliper hardwood trees that will be planted on the watershed. Arbor will value our labour at \$30/hour and give us a discounted price on trees that do not meet their retail standard.
- The Water Committee is scheduled to meet with the City and the Province on June 9. Shauna will replace Brian who will not be able to attend.

9. Review of Scorecard

- Alexa presented the new and improved scorecard format and reported on goals set for the 2026-2027 field season.

10. Next Meeting

- The next regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 6:00 pm at the WRTBWA office.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10

Signature – Dwayne McNeill, Chair of WRTBWA

Date

Signature – Jean-Paul Arsenault, Secretary of WRTBWA

Date