

# Winter River – Tracadie Bay Watershed Association (WRTBWA)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the WRTBWA  
Held on August 18, 2021, 7:05 pm by Zoom

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**Present:** Clare Martin, Lowell Vessey, Patrick Lévêque, Sarah Wheatley, Jean-Paul Arsenault, Dwayne McNeill.

**Absent:** John Hughes, Jay Carr, Jeff Bysterveldt, George Coade, Hilary Shea, Matt Steeves.

## 1. Minutes of the July 21, 2021 meeting

Draft minutes were reviewed with no changes. Given the lack of a quorum, approval of the minutes was tabled until the next meeting

- There were no questions arising from the minutes.

## 2. Chairperson's Report – Clare Martin

- Clare reported on the meeting of the Coalition for the Protection of PEI Water. The main topic of discussion was whether the group should continue to exist. It was decided that the Coalition should continue its work but that it must accept that not all members will agree with all the positions it takes on all issues.

## 3. Treasurer's Report – Lowell Vessey

	<i>Chequing account</i>	<i>Savings Account</i>
Opening Balance: July 1, 2021	\$81,382.73	\$71,113.84
Less o/s cheques	\$3,010.52	
Plus deposits	\$8,218.53	\$6.04 (Interest)
Plus o/s cheques	\$3,260.09	
Less expenses	<u>\$29,325.58</u>	
Closing balance: July 31, 2021	\$60,525.25	\$71,119.88

Given the lack of a quorum, approval of the Treasurer's report was tabled until the next meeting

- The reserve fund policy is not yet ready to present to the Board for final approval
- There were no questions arising from the Treasurer's report

## 4. Field Committee Report

- Committee (George, John, Jeff, Sarah) met. The Pater project was the main topic of discussion. Sarah met on site the next day with landowner and Tyler Wright, government engineer. It was decided to dig two silt traps to help control soil runoff from the fields in question. The work is being done by the landowner. Sarah illustrated the project using the most recent aerial imagery.
- Questions from Lowell regarding how silt traps work and whether a triangular section of the field should be taken out of production.

## 5. Coordinator's Report (sent in advance)

- Final figure on contribution from Watershed Management Fund is \$66,241, slightly more than budgeted (which was planned with a low estimated amount for safety).
- Staff fun day: options were discussed, and it was decided to hold a beach BBQ on August 26 or 27. Sarah will confirm and send an invitation to Board members.
- In response to a question from Jean-Paul, Sarah explained VANCO's irrigation project on fields it owns on the east side of the Union Rd., south of the Confederation Trail. An irrigation system has been set up in the field, fed from low-capacity wells located on the former Lewis Bros. farm in York (in the Hillsborough River watershed). The system seems to be set up so that it can feed any one of three fields between the York Rd. and the Union Rd., but none of these has potatoes growing this year. There was discussion about the cost-benefit of an irrigation system.

## 6. Review of the Scorecard

- Annual targets reached for brush mats and volunteer activities
- On target for the most part for others except perhaps culverts

**7. Tim's Creek Culvert Replacement**

- Sarah illustrated the project using drawings and photos. Work took longer than projected due to the novel design of the culvert. It is the first over-embedded culvert of its size installed in the Maritimes.
- Suffolk Rd. could be reopened as soon as August 19. There is still stabilization and seeding to be done.

**8. Next Meeting**

- The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 15, at 7:00 pm by Zoom, unless CPHO guidelines permit an in-person meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45

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Signature – Clare Martin, Chair of WRTBWA

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Date

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Signature – Jean-Paul Arsenault, Secretary of WRTBWA

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Date