

# 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 August 21, 2024, at 7:02 pm

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**Present:** Raena Parent, Lowell Vessey, Philip Murphy, Kelly Watson, Shauna Barry and Clare Martin

**Absent:** Dwayne McNeill, Jean-Paul Arseneault, Cassandra Gautreau, Matt Steeves and Jeff Bysterveldt

## 1. Minutes of the July 17 meeting

Draft minutes were reviewed. It was noted that the board decided to elect the executive after the AGM on October 16, not at the regular October Board meeting.

**Since quorum was not met, a motion to approve the amended minutes will be made at the next Board meeting.**

## 2. Report from the Chair

3. Raena reported on behalf of Dwayne.

4. Dwayne suggested that staff biographies should be added to the newsletter instead of a letter from the chair. Raena will be adding an article about working in the heat with a goal to finish the newsletter by September 1.

5. Melissa Lazcano from the Watershed Alliance agreed to be our guest speaker for the AGM. She will talk about the upcoming nursery at Glenaladale Heritage Estate.

6. It was asked where the October AGM will be held. Raena mentioned that a comment was made last year that we should hold the AGM at Glenaladale to strengthen our relationship. Raena will ask the Glenaladale chair about pricing and availability of the upstairs of the schoolhouse on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

## 7. Report from the Treasurer

	<i>Chequing account</i>	<i>Savings Account</i>	
Opening Balance: June 1, 2024	\$135,019.38	\$86,017.47	
Less o/s cheques	\$4,008.92		
Plus deposits	\$21,134.48	\$82.95	(Interest)
Plus o/s cheques	\$715.23		
Less expenses	<u>\$29,296.28</u>	<u>\$86,017.47</u>	<u>(invested)</u>
Closing balance: June 30, 2024	\$123,563.92	\$82.95	

**Since quorum was not met, the August Treasurer's Report will be voted on at the next Board meeting.**

Funds (\$86,017.47) were moved from the savings account into a one year GIC.

8. All financial info needed for Financial Statement has been sent to Regan with Simply Accounting.

- A letter of congratulations was sent to City of Charlottetown on their best tasting water, including a letter to the City mentioning that financial statements and a summary of our operations will be sent to them when available.

## 9. Field Committee Report

10. Raena reported that there was a small fish kill in Hardy Mill, at Affleck Pond. Large and small brook trout were found dead and freshwater clams were floating. Rosie MacFarlane investigated, but no cause was determined. It was asked if WRTBWA monitors temperatures at Hardy Mill. This hasn't been done in a few years because the sensors quickly get covered in algae and then won't log temperatures.

11. Cyanobacteria is still at DeRoche Pond. Kyle Knish at the province will sample again in the fall to investigate into a cause.

12. A Tracadie Bay community group is holding a beach clean-up on August 29 (rain date August 30) at 9:30 am at Donnie's Boar Launch. Staff are attending and board members were invited to attend.

## 13. HR Committee Report

- Cole was promoted to assistant supervisor to fill in for Will or Jess when they are needed at the office.
- Raena reported that the staff had a fun day on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Staff played mini golf at Cavendish and had free time the rest of the afternoon.
- Summer staff work terms are starting to come to an end. Pooja's last day is Aug 20, Nik's is Aug 26, and Jehaan's is Aug 29.

**14. Communications and Outreach Committee Report**

- 15. The curriculum lead for the school course reached out and would like to set up a meeting. Raena will email the committee to set up a time to meet.
- 16. Raena was interviewed by CBC regarding DeRoche Pond. A concerned citizen contacted CBC regarding the health of the pond, resulting in fewer fish. Raena spoke about work that we have funding to complete.
- 17. The Wild Child Young Ecologist Camp occurred on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Staff did a water demonstration for around 12 campers aged 10-14. It was well received by the camp organizers and the watershed is welcome to come back in future years.
- 18. The fall Birds of Glenaladale event will be held on Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- 19. The Senior's College course will be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Staff will work on an outline for a plant ID and sculpture tour walk for this event.
- 20. Nik Neitz is interested in doing the Youth on Board program with the watershed this winter. Clare will let the organizers know we have an interested student when the program opens for the winter.

**21. Coordinator’s Report (sent in advance)**

- On August 9<sup>th</sup>, 5 board members attended a tour of the watershed with staff.
- WRTBWA received AERF funding through the Watershed Alliance to update our Watershed Management Plan.
- Career Dive Tech is going to video our staff for a virtual reality career exploration tool for individuals entering or returning to the local workforce.
- Raena met with a local bookkeeper, but the bookkeeper was not trained in the appropriate software. Raena will try to meet with another bookkeeper to see if this is worth exploring further.
- Raena requested assistance with the building permit for the land. She suggested starting up the Land Development Committee once again. Kelly agreed to join, and Raena will reach out to Dwayne and Jeff.
- To receive the land donation through Ecological Gifts Program, they asked that we make an addition to our bylaws, stating in the case of dissolution, ecological gifts will be donated to another approved Ecological Gifts Program recipient. Clare and Jean-Paul will bring a by-law to the September meeting or circulate it secretarially prior to the September meeting to accept the motion 28 days before the Annual General Meeting.
- The Canadian Aquatic Barriers Database has asked that we compile any information we have that may be relevant to them. Staff will work on this in the fall.

**22. Review of the Scorecard**

- Raena reported that the total area improved, river enhanced, and stream assessed targets have not yet been calculated, which is why they are still being reported as zero.
- All field operations are on target.

**23. Other Business**

- There was no other business.

**24. Next Meeting**

- The next regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 18th, at 7:00 pm at the WRTBWA office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26.

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Signature – Dwayne McNeill, Chair of WRTBWA	Date
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Signature – Jean-Paul Arsenault, Secretary of WRTBWA	Date
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