

# Winter River – Tracadie Bay Watershed Association (WRTBWA)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the WRTBWA  
Held on May 20, 2020, 7:00 pm via Zoom

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**Present:** Sarah Wheatley, Clare Martin, Lowell Vessey, George Coade, Dwayne McNeill, Ryan Winters, Jean-Paul Arsenault, Matt Steeves, Scott Stevens

**Absent:** Jeff Bysterveldt, John Hughes

Clare called the meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

## 1. Minutes from the Apr 15, 2020 meeting

Minutes from the Apr 15, 2020 meeting were circulated by Ryan prior to the meeting. Lowell motioned to accept the minutes. JP seconded. All were in favour, none opposed. Minutes were approved.

## 2. Chairperson's Report – Clare Martin

- Clare, George, and Ryan conducted Sarah's performance review and presented Sarah with a compensation package, which she accepted.

## 3. Treasurer's Report – Lowell Vessey

The current report covers a two-month period (Mar-Apr 2020).

	<i>Chequing account</i>	<i>Savings Account</i>
Opening Balance: Mar 1, 2020	\$20,310.42	\$71,001.22
Less o/s cheques clearing	\$2,027.31	-
Plus deposits	\$6,904.04	\$36.18 + \$6.23
Less expenses	\$19,120.54	-
Plus o/s cheques	\$13,036.42	-
Closing balance: Apr 30, 2020	\$19,103.03	\$ 71,043.63

## 4. Committees: Field Committee – Vacant (Committee Chair)

- No updates to report. Committee Chair still needs to be elected.

## 5. Water Committee – Clare Martin (Committee Chair)

- The next meeting date will be determined once the current situation with COVID-19 has been resolved.

## 6. Communications Committee

- JP wrote an article for the newsletter. Sarah is looking for some pictures to accompany it.

## 7. WRTBWA Property Committee

- Jeff is attempting to source woodchips for the trail.

## 8. Coordinator's Report – Sarah Wheatley reported (see report)

- Most funding from 2019-20 is wrapped up now.
- New funding for 2020-21 is starting to roll in.
- WRTBWA has been approved for one Canada Summer Jobs position so far.
- WRTBWA has also been approved for two (2) Skills PEI positions (14-week terms).
- We received first Watershed Management Fund instalment.
- Three staff members will start working on Monday, May 25, 2020.
- Sarah has been preparing materials for the accountants.
- Sarah had a field trip with a farmer to review a culvert issue and discuss a wetland that could be enhanced.
- There is a WRTBWA sign on Pleasant Grove Road that needs to be removed. George suggested that it might be a good idea to have a WRTBWA sign installed near the Winter River trailhead/parking lot.

## 9. COVID-19 Impacted Activities

- Audit:** Ryan and Clare are in the process of signing all the meeting minutes in preparation for the audit. Sarah uses the audited statements to write some of her other reports. Sarah is aiming to have all materials ready by the end of June.
- Annual Reports:** Will be posted on the website as soon as they are ready (we will also mention this in the newsletter).
- Newsletter:** Should be released as soon as it is ready.

- **AGM:** New date and arrangements will depend on how many people are allowed at an indoor gathering. We are still aiming for September. Scott recommended soliciting more community involvement at the AGM. Sarah will put something online saying we are looking for new board members with diverse opinions.
- **Lady Slipper Walk:** Will be cancelled this year due to group size constraints.

10. **Tim’s Creek Culvert Project with TIE**

- The project is going ahead as planned. Exact timeline to be confirmed.
- JP reiterated the need for TIE to communicate project plans to the community.

11. **Suffolk Pit**

- Concerns have been raised by residents about unsuitable material being dumped in the Suffolk pit.
- The material originates from the new Stratford-Charlottetown sewer line project. The contractors who are working on the project are using a technique that shoots pressurized water underground to drill through the soil. This process creates a soil-water mixture that must be disposed of. The soil-water mixture is sucked into a truck and is being transported to the Suffolk pit. A contamination team is supposed to investigate what is in the mixture and if the pit permit allows them to dispose of materials like that.
- Sarah is going to submit an information request to PEI’s Department of Environment, Water and Climate Change.

12. **Next Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 8:34

Next meeting: June 17, 2020

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Signature – Clare Martin, Chair of WRTBWA

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Date

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Signature – Ryan Winters, Secretary of WRTBWA

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Date