

# Winter River – Tracadie Bay Watershed Association (WRTBWA)

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the WRTBWA  
Held on September 15, 2021, 7:10 pm by Zoom

**Present:** Clare Martin, Lowell Vessey, Sarah Wheatley, Jean-Paul Arsenault, Dwayne McNeill, Jay Carr, Jeff Bysterveldt, George Coade  
**Absent:** John Hughes, Hilary Shea, Matt Steeves, Patrick Lévêque.

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

Draft minutes were reviewed with no changes.

**Moved by Lowell, seconded by George that the minutes be adopted as written. All in favour. Motion carried.**

There were no questions arising from the minutes.

## 2. Minutes of the August 18, 2021 meeting

Draft minutes were reviewed with no changes.

**Moved by Lowell, seconded by George that the minutes be adopted as written. All in favour. Motion carried.**

There were no questions arising from the minutes.

## 3. Treasurer's Report – Lowell Vessey

	<i>Chequing account</i>	<i>Savings Account</i>
Opening Balance: August 1, 2021	\$60,525.25	\$71,119.88
Less o/s cheques	\$3,270.09	
Plus deposits	\$58,588.00	\$6.04 (Interest)
Plus o/s cheques	\$2,278.83	
Less expenses	<u>\$27,920.31</u>	
Closing balance: August 31, 2021	\$90,201.68	\$71,125.92

- 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

**Moved by Lowell, seconded by George that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented. All in favour. Motion carried.**

Lowell left the meeting at 7:20

Jeff joined the meeting at 7:35, restoring the quorum

## 4. Chairperson's Report – Clare Martin

- September 30 has been declared the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and will be recognized as a statutory holiday by the federal and provincial governments, some municipalities, UPEI, Holland College, and some private businesses. It is expected that the province will amend the *Employment Standards Act* to add the Day to the list of stat holidays during the fall sitting of the Legislative Assembly. Clare asked for discussion on whether we should observe the Day and give staff a stat holiday.

**Moved by Jean-Paul, seconded by Jay that we observe National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30 by giving staff the day off from work. All in favour. Motion carried.**

- According to the provincial government website, "The Youth-on-Board Pilot Project is designed to encourage youth volunteerism within rural regions of Prince Edward Island and to assist non-profit/community groups, including Municipal Administrations in engaging youth to join volunteer Boards. The Pilot will offer an opportunity for up to 20 students to become members of active Island Boards or within a rurally based Municipality." Clare asked whether the Board was interested in applying to be part of this program. After discussion, it was decided that we will not apply this year.

## 5. Field Committee Report

- There was nothing to report

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

- No funds have been received from DFO yet; this money is slated for purchase of culverts for 2022 projects
- Following damage from recent heavy rains, some changes need to be made to the Tim's Creek culvert installation to stabilize the site in future. George noted that the slope on the downstream side appears to be steeper than the permitted

45 degrees and that not enough rock was used on the shoulder and under the guard-railing to prevent slippage. A video and photos taken by Sarah show that the bank slipped on the downstream side and that the burlap covering partly washed away. Sarah was asked to bring the problem to the attention of Paul Strang of Transportation and make it clear that we want it to be fixed as soon as possible.

- The new silt trap at the Pater site on the Hardy Mill Rd. worked well during the recent heavy rain event with only minor damage

**7. Review of the Scorecard**

- Brush pile target will be reached by fall
- Stream enhancement (km) will be reached
- Will achieve waste collection and social media goals

**8. Fee for Service Activities**

- Sarah raised this issue at an earlier meeting in response to a request for tree planting by a resident who owns property on the Winter River. She had asked for guidance on what to charge and how to respond in future.
- George reported that the Field Committee discussed how to handle these types of requests going forward. Concerns were noted about competition with the private sector, staff capability, watershed operational priorities, and where this type of activity fits into the Watershed Management Plan.
- Jay suggested, and it was agreed by the Board, that the Field Committee will develop a set of parameters on fee for service activities to guide Sarah and our staff in future.
- Sarah was directed to invoice the property owner for planting in the spring at the agreed-upon rate.

**9. Next Meeting**

- The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 20, at 7:00 pm by Zoom, unless CPHO guidelines permit an in-person meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15

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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