

Pomme de Terre River Association
Joint Powers Board Meeting
USDA ARS Soils Lab
August 14, 2015
MEETING MINUTES

Board members present: Keith Swanson, Paul Groneberg, Paul Barsness, Clint Schuerman, Joe Fox, John Lindquist, Jerry Johnson, Rod Wenstrom, Joe Berning, Dave Lonergan (9:20). Others present: Jared House, Watershed Coordinator; Paul Wymar, MPCA; Greg Lillemon, TAC Chair; Chris Staebler, Stevens SWCD; Representative Jeff Backer (9:10-10:05).

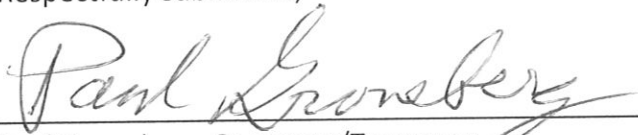
Chair Swanson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and conducted roll call.

1. The agenda was approved as amended on a motion by Joe Berning. Second by John Lindquist. Passed unanimously.
2. Joe Fox moved to approve the minutes from the June meeting. Second by Paul Barsness and all members voting aye, the motion passed.
3. Financial Matters
 - a. Jerry Johnson moved to approve the 7-31-15 Treasurer's Report. Second by Paul Barsness. Passed unanimously.
 - b. Joe Berning moved to pay two bills totaling \$63.68. Second by John Lindquist. Passed unanimously.
 - c. Joe Berning moved to authorize Chris to work with Riverwood Bank to open money market account(s) as necessary to allow the bank to more accurately and easily provide pledged securities on our accounts. Second by Paul Groneberg. Passed unanimously.
 - d. Jared presented a cost benefit analysis showing a summary of funding received by the PDTRA to date and how this relates to funding provided by each of the counties.
4. Grant Updates
 - a. Jared gave an updated all grants timeline.
 - b. Jared outlined changes to the 2013-02015 CWF grant funding allocations made by the PDTRA which will allow for older funding to be spent first. He also gave a summary of project funding spent and encumbered as of now for each CWF grant. He presented summaries related to the 2013 CWP grant and the 2014 federal 319 grant as well. He is working with CURE and area schools to promote upcoming watershed academy events. He gave a report on the canoe trips held recently. He'll be sending out a watershed-wide newsletter using CWP and 319 funds.
5. Jeff Backer was present to talk to the group on current legislation involving water quality. He spoke about a bill related to ditch cleanouts and asked the group to look at the bill and offer comments and suggestions. The bill related to protective buffers has been under constant change during the legislative session and is improving, but still needs revision. He recommended SWCDs use current law to establish local control/determinations. He gave a copy of his 2015 legislative report.
6. The application period for 2016 CWF grant funding is open now. The TAC has been working with Jared on developing an application that would request Accelerated Implementation funding for getting inputs that will allow use of the enhanced prioritized target and measure app GIS tool, which would assist the group with strategic plans during our next round of WRAPs. Jared would complete part of this work and an engineering firm would be contracted to complete part of it. The tool will allow for better targeting of projects within separate sub-watersheds in the future. Joe Berning moved to approve the 2016 CWF application for AIG funding. Second by Paul Groneberg. Passed unanimously.

7. Greg Lillemon gave an update on recent activity of the TAC. The 2016 CWF application was the biggest focus within the last month.
8. Jared summarized his written Coordinator's Report. He will be giving a talk on aquatic life and a soils demonstration at the Stevens County Fair several times throughout the fair weekend.
9. Agency Reports
 - a. Paul Wymar reported for the MPCA. He approved two semi annual reports and payment requests that Jared submitted recently. There is new scrutiny from the MPCA regarding use of funds directly related to issues identified during WRAPs and TMDL processes.
 - b. No other agencies present.
10. Greg Lillemon requested a letter of support from the JPB for the Christina/Ina/Inka Lake Association's Conservation Partners Legacy grant application for funding to modernize an electric fish barrier that prevents rough fish from entering Lake Christina and eventually the Pomme de Terre River Association. Rod Wenstrom moved to approve sending a letter of support of this application to the DNR. Second by Joe Berning. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m. The next meeting will be held October 9, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Groneberg, Secretary/Treasurer

10/9/15
Date