



**Our Mission:**

*"To educate and provide opportunities for people of diverse interests to work together to improve the environmental, recreational, cultural, and economic resources of the Rock River Basin"*

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**Board of Directors Minutes  
Wednesday, March 27, 2013**

**Attending this Meeting:** Patricia Cicero, Jim Kerler, Joleen Stinson, Suzanne Wade

**Guests:** None

**Absent:** Jane Carlson, Jim Koepke, Scott Taylor

**Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, 4:45 PM -- UW Extension, Jefferson

**Call to Order:** Patricia called the meeting to order at 4:50 PM.

**Approval of Minutes from 1/23 and 2/27/13 Board Meetings:** Suzanne moved approval of 1/23 minutes, delayed because copies were not available at the last meeting. Joleen second. All votes were in favor. Patricia provided corrections to the 2/27 minutes. Suzanne moved approval as corrected. Patricia second. All votes in favor.

**Announcements:**

- **Glacial Heritage Interpretive Center:** This privately funded, is planned for the trailhead in Waterloo per Suzanne. Steve Grabow has recommended we be contacted based on previous RRC efforts in a similar direction. **ACTION:** Patricia will check on the plans with Joe Nehmer of Jefferson County Parks.

**Treasurer's Report:** Suzanne handed out and reviewed the reports. See her 3/27/13 email for copies. Patricia has been working to complete required reporting for the Horicon project. Joleen moved acceptance of the treasurer's report. Patricia second. All votes in favor.

**Membership Report:** Renewal rates of members are down so far this year. We will send a third letter as some of those not renewing. **ACTION:** Jim Kerler will draft an appeal letter emphasizing a message such as "we are sorry you haven't renewed -- we hope you will reconsider as your support is the key to continuing our important work." **DUE DATE 4/4/13**

**Stream Monitoring Report:** See report. Patricia and Nancy met with Kris Stepenuck and Christina Anderson. They are considering changes to WAV level 2 monitoring because DNR is not using the data.

**Wetland Monitoring Report:** See report. Patricia emphasized items Jeanne is looking to borrow for the Bioblitz. Board members are asked to provide items on the list as they are able.

**Old Business:**

**Friends of Lake Wingra:** Patricia and Nancy met with the friends group, deciding to put forth a contract proposal for 3 months rather than a whole year, so they can better learn what the Friends' needs are. Nancy could request Jeanne to assist as needed. With the board's consent, Patricia will approve any additional hours requested by Nancy. They agreed to be billed for time, mileage and expenses. Joleen moved approval of the draft contract, Suzanne second. All votes in favor.

**Yahara WINS:** A proposal has been presented to Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District. Patricia will keep the board posted on status.

**Board Retreat:** Notes from our board retreat were handed out. Board members were asked to note their action items. At the retreat, much time was spent discussing adaptive management and monitoring.

**Taxes:** Per Patricia Roxanne will obtain guidance from her sister, a CPA, this weekend.

**Rock River Stormwater Group, Education Coordination:** RRSB selected MSA's proposal rather than ours. (They are a consultancy with Madison and Baraboo offices, among other locations.)

**ELI Webinars: ACTION:** Patricia will follow up as this is moving forward.

**New Business:**

**Annual Meeting:** Our annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the Bioblitz, on Sunday, May 19, at the end of the day. It will be a picnic format starting at 4:30 PM. Patricia will try to obtain a supply of Tyrannena short fill beer. Consensus was that we should hire a caterer and several were discussed. We need a decision/pricing for inclusion in the newsletter by 4/10/13 per Suzanne. **ACTION:** Joleen will check with Whole Foods, Willie Street Coop and Metcalf's for catering menus.

**Awards:** Suzanne discussed the names of nominees -- see retreat notes for names being considered. Suzanne, Jane and Scott are on the nominating committee and will make final decisions.

**Newsletter:** Jim Kerler and Scott are working with Suzanne. Suzanne wants Earth Day announcements to fill out a page. Patricia will provide a short article about Friends of Lake Wingra, and other RRC chapters. Suzanne has other sources for articles in mind.

**Website:** Patricia and Joleen met with Marsha Vomastic in November to consider changes that would increase the ability for multiple people to update the website. One service they have considered is WordPress. The basic version is free but the billable version is required for plugins and other features. It also requires an additional hosting service. We paid \$296 to Alex Drucker for our current web hosting. **ACTION:** Suzanne will discuss WordPress options with Alex.

**Bylaws:** Patricia has some clarifications in mind -- they will be discussed later.

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** Suzanne wants to engage previous board members and other past partners to help plan this 2014 event. A June planning meeting is desirable to work on this.

**Review Employee Policies:** We currently have a health benefit for health expenses when an employee works more than 20 hours a week, that is basically paid on a per hour basis on top of their regular pay rate. Patricia suggested the Admin Committee review the rest of the policies to make sure they are still appropriate and up to date. **ACTION:** Patricia will email employee policies to Jim Kerler, Scott and Jane for review and feedback/recommendations to the board.

**Send Your Legislator Down the River:** Patricia contacted several people who expressed interest in helping pick a 2013 location during last year's event, but she received only one response. Rock Lake is a possibility. We will need to work around the state budget negotiations. Mid August seems most desirable. **ACTION:** Patricia will arrange a planning session for these people and our board at Tyrannena Brewing.

**Korth Park Event:** Jefferson County Parks is working with Rick Olson of Modern Woodsmen, raising funds for playground equipment at Korth Park. They've asked if we would be willing to cosponsor a fundraising event the Saturday of the Bioblitz because of our insurance coverage for liquor service. Board consensus held that this would not fit into our mission. Patricia will take this response back to the County Parks contacts.

**Adjournment:** Suzanne moved adjournment. Joleen second. All votes in favor. Patricia adjourned the meeting at 7:15 PM.