



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"

Rock River Coalition
Board of Directors Meeting
UW-Extension, Jefferson, WI
July 22, 2008

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Lisa Conley @ 4:40pm.

Attendance: Those in attendance were Lisa Conley, Scott Taylor, Jan Ruster, Patricia Cicero, Tim Reel, Suzanne Wade, Ed Grunden and Bill Biesmann and Joe Dorava.

Approval of the minutes: The minutes from the meeting held on June 3, 2008 were approved on a motion from Wiesner and seconded by Cicero. Motion carried.

Election of Officers:

A motion was made by Wade and seconded by Cicero to elect Wiesner as the president elect-interim. Wiesner did note that he is on a tight schedule to take on many more duties. The typical presidential term is 2 years, however the position is elected every year.

Treasurers Report:

Ruster reviewed the project summary dated 7/19/08 which shows two active grants at this time. They are the Water Star and Phosphorus River Planning Grant. Due to the high water levels and the cancelling of the SYLDR event, checks and payments made on PayPal acct's. have been refunded. Reprinting revenue for the UWEX Karst brochure was noted in the report. The balance of \$5019.91 was noted as the operating balance for the RRC. The treasurers report was approved on a motion from Wade and a second from Dorava. Motion carried.

Discussion-

A brief discussion was held regarding tax refunds and who should be doing this for the organization. Everyone agreed that cross checks are a good policy to continue with due to liabilities. Wiesner and Ruster will review. Check writing policies will also be reviewed.

Director Reports:

Wade~ *see attached report and proposal. Wade was excited about the proposal and finishing up the Water Star program grant. A motion was made by Dorava and seconded by Ruster in favor of supporting Wade on her proposal. Motion carried. The next newsletter deadline is Oct. 10th. The municipal stormwater group is progressing nicely and will begin pooling monies to move forward with stormwater issue development and educational strategies. Biesmann did mention the feasibility of the Madison area MAMSWAP joining this group. Also, the RRC will be receiving the Partnership Award by the WI Parks and Recreation Assoc. on Nov. 5th and two tickets are available and a board recipient is needed to attend.

Reel~ Reel noted the TMDL process has postponed till the end of the year and will be revisited at that time. Reel turned the Phos. Grant information over to Grunden who has been leading this cause. Grunden noted that an extension was granted on the application until Dec. 31, 2008. The "Planning" grant was not awarded to this project. A Phosphorus Grant review committee will be meeting to get this back on track. Those involved are Reel, Grunden, Wade and Cicero. The meeting time will be announced later.

Wiesner~ Unfortunately, the SYLDR event was cancelled due to the high water. Low preregistration numbers were also noticed this year. More legislator co-sponsors will be looked at in the future. The “outside funding” discussed with the WDNR will not be available. Conley and Wiesner will be talking to other WDNR heads about future RRC projects.

Conley~ RC&D will be moving its office to Jefferson along with their new director. RC&D will also be hiring an issue team coordinator. Taylor mentioned his interest in this.

Cicero~ Cicero touched on the topic of fund raising, memberships and personal letters and calls. Conley will draft a letter. Cicero also mentioned other open grants opportunities such as Quirk Foundation whose deadline is August 15. Businesses should also be targeted for donations as well.

Taylor~ Scott brought us up to date on the Friends of Badfish Creek Charter. They are looking to do a canoe tour on Oct. 16th, conduct a membership drive and a host a river clean-up in cooperation with the local boy/girl scouts in the Oregon area. Scott also will be joining the membership committee to help in their efforts.

Novak~ Suzanne put together a list of rain gardens that the RRC has worked on for Tracey to follow up with as time allows. *see attachment

Dorava~ The USGS report for the GFLOW project is due this year on Oct. 1st. The phosphorus education grant also needs to be finished up.

Biesmann~ Bill mentioned that he will look for municipal interest, in regards to membership, from the Madison area. He mentioned the Water Star program and the TMDL issue as topics of interest. Discussion regarding the \$50.00 fee per municipal dept. will be revisited and perhaps redefined.

Employee Reports:

Grunden~ *see attachment. Ed mentioned the possible involvement with the Global Citizen Scientist in Action program.

Old Business:

- Congressional & Senate funding meeting will be held July 24th.

New Business:

- A brief discussion was held in regards to the “Water Table” group and getting the RRC involved with this group. Some reluctance was noted due to political issues that this group has addressed. A motion was made to join this group only after review of the minutes and having the board as a whole see no issues with this association. Motioned by Wade and seconded by Wiesner. Motion carried.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held at the UW-Extension office @ 4:30pm on Sept. 30, 2008

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Wade and seconded by Wiesner.

TREASURER REPORT
5/31/08 - 7/19/08

INFLOWS

6/12/2008	DEP	Deposit	Vierbicher Associates
7/3/2008	DEP	Deposit	Vierbicher Associates Ken Wiesner (less \$0.59 fee) Suzanne Wade (less \$0.59 fee) Sandra Prebeg (less \$1.03 fee) Ry Thompson (less \$1.03 fee) Suzanne Wade - Speaker Fee
7/7/2008	DEP	Deposit	Rural Mutual Insurance Refund
7/10/2008	DEP	Deposit	UWEX - Karst Brochure
7/15/2008	DEP	Deposit	Bill Blesmann (less PayPal \$0.85)
7/19/2008	DEP	Deposit	Grant from Dane County for clean up Steve Nass

BALANCE 3/15/08	36,675.59
Membership:corporate municipal	200.00
Gift Received	2,800.00
Meeting Income:SYLDTR	9.41
Meeting Income:SYLDTR	9.41
Membership:individual	23.97
Membership:individual	23.97
Other Inc	25.00
Other Inc	29.00
Reimbursable Income	1,500.00
Membership:individual	24.15
FBCW Income:Community Partners Program	350.00
Membership:individual	25.00
TOTAL INFLOWS	5,019.91

OUTFLOWS

6/6/2008	1724	Void	Void check requested by PayPal
6/8/2008	1725	Dodge County Parks	Canoes for SYLDTR
6/8/2008	1726	Excel Net	1 month email service
6/9/2008	1727	Jennifer Hanneman	1 month email service
6/9/2008	1728	Jennifer Hanneman	1 month email service

Meeting Expenses:SYLDTR	(50.00)
Grant Expenses:Phosphorus Sampling Initiative	(5.00)
Grant Expenses:Alliant Energy 2007 River Watch	(5.00)
Office Expenses	(5.00)
Grant Expenses:Water Star Community Program	(4.67)
Office Expenses:Unfunded Wetland Monitoring	(17.32)
Grant Expenses:Alliant Energy 2007 River Watch	(17.32)
Office Expenses	(17.32)
Membership expense	(57.78)
Grant Expenses:Phosphorus Sampling Initiative	(17.32)
Project Expense:GFLOW	(1.03)
Office Expenses:Unfunded Wetland Monitoring	(3.85)
Grant Expenses:Alliant Energy 2007 River Watch	(3.85)
Office Expenses	(3.85)
Membership expense	(10.04)
Grant Expenses:Phosphorus Sampling Initiative	(3.85)
Project Expense:GFLOW	(3.85)
Membership Dues	(100.00)
Grant Expenses:Phosphorus Sampling Initiative	(60.08)
Grant Expenses:Alliant Energy 2007 River Watch	(340.41)
Grant Expenses:Phosphorus Sampling Initiative	(459.80)
Grant Expenses:Alliant Energy 2007 River Watch	(328.46)
Office Expenses:Unfunded Wetland Monitoring	(235.45)
Grant Expenses:Phosphorus Sampling Initiative	(113.12)
Grant Expenses:Alliant Energy 2007 River Watch	(97.97)
Office Expenses:Unfunded Wetland Monitoring	(6.06)
Grant Expenses:Phosphorus Sampling Initiative	(171.90)
Grant Expenses:Alliant Energy 2007 River Watch	(55.88)
Office Expenses:Unfunded Wetland Monitoring	(187.55)
Office Expenses:Unfunded General Motors	(406.34)

Budget Summary 7/19/08

Accounts Balance	
Checking Account	34,041.58
Money Market	\$15,778.37
Encumbered Funds	
Grant Funds* (\$11,573.54 - \$5,750.00)	(\$5,823.54)
Memorial Funds	(\$140.00)
GFLOW Funds**	(\$34,559.68)
Project Funds (Conference, Newsletter, CM brochure)	(\$4,280.10)
Unencumbered Funds*	\$5,016.63
Accounts Receivable	
Various GFLOW Funding is continuing to come in	
\$750 Lake Planning Grant	
\$2,500 Water Star Community Program	
\$2,500 Phosphorus Sampling Initiative	

* All Grant accounts receivables are calculated into Grant Funds under encumbered funds.

- held for tree planting



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Cooperative Extension
Rock River Basin
Educator for Natural Resources

July 22, 2008

To RRC Board,

Re: Proposal to contract with UW-Extension for Water Star Coordinator work

Water Star Project Proposal

This is a proposal for RRC to contract with UW-Extension to allow Suzanne Wade to complete the Water Star Program Manual and to pilot it with selected communities in the basin. This is anticipated to take a maximum of 8 hours a week for up to 33 weeks. At an anticipated cost of \$8,652.60

In exchange, a project assistant would be hired to do up to 350 hours of work to perform specific activities from Suzanne's Plan of Work:

Organize the Koshkonong Creek Forum (140 hours)

Establishing a small planning committee to determine details such as agenda

Handling logistics including location, date, time, audiovisual and refreshments

Contacting speakers, confirming presentations, av needs etc

Promotion including articles, emails, direct mail to major landowners in the watershed.

Writing a report including a summary of comments, participant contact information and suggested future steps.

Assist with the writing of articles for the fall and winter newsletter (30 hours)

Pull together two meetings for the Planning the Rock Issue Team to investigate the possible development of a website that would host interactive maps from the various models and plans being completed for the basin: GFLOW Computer Model, Potentially Restorable Wetlands Model, SWAT model for phosphorus and sediment. (15 hours)

Handle logistics and publicity for two GFLOW model meetings, one for the communities and groups in the basin who helped fund the model, and another informational meeting for the general public. (25 hours)

Assist with the development of script and presentation on phosphorus and sediment in the basin. (90 hours)

Rationale

Suzanne has been working with Water Star since the beginning; she has extensive experience with all of the topics and activities being considered for inclusion in the program. Having her work on the document, would mean a more efficient process, with less editing/rewriting being needed by the Water Star Steering Committee. Suzanne also has established a large network of municipal staff who could vet the document, plus she has established the trust to enroll and work with the pilot communities.

Since Michael is leaving and a new person would need to be hired and trained. It is unlikely that the hire will have the experience to be able to work on the manual immediately, Suzanne and the new hire, will need to spend a significant amount of time in orientation and oversight. Because of this unanticipated time for the hiring and training, it is likely that some of the actions in her plan of

"Enriching people with knowledge, perspective, skills and aspirations."

work will not be accomplished. This option would allow for both her full plan of work to be completed as well as a full Water Star Program Plan

The duties selected from her work plan are discreet items that could easily be handled by a college undergrad or graduate student, providing them with valuable experience.

Potential Logistics to Accomplish Proposal

1) If RRC were to hire the project coordinator in exchange for Suzanne's time (no money directly exchanged):

The funding for the Water Star Program Coordinator is via a River Grant, this program requires extensive record-keeping on how and where the funds are being spent. They may not be able to justify or approve this proposal.

2) Two contracts for services:

One option is to have two contracts, one between UW-Extension and RRC for Water Star with money flowing from the RRC to UW-Extension for Water Star work and then conversely there would need to be a contract with the RRC to hire the project assistant and then invoice the UWEX for necessary funds.

3) Contract with UWEX hiring LTE

A contract for services would be developed for the Water Star Coordinator work. UW-Extension would be responsible for hiring the project assistant as an LTE.

All options would need approval by the DNR Watershed Bureau as 100% of Suzanne's time is under a contracted service agreement from them.

Suzanne Report to the RRC Board July 2008

Water Star Grant:

Michael will complete the following by the time he leads:

- o Mission and vision clarified
- o Four Work Group meetings held
- o Numerous Water Star Steering Committee and subcommittee meetings
- o Design of Star and Points portion of the program plan
- o Design of final categories
- o Reordering of activities into categories
- o Confirmed Waterloo as one of the pilots
- o Water Star proposed as the URPL graduate project with Waterloo committing \$2,000 towards project, possible funding from RC&D

Several of these activities were not part of the original contract, but were necessary for completion of the project. Therefore, Lisa as President approved an additional \$1,000 payment after all required materials have been received.

Michael's last day in Madison in August 20, I'll meet with him on August 19 to get all materials and final report.

Estimated budget for 2007 Water Star Grant

Payments to date:	\$5,091.85
Estimated expenses to date:	\$ 228.67
Payments yet to be made under current contract:	\$2,433.33
Additional payment:	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
Total	\$8,753.85

This leaves us with around \$1,000 to finish any portion of the project not completed by Michael (See proposal for 2008 Water Star grant, for how this might be accomplished.)

Newsletter:

I expect to get an article and pictures from Ed on Wednesday, and have asked DNR fisheries staff Laura Stremick-Thompson if she would have time to put together an article with data on the success of the fish ladder in Jefferson. Bill has also sent information on a rain garden he helped establish in ~~Middleton~~ *Verona* that could be used. Hopefully it will be at the printer by July 30. At that time I should be able to update the municipal stormwater and Water Star articles.

Next newsletter articles will be due on October 10. Any suggestions for stories would be appreciated.

RRC Budget - upgraded Inv. from last meeting

No further work has been done, between the flooding that meant a 30 mile detour for Jennifer and I to meet and a family situation that took me out of town for a week we couldn't find time to get to it. One issue that we are having is that for Jennifer to keep track of expenses for grants takes one kind of bookkeeping, then to re-organize them into our budget categories has to be done by hand.

Municipal Stormwater Group

Next meeting July 30, 9:30, Watertown Municipal Building
See newsletter article for information on this group.

- have met twice

Other:

Rain Barrel and Rain Garden workshops: I'll be at Walworth County giving a presentation on rain barrels this Thursday 4:00-5:00. I will also begin discussions on a Horicon area rain garden workshop with Ruth Johnson and Matt Hanson. Several large willows are growing in the Waukesha 4-H Forum (Expo Center) can anyone go there and cut them down and treat with herbicide? I haven't been able to get there. If everyone stops at the rain garden and pulls weeds for 6 minutes it will equal my working in it for 60 minutes - I have gloves!

Need picture for recreation award and/or for newsletter.

Global Citizen Scientist
IN ACTION SAT. 9.4.30 milw.

WIS. WATER ASSOC.
STATE CONFERENCE
SEPT 17-18-19
My speaking slot.
- 1st breakfast AFTER
Key note address

Join for FREE

Inbox New Reply Reply all Forward Delete Junk
Junk (23) Move to Options

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July report

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My work since the last board meeting can be divided into the follow five areas:
~ primary work has been on fund raising (producing a brocure to use when approaching business), ~ contact with stream monitors assesting safety and return to monitoring,
~ field visit to Zeloski Marsh by UW-WW Professors and ensuing discussion of involving UW-Whitewater students on research projects and monitoring events in the marsh
~ field monitoring with UW-Madison students at Zeloski Marsh (Dragonflies/Butterflies)
~ assortment of phone and email contacts with a variety of citizen enquiries (we are being contacted - They know we are there!)

Stay in touch when you're away with Windows Live Messenger.