



Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission

Pres. – Brendan Kearns V. Pres. – Arin Shaver
Secretary – Dale Brier

September 14, 2022, 1:00 pm ET

LC Nature Park
Mills Education Center
9744 Aboite Rd.
Roanoke, IN 46783

Meeting Agenda

Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda

Review and Approval of July 13, 2022 Minutes

Comments from Visitors or Guests

DNR Finance Report (Dale Brier)

Old Business

- ✦ Previous funding requests
 - Dress Up the Entrance of the RxR Walkway Bridge
 - De-Trash the Wabash – Fall Event
 - Wonders of Wetland Days
 - Wonders on the Wabash
 - River Wild

New Business

- ✦ Updated Per Diem Rates
- ✦ 2023 Officer Elections – Nominating Committee
- ✦ New funding requests

Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion

- ✦ Other county or special event announcements, Festival dates, etc.
- ✦ Final comments by Commission members, alternates, and guests

Next Meeting: November 9, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

If you anticipate needing a reasonable modification under the ADA to participate or have questions concerning access at the meeting locations, please contact Ric Edwards, DNR ADA Director, at REdwards@dnr.IN.gov or 317-232-4145.

the Vermillion County side. The project involved many volunteers, working with an adjacent landowner and the DNR, and working closely with a great contractor.

The VTA has secured a Next Level Trails grant to connect the completed WRHCF funded section into Clinton, IN.

Call to Order, Introductions, Announce Proxies, Open Agenda

The meeting was officially called to order at 2:13pm ET. President Brendan Kearns asked for guests to introduce themselves.

Bill Smith from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) introduced himself as the former non-voting advisory member of the WRHCC. He then introduced Tim Watson as the new INDOT representative to the commission who would take over the role.

Allen Hurst announced the proxies. Allen County gave their vote to Randy Lehman. Fountain County gave their vote to Kearns. Both Warren and Wells County gave their proxy to Dave Hacker. Hacker announced Don Mathias as his proxy representing Huntington County.

Review and Approval of May 11, 2022 Minutes

Brendan Kearns asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written. Vanessa Rainwater motioned to accept the minutes. Ellen Donker seconded and the motion passed.

Comments from Guests and Visitors

Kearns introduced Bob Bronson from the DNR and congratulated on his upcoming retirement.

Les Zimmerman introduced Jane Santucci, a trail consultant from Vigo County, noting she is very involved in improving her community. Santucci appreciated the invite and thanked VTA for their trail accomplishments in Vermillion and Parke County which have in turn inspired Vigo County.

Vanessa Rainwater introduced Clair, an intern from Purdue University working in her office.

DNR Finance Report

Dale Brier presented the DNR finance report (attached.) The revenue generated in fiscal year 2022 was \$185,248. Brier postulated the revenue was higher than usual because of the increased price of oil. Between the active and reserve fund, the total balance of the WRHCF was at \$503,703.

Old Business

Previous funding requests

Splash on the Wabash

Hacker noted the event had sold out and no more tubes were available. Mike Beauchamp motioned to sponsor the event for the requested \$1,000 and Zimmerman seconded. The motion passed.

Sponsorship monies will help cover some of the cost. The request was for \$1,000.

Dress up the Entrance of the RxR Walkway Bridge

Penny Cox presented the sponsorship request on behalf of the Montezuma Park Board. The project aimed to build a shelter with concrete flooring, picnic tables, flowerpots, and a trash can for people to picnic near the bridge trail entrance. The sponsorship request was for \$1,000.

Brier noted the request was not eligible for sponsorship consideration per the commissions sponsorship policy. The sponsorship's general goal is for helping fund events, whereas the Dressing up the bridge was a project better suited for grant assistance.

Brier added there were four event presentations at the meeting to sponsor educational field trips for students. He challenged more counties to hold their own version. The challenge generated some discussion on the logistics and costs related to hosting the event.

Announcements & General Reminders/Discussion

Dan McCain reported that Carroll County Parks had seen increased visitation.

Randy Lehman thanked the commission for sponsoring the Geneva covered bridge event. He noted that there was an odd, florescent green hue to the upper section of the Wabash River and asked what can be done to help. Dave Hacker had heard that algae blooms from nearby lakes effects the color in the upper section of the Wabash River. Parmenter said Seth Harden is the North Wabash River wetlands contact from The Nature Conservancy and may be able to provide information.

Phil Cox announced the Wabash River Run race would be August 27.

Zimmerman announced the 'Over the Bridge and Through the Woods' race would be September 24.

Jane Santucci announced the Explore Wabashiki event would be September 24.

Beauchamp reminded the commission of the Clean Out the Banks event will be the last Saturday in August. He also shared that the Wabash River Defenders had presented the Army Corps of Engineers with their prestigious 'Tall Sycamore' award.

Final Comments by Commission members, alternates, and guests

Bronson promoted the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant noting that it had been permanently reauthorized and it's funding to the state had doubled.

48686 Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund

FY22 as of 6/30/2022

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
431401	AD - Oil and Gas royalty along		\$185,248.00
510101	Payroll Salaries & Wages	\$8,248.00	
516002	FICA Regular	\$62.00	
516003	Payroll Social Security	\$534.00	
516005	Payroll Medicare	\$15.00	
517003	Payroll Perf St Pd Em COnt	\$247.00	
517005	Payroll PERF State Share	\$924.00	
518161	Anthem Trad 2	\$829.00	
518606	Payroll Life Insurance	\$8.00	
518796	Payroll Anthem Dental Trad	\$40.00	
518800	Anthem Vision	\$7.00	
518901	Payroll Employee Assistance	\$2.00	
519006	Payroll Long Term Disability	\$3.00	
519503	Payroll Def Comp - StateMatch	\$53.00	
519722	HSA Health Savings Acct 2	\$87.00	
592022	AdmOp-Late Payment Interest	\$12.00	
592029	Adm&Op Taxes & Collection Fees	\$4,020.00	
595110	InState Travel - Mileage	\$1,077.00	
595120	InState Travel - Per Diem&Meal	\$104.00	
595130	InState Travel - Lodging	\$199.00	
595180	InState Travel - Board Member	\$3,003.00	
599036	AdmOp-PostageMeter/Potage	\$54.00	
599116	AdmOp-Event Sponsor	\$7,000.00	

DNR payroll	\$11,059.00
Grants	\$-
Travel Costs	\$8,415.00
Operating	\$54.00
Sponsorships	\$7,000.00
Total	\$26,528.00

Active Fund Balance:	
	7/1/2021 \$159,128.00
FY22 Expenses	\$26,528.00
FY22 as of 6/30/2022	\$132,600.00
Active Fund Balance	\$132,600.00
Legal Fund Reserve	\$371,103.00
***** Total WHRCF Funds *****	\$503,703.00 *****