

Raccoon Creek Partnership  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, May 30, 2012, 6:30 p.m.  
Waterloo Aquatic Education Center, New Marshfield, OH

**Attendance:** Molly Gurien, Kim Brewster, Kristin Kindler, Amy Mackey, Sarah Landers, Bob Eichenberg, Dick Hogan, Natalie Kruse, Rob Wiley

**Previous Meeting's Minutes:** Minutes from the Board meeting of April 26<sup>th</sup> were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Amber had an excused absence and will mail the Treasurer's report.

**Water Quality Specialist (Sarah):**

- Newsletter mailed.
- The Gallia SWCD is assisting with communications and programming for the Clean Sweep event to be held on June 16<sup>th</sup>.
- The Vinton Co. airport is mitigating 700 feet of stream that they buried in a pipe.
- The Pierce Run (middle basin) slag bed dam is leaking and will be fixed. ODNR and 319 funded the original project. The project needs to be fixed before samples can be taken downstream.
- Harble-Griffith should be complete soon and samples will also be taken here.
- Samples need to be taken at the Orland Gob Project.
- Board tour of watershed projects is set for July 25<sup>th</sup> (day of Board meeting). Meet at Waterloo at 3pm.
- A donation to Ohio Valley RC&D in amount of \$1,250 was approved (Bob, motion/Natalie, second/all in favor) to cover travel and supplies for Sarah. ODNR pays her salary through Ohio Valley RC&D and RCP makes a donation to help cover travel and supplies.

**Coordinator (Amy):**

- The Lake Milton Project needs maintenance. Specifically, valving is needed to control flow so that alkalinity in the slag bed is not depleted.
- The Ohio Mineland Partnership held its semiannual meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the RCP projects were featured. Carbondale E. Branch, phase 2, was featured. Amy presented on the recovery of Raccoon Creek and shared charts that show percentages of sensitive and tolerant species with higher percentage of sensitive and lower percentage of tolerant species over time. The pH out of the slag beds is 10-12 which creates a lot of precipitates, but the water is so acidic that the precipitates don't clog the beds. Heavy metals are bound in glassy structures in the slag and they can't leach out in pH 4 or 5.
- There is a cooperative grant for the Lake Morrow Project where the dam is mine spoil. The Project is to pipe water through the dam rather than allowing it to leach through and pick up additional acidity. The grant is administered by the OVRCD and has a wetland project for 2013.

- Biological sampling will be done as follows: Macroinvertebrates by RCP in July at 32 sites with an additional 4 sites if time and resources allow. Index of Biological Integrity (IBI), fish sampling, will be performed by MRM with assistance from RCP.

**AmeriCorps (Kristin):**

- School programs are finished.
- First summer camp 6/18-6/22. \$1700 was donated by the Athens Foundation for food.
- Second summer camp will run from 7/30-8/1.
- 6/24 Watershed groups benefit concert at Casa, 9pm. Collaborative effort with Sunday, Monday, and Leading Creeks.

**AmeriCorps (Kim):**

- 6/16, River Sweep 2012. Two sites are a canoe float cleanup near the Vinton-Gallia Co. line at a cleanup on foot near Carbondale.

**Chairperson (Natalie):**

- Monte tested the floor tiles at Waterloo and there is no asbestos in them. We need to remove the loose tiles.
- The volunteer cleanup day with Naturalists at Waterloo was cancelled.

**RCWTA (Molly):**

- The Creek had high water so the canoe float was held at Lake Hope. It was a logistical problem to move the venue and contact people. Better procedures need to be put in place for future floats. Some proof of paddling ability may be necessary on future floats since several parties could not properly handle their boats in a safe manner.
- Savannah Freeman, a Hocking College student, is taking the canoes for a Hocking College float on the RC.
- There will be an RCWTA booth at Final Fridays in Nelsonville on June 29<sup>th</sup>
- Annual dinner will be held at Lake Hope Shelter on Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 5pm. It is a potluck and there will be a grill.
- Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, is the Wilkesville Fish Fry.
- Karla is almost finished with the Water Trails map. It will be a nice resource. We need about \$4,000 for printing and we are looking for funding. RCWTA will apply to the American Canoe Association for water trail designation.

**Other (Athens Builder's Association (ABA) Joint Fundraiser):**

- Rob Wiley is also a member of the ABA and there is discussion about a joint fundraiser that would involve a canoe float and then a gathering for music and food at Uncle Buck's.
- There is potential for a large turnout. There are issues of where to get additional boats, low water levels, novice paddlers, and best dates to pick.
- There will be a meeting with ABA soon and Rob will propose the idea.
- The new AmeriCorps could possibly assist with this effort.

- Main costs are transportation and Uncle Buck's.
- RCP decided to pursue the idea further and will wait to hear how the meeting with ABA goes.

**Other (new AmeriCorps and internship):**

- Several interviews with qualified individuals have been held. One person, Rebekah Korenowsky, has accepted. Her OU senior thesis was about sediment and alkalinity balance on Hewett Fork. Several more interviews will be held and then final offers made.
- A summer internship offer was made to Renee Reber. She has not accepted yet.

**Next meeting is Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at Waterloo.**