

Whitewater Joint Powers Board Minutes
October 17, 2019
Whitewater State Park Visitor's Center

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5 **1. Call to Order:** Matt Flynn called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

6 Board Members Present: Josh Elsing, Matt Flynn, Richard Hall, Steve Jacob, James Rentz and Lynn Zabel

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8 Others Present: Sheila Harmes, Coordinator Whitewater Watershed; Jeff Weiss, DNR Rochester; Barton
9 Winter

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1 Board Members Absent: None

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3 **2. Public Comments**

4 None

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6 **3. Approve Minutes of August 15, 2019 Meeting**

7 A motion was made by S. Jacob and seconded by J. Rentz to approve the minutes.

8 Vote: Yes – All.

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0 **4. Approve Agenda**

1 A motion was made by S. Jacob and seconded by J. Elsing to approve the agenda. Vote: Yes – All.

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3 **5. Approve Consent Items**

4 **Bills & Payroll**

5 A motion was made by L. Zabel and seconded by S. Jacob to approve the bills and payroll.

6 Vote: Yes – All.

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9 **6. Board Reports and Introductions**

0 Steve Jacob (Winona County Board): The Winona County Board has set the preliminary levy at 4.3%. The
1 county building consolidation process is underway. The County is still involved in two court cases: frac
2 sand and Daley Farm.

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4 Lynn Zabel (Wabasha SWCD Supervisor): No update given.

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6 Richard Hall (Wabasha County Commissioner): Wabasha County is negotiating contracts with the unions.

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8 Josh Elsing (Winona SWCD Supervisor): There is a waiting list for cover crop projects. The SWCD has
9 noticed a trend change from educating the public to the public seeking out information regarding soil health
0 and cover crops.

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2 James Rentz (Olmsted SWCD Supervisor): No update given.

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4 Matt Flynn (Olmsted County Board): The Extension office is being relocated to allow for more space.

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6 **7. Board Discussion and Action Items**

7 **a. Financial Update – Sheila Harmes**

8 S. Harmes explained the balances for the money market and the checking account.

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0 **1. 2018 Audit draft**

1 S. Harmes explained the audit draft, which included the balances. It was similar to the 2017
2 audit. The WWJPB was in agreement with the audit and S. Harmes will add it to the December
3 Winona County Board meeting for approval.
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6 **2. 2019 Audit**

7 The WWJPB discussed audit bids for future years.

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9 **b. Lessard – Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) Proposal for North Branch - Jeff Weiss**

0 Jeff Weiss, Clean Water Hydrologist, DNR Rochester, gave an overview of a proposed stream
1 restoration project for the North Branch near Viola. The project will be funded by the DNR and Lessard –
2 Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and will start in 2020. Restoration work will extend the stream length
3 and construct a floodplain; this will reduce water energy during flood events. The WWJPB discussed
4 stream restoration projects and sediment reduction practices. If needed, the Whitewater Joint Powers
5 Board can provide a letter of support.

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7 **c. Whitewater Nitrogen Reduction Grant Update**

8 S. Harmes will have payments for cover crops at the next meeting. She shared a handout from the
9 Nitrogen Management, Soil Health and Cover Crop Field Tour on August 20th. Jake Overgaard is busy
0 with the end of the year test plots for the grant.

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2 **d. FY 2020 Clean Water Fund Application Update**

3 **1) Whitewater North Fork Sediment Reduction Project**

4 S. Harmes explained the project would address instream sediment and would pair well with Jeff
5 Weiss' project. S. Harmes will find out in December if her application was chosen.

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7 **2) Whitewater Drinking Water Protection**

8 S. Harmes explained that Clean Water Funding requires projects and practices directed towards
9 drinking water protection initiatives. She focused on townships with a high number of wells that
0 exceed the water quality standard for nitrates.

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2 **8. Agency Reports**

3 None

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5 **9. Next Meeting:** The next WWJPB meeting will be **Friday December 13, 2019**. Note the date change.

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7 The Whitewater Joint Powers Board adjourned at 9:28 a.m. on a motion of J. Elsing and seconded by R.
8 Hall. Vote: Yes - All

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0 Respectfully submitted by:
1 Anne Schwertel, Administrative Specialist

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3 Signed: 
4 WWJPB Secretary/Treasurer