

Guardians of the West Fork Regular Meeting Clarksburg Water Board Feb. 19, 2020 6:30 PM

President John Ciesla brought the meeting to order at 6:37 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Nedrow did the invocation. Those attending were: John Ciesla, Jim Nedrow, Al Cox, Mike Murphy, Lisa deGruyter, Robert Helfer, Martin Christ, Sally Egan and Sarah Cayton. **Al Cox moved and Robert Helfer seconded that the minutes of the January meeting be approved as presented. Motion passed.**

Sarah Cayton, Project Manager of the WV Water Research Institute, made a presentation. Regarding Site 7 at Lambert's Run, awards are presented in June. A Site 2 proposal may be awarded next year. Site 2 is impaired for iron (6,500 lbs. per year). The Site 2 proposal is due on May 1, 2020. Landowner partnerships and data collection will be part of the project. Funds for Site 2 would become available on July 1, 2021. Following receipt of funding, matching funds need to be secured, an engineer would be hired to design the project, the project would be put out for bid, construction would take place with a preferred finishing time of Sept. 30, 2024 with a drop-dead finishing time of June 30, 2024. Possible construction cost is \$188,730 for 2 limestone channels, a ¼ to ½ acre wetland and ¼ to ½ acre settling ponds. The first hurdle is receiving right of entry from possibly multiple landowners. It would be a good idea to talk with neighbors in the area. **Al Cox moved and Lisa deGruyter seconded that the Guardians of the West Fork partner with the WVU Water Research Institute on a Site 2 project and the Guardians encourage the WV Water Institute to prepare a proposal due May 1, 2020. Motion passed.** This will require a match from W-CAP. Sarah Cayton will help the Guardians apply for it in 2021. Sarah will look up the landowners and give them to us. The WVU Water Research Institute has a list of engineers, but it is necessary to publicly advertise. It is important to find qualified people, review their plans and decide upon affordability.

There was no financial report.

Camp Waldo – This is a 3-week Youth Conservation Camp in Hinton, WV for 7th Graders. It cost \$200 to sponsor a child. **Mike Murphy moved and Jim Nedrow seconded to send two students to this camp. Motion passed.**

SB 738 – This is a bill titled “Creating the Flatwater Trail Commission.” It would be a clearinghouse for all water trails in WV. There are 14 designated water trails and all are eligible for federal funds. All were urged to contact Senator Craig Blair and request that it be added to the agenda in the Senate Finance Committee.

Shinnston Boat Access Site Development - A meeting was held on Feb. 13, 2020 at the Shinnston City Office Building. AGO (Additional Grant Opportunities) funding is a possibility. DNR can match up to \$5,000. City of Shinnston - \$5,000 and Harrison County Commission - \$2500. John Ciesla talked with Steve McDaniel, WVDNR Chief, regarding Limestone Junction. Steve told John to contact Dave Wellman and have him design a project for Limestone.

Make It Shine – It is scheduled for Apr. 4, 2020 with a rain date of Apr. 11th for Harrison, Lewis and Marion counties. Last year 100 bags of trash were collected. The legislature passed a minimum of 100 hours of community service for littering. A list of polluted spots needs to be developed, such as, behind Wendy's and Limestone. Mini pop-up clean-ups of 1 – 2 hours are effective. Tires at Lambert's Run would be a good pop-up clean-up.

2020 Goals and Vision Statement – Will be discussed at the next meeting.

Float the Fork Committee – The next meeting will be on Feb. 20, 2020 at 6:30 PM at the West Milford Community Bldg.

Membership – We have 415 Facebook followers.

The next meeting will be Mar. 18, 2020 at the Clarksburg Water Board. Dave Wellman and Dennis Smith will do a DNR presentation on a recent fish survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Egan, Recording Secretary