

LETORT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
415 Franklin Street
Carlisle, PA 17013

MINUTES OF THE LETORT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
August 15, 2019

The meeting was held on Thursday, August 15, 2019, at the Carlisle Community Center. Andy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members / Representatives:

Present: Bill Berwick, Dennis Burkett, Chelsea Dickert, Sandy Kern, Andy Parker, Luke Shaffner, Herb Weigl, and Mark White

Members / Representatives

Absent: James Ruhl

Staff Present:

Kathy Russell

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

PRESENTATIONS – None

ANNOUNCEMENT – Andy welcomed Chelsea Dickert, the new Dickinson Law student representative. Chelsea is participating as a member of the 2019-2020 Leading Law Students Program. We look forward to working with Chelsea.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Luke made a motion to approve the July minutes. Dennis seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Administrator - (Kathy Russell) – No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance / Budget – (Herb Weigl)

Monthly Financial Status

The memorandum of bills is as follows:

Receipts:

Current Month	
Prior month Interest	+\$57.50
TOTAL RECEIPTS	+\$57.50

Bills Requiring Approval:

Administrator	-\$300.00
Verizon Wireless	-\$27.25
TOTAL BILLS requiring approval	-\$327.25

Herb made a motion to approve the August monthly bills for payment in the amount of \$327.25. Mark seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Herb is expecting a few more bills from trail mowing services. He is estimating approximately \$900.00 more in billings. We are still running below the budget for trail maintenance.

Treasurer's Report:

BANK ASSET ACCOUNTS:

BUSINESS CHECKING ACCOUNT (07)

Beginning Balance	\$100.00	
Transfer from Business Savings Acct.	+\$317.25	
Paid bill	-\$317.25	
Closing Account Balance		\$100.00

BUSINESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT (00) GENERAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$23,571.01	
Interest	+\$1.90	
Transfer to Checking	-\$327.25	
Closing Account Balance		\$23,245.66

BUSINESS MONEY MANAGEMENT SAVINGS, FRIENDS OF THE LETORT

Beginning Balance	\$11,096.75	
Interest	+\$2.36	
Closing Account Balance		\$11,099.11

BUSINESS SUPPLEMENTAL SAVINGS, RESTRICTED FUND -01

Beginning Balance	\$1,502.13	
Interest	+\$.13	
Closing Account Balance		\$1,502.26

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT #40 (25 Month) (Matures 2/1/7/21)	
Transferred from CD#45	\$5,334.17
Interest	<u>+\$12.10</u>
Closing Account Balance.....	\$5,346.27
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT #41 (25 Month)	
Beginning Balance	\$5,254.46
Interest	<u>+\$10.17</u>
Closing Account Balance.....	\$5,264.63
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT #48 (15 Month) (Matures 10/18/19)	
Beginning Balance	\$5,239.45
Interest	<u>+\$8.81</u>
Closing Account Balance.....	\$5,248.26
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT #49 (15 Month) (Matures 07/05/20)	
Beginning Balance	\$5,106.46
Interest	<u>+\$9.76</u>
Closing Account Balance.....	\$5,106.46
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT #50 (15 Month) (Matures 05/20/21)	
Beginning Balance (4/20/19).....	\$5,246.03
Interest	<u>+\$10.11</u>
Closing Account Balance.....	\$5,269.46
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS ON DEPOSIT:.....	\$62,192.22

Herb reported that CD #48 will be maturing on 10/18/19. We will need to make a decision at the September meeting on what to do with these funds.

- As of this afternoon, Members First has a brand-new issue of a 29-month CD for 2.95%. We will see what they offer next month.

Andy will contact Union Quarries about supplying stone on the trail by the quarry.

- Financial Summary – The financial summary report is as noted.
- Budget Report – The budget report is as noted.

Friends of Letort – Luke Shaffner

- Fall Fundraiser –
 - We will begin to work on the letter campaign.
 - Herb mentioned that contributions made from an IRA is a way to make donations – tax free
- Other activities –
 - Luke stated that Deloitte, the company he works for, does a yearly impact day event where company employees go out into the community to volunteer. If the LRA would like to plan an event or trail clean-up, Luke could get maybe 10 people to volunteer.

Grants – Andy Parker – No report

Audit – James Ruhl – No report

Information and Education - Sandy Kern

- Recent press releases – None
- Facebook posts -
 - Sandy continues to posts on our Facebook page.
 - Members should provide photos and writeups to Sandy for posting.
 - Luke has posted pictures on our cloud.

Nature Trail – Dennis Burkett

- Trail maintenance –
 - We need to do some work around the quarry.
 - Luke reported that on the Letort Park side of the quarry, it looks like the quarry drove machine down the trail and cleared out a spot and sank two new monitoring wells. Andy was aware of this. They are doing the H&H study as part of the quarry’s MPDS permit. They are supposed to repair any damage that they have made.
- Tree maintenance –
 - Trees noted down in the stream in / near Letort Park.
 - Andy and Luke will investigate.

- Benches Project –
 - Herb made a motion to authorize purchase three (3) - 6' Champion benches / Inground Mount/ Evergreen at a cost of \$658.85 each plus shipping and handling. Bill seconded the motion and the motion carried.
 - Kathy will contact Treetop Products Inc. and get a quote for the benches and will work with Herb to get the order placed.
 - The benches will be shipped to Herb.
 - Andy, Herb, and Luke will walk the trail to determine placement of the benches.
 - We will determine at a later date whether we will get volunteers to install the benches or hire a contractor.
 - Memorial benches will be available to purchase for a minimum of \$500.00.
 - Luke has at least one person interested in purchasing a memorial bench.
- Homeless activity – Andy received an email from Melinda Hench, the Assistant Director of Parks in Carlisle. Someone had reported some homeless activity and beer drinking behind the Lamberton MS and I81 bridges. The Carlisle Police have been contacted.
- Fill your trail map boxes – Please continue to fill your assigned map boxes as needed.

Long-Range Planning & Easements - Andy Parker

- Cumberland Conservation Collaborative report (Herb) – No report
 - On September 10th the CCC will be hosting a conference at Dickinson College relating to climate change as it relates to the local infrastructure.

Stream Ecology - William Berwick

- ALLARM report and analysis – (even months) – Phosphate low after being high in spring? Not sure why. Everything else looks good.
- Jinnie leaving ALLARM / Dickinson – Luke will ask Julie who will be replacing Jinnie.

Project Review - Andy Parker – None

- Burkholder Poultry Operation – South Middleton Twp. – Andy will review this plan.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Board Vacancies – North Middleton Township and Carlisle Borough
 - Ron Lang is a potential person for the Carlisle Borough
 - Andy will reach out to Mr. Lang.
 - Herb will be retiring at the end of the year.
- Authority charter expiration 2024 – Chelsea volunteered to join Andy, James, and Luke, the ad hoc committee, to look into the expiration:
 - Do we want to have the charter renewed?
 - Do we want to dissolve the charter?
 - Several municipalities have it in their land development ordinance that the LRA should review their plans.
 - We have a fair amount of land holdings within the watershed as well as conservation easements on private properties. What would happen to those?
 - The trail is our biggest asset. What would happen with that?
 - What do our member municipalities want to do?

Andy will schedule a meeting in the next few weeks for the ad hoc committee to begin discussing this matter.

- SMT Trail Extension –
 - This project is proceeding ahead.
 - They have their grant applications in.
 - All indications are that they are being received favorably.
 - They should get the funding to extend the trail.
 - The extension will be a little over a mile extending up to Heiser's Lane.
- Liability Insurance
 - Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers (POWR) offers some liability insurance to watershed associations. Unfortunately, it does not cover much. They do not have offices and directors' insurance at all. The only thing that their insurance would cover is our monthly meeting. If we have an event, they would need a 30-day notice and it would be an additional fee. We will look into it a little more, but this may not be the best option or beneficial for us.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Fish Kill –
 - No additional report on the fish kill other than the information Andy sent out.
 - There was a contractor working on the War College grounds that dumped something in the stream that killed fish for a couple hundred yards.
 - Andy spoke with the investigation with the Fish & Boat Commission and she said that she couldn't give any details, but they were preparing a criminal indictment against the contractor.
 - Until the indictment is issued, she could not provide any addition information.
 - Andy will contact Mike Parker, who is the spokesman for the Fish & Boat Commission.
 - DEP would be the ones who would enforce the restitution.

- Andy spoke with John Leonard, the current president of CVTU, he said they have some photos of the fish kill. Andy requested copies of the photos, but hasn't heard back from him.
- John indicated that the LRA, CVTU, CPC, and Keepers of the Stream, as organizations that are all interested in the Letort. John suggested that all of these groups get together and coordinate and make sure that we are all pulling the rope in the same direction. Andy will let us know what is happening.
- Herb mentioned in last month's minutes about a meeting he was going to have with CPC representatives about planting live stakes. That meeting fell through and he has heard nothing from them.
- After a brief discussion, Herb made a motion to donate \$250.00 to the Carlisle Garden Club for continued maintenance for the trailhead garden.
 - Other things the garden club may need in the future would be a solar powered water pump that would take the water from the stream, be able to lift it 10-20 feet vertically at the most, and push the water a distance. The pump and solar panels would cost approximately \$1,000.00. This pump would be used as a temporary thing that would be installed at each use and put away until next use. This may be an expense that the garden club may consider in the future and they may reach out to us to help defray the cost. This would be considered as a trail improvement cost.
- On July 25th, Mark traveled to McConnellsburg to meet with Senator Ward (North Middleton District) to discuss the Clean Water Act and to see what her position was on this matter. She took a lot of notes and was very receptive. She was interested in the Authority's work with keeping the Letort clean. Mark is hopeful she will show to be supportive.

Luke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Letort Regional Authority is scheduled for Thursday, September 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the Carlisle Community Center in Carlisle, PA.



Sandy Kern, Secretary

9/19/19

Date Adopted

Prepared by: Kathy L. Russell