

**PEORIA LAKES BASIN ALLIANCE**  
**Tuesday July 12, 2016**  
**12:00 pm**  
**TCRPC Offices**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:**

The Nature Conservancy:	Jason Beverlin, Doug Blodgett (via phone)
Heartland Water Resources Council:	Steve Van Winkle, Mark Hanback, Tom Tincher
Tri County Regional Planning Commission:	Darrell Meisinger, Eric Miller, Nick Hayward, Russ Crawford

**I. Call to Order**

Beverlin called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

**II. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 10, 2016**

Meisinger moved to approve the June 14, 2016 minutes and Van Winkle seconded. Motion carried.

**III. Discussion of Name and Intent of Planning Process**

Beverlin asked for input on the name of this planning process.

- Crawford suggested the plan be called a comprehensive plan.
- Van Winkle said if restoration or preservation are used in the title, these terms need to be defined. He feels this plan should address water quality, water depth, and habitat.
- Blodgett said preservation may not be appropriate in the title. He said this plan could identify projects to create habitat and suggested using conservation or habitat in the title.
- Tincher said the plan should address lake improvements that take into account recreation and lakefront development.
- Miller said the word comprehensive may be too broad.
- Van Winkle said that habitat and water depth are important issues to address.
- Tincher discussed the idea of saving the lakes by growing the economy. He said an important consideration moving forward is how to obtain funding for lake improvements. He also said deciding on preferred in-lake improvements needs to take into account the needs of recreation and desired lakefront development.
- Crawford said the plan should focus on the vision for the Peoria Lakes. He also suggested adding the vision statement to the one-page summary of the planning process.

- Beverlin said it appears there is consensus on calling this planning process a Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan. Crawford moved to accept this as the title and Meisinger seconded. Motion carried.

#### **IV. Discussion of Revised Cost Estimate for Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Preservation Plan Scope of Work**

- Beverlin said additional meetings were added to the scope of work to ensure proper coordination among PLBA, stakeholders and the Army Corps. He said we are waiting to receive some answers from the Army Corps regarding eligible cost match. He also mentioned the importance of knowing what type of payroll reports are needed so that we know how to properly document our cost match.
- Tincher asked when the scope of work needs to be submitted. Hayward said the target is September 30 but that this date could change if Congress passes a continuing resolution to fund operations. He needs to get more information from Marshall Plumley about this.

#### **V. Discussion of Project Review Committee**

- Hayward distributed the Project Review Committee proposal document. He asked the group to let him know any questions or comments about the document.
- Miller suggested adding the Cities of Peoria and East Peoria to the Project Review Committee.
- Crawford said stakeholder guidelines need to be developed for Project Review Committee members.

#### **VI. Member Reports**

1. Heartland Water Resources Council
  - Tincher reported on current activities of the Council.
2. The Nature Conservancy
  - Beverlin reported that the water control structure at Emiquon is not complete. He also reported the visitors use area is still closed and fishing permits can be obtained at Dickson Mounds Museum.
3. Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
  - Miller reported that in June PPUATS awarded the City of Pekin \$37,000 for a freight study that could become regional in scope.

#### **VII. Other**

No further discussion was held.

#### **VIII. Discuss Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting date will be Tuesday August 9, 2016.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

Tincher moved to adjourn and Meisinger seconded. Motion carried.