

Peoria Lakes Basin Alliance

“A Unified Voice for the Restoration and Preservation of the Peoria Lakes”

For further information regarding the Alliance, please contact the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission 309-673-9330



**Heartland Water
Resources Council
of Central Illinois**
416 Main St. Ste 828
Peoria, IL 61602
(309) 637-5253

Representatives
Executive Director:
Tom Tincher

Board Members:
Steve Van Winkle
Wayne Ingram



**The Nature
Conservancy**

Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

301 S.W. Adams St.
Ste. 1007
Peoria, IL 61602
(309) 673-6689

Representatives
State Director:
Michelle Carr

Board Members:
Chris Ryan
Ken Katch



**Tri-County Regional
Planning
Commission**
456 Fulton St., Suite 401
Peoria, IL 61602
(309) 673-9330

Representatives
Executive Director:
Eric Miller

Board Members:
Darrell Meisinger
Russ Crawford

PEORIA LAKES BASIN ALLIANCE

Tuesday June 13, 2017

12:00 pm

TCRPC Offices

456 Fulton St, Suite 401
Peoria, IL

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 9, 2017 and Special Meeting May 30, 2017
- III. Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan
 1. Update
 2. Survey Questions
 3. Project Review Committee (PRC)
 4. PRC Selection Criteria and Roles & Responsibilities (R&R)
 5. Communication Plan
- IV. Member Reports
 1. Heartland Water Resources Council
 2. The Nature Conservancy
 3. Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
- V. Other
- VI. Discuss Next Meeting Date
- VII. Adjournment

PEORIA LAKES BASIN ALLIANCE
Tuesday May 9, 2017
12:00 pm
TCRPC Offices

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

The Nature Conservancy:	Jason Beverlin, Doug Blodget
Heartland Water Resources Council:	Steve Van Winkle, Tom Tincher, Wayne Ingram,
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission:	Eric Miller, Ray Lees, Michael Bruner Russ Crawford
ACEO	Marshall Plumley, and Jackie Veninger via phone

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2017

Ingram moved to approve the December 13, 2016 minutes and Beverlin seconded. Motion carried.

III. Update on Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan

- Miller updated that he had a conference call with Jackie Veninger of logistics and discussed the plan and the 1st Public meeting.
- Bruner presented a project timeline.
- Van Winkle asked what do we want the outcome to be for our efforts
- Miller explained the need for a scope of the outcome.
- Marshall Plumley a document should be created that demonstrates where we stand and public involvement process, public input, most important what the region wants.
- Crawford mentioned to let everyone know what this project is and ask for input.
- Tincher asked what is the reality of the different projects
- Crawford said to introduce who we are and what we want to accomplish. Beverlin and Miler said the document needs to state what we want and to manage the groups interested.
- Crawford suggested a power point of elements and purpose, funding and project options.
- Beverlin said that all materials sent need to be clear and the message needs to be the same.
- Beverlin said we need a communication plan for emails, etc.
- Van Winkle said we need to appreciate the river more.

- Plumley said to add materials of issues needed of river and types of projects the public has concerns about.
- Van Winkle suggested asking what the benefits of changing the river are.
- Blodget mentioned to identify conceptacle projects.
- Miler wants to have different workstations for public to participate. We need to gain as much public input as we can.

IV. Member Reports

1. Heartland Water Resources Council

Tincher said they are moving along with the scope of work for the lakes. Heartland has pledged to the planning initiative. They are holding off on the planning process until the committee can get a more positive feedback of members. EDC is interested in plans of the lakefront planning process.

2. The Nature Conservancy

Beverlin updated that the Emiquon Science Symposium will be Wednesday, May 10, 2017 and the Illinois River Conference will be Sept.12-14 @ Starved Rock

3. Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

- Nothing to report

V. Other

- Special meeting May 30 @ noon

VI. Discuss Next Meeting Date

June 13, 2017 @ noon

VII. Adjournment

**PEORIA LAKES BASIN ALLIANCE
SPECIAL
Tuesday May 30, 2017
12:00 pm
TCRPC Offices**

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

The Nature Conservancy:	Doug Blodgett
Heartland Water Resources Council:	Steve Van Winkle, Wayne Ingram,
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission:	Eric Miller, Ray Lees, Michael Bruner
	Russ Crawford, Mackenzie Clauss
ACEO	Jackie Veninger via phone

I. Call to Order

Van Winkle called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

II. Update on Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan

(a) Revised Project Review Committee (PRC)

- Bruner explained the weekly meeting conference call with Jackie Veninger from ACOE. He stated the ACOE will have an ecological modal for a station at the Open House in July. He also stated that Jackie from ACOE asked for us to come up with a Mission statement. The committee thought we already had and it was decided that was a Vision statement.
- Lees then introduced Mackenzie Clauss to committee as a new intern for TCRPC.
- Van Winkle announced the Open House will be July 13, 2017 from 2-4 and 6-8 pm at the Ivy Club in Chillicothe.
- Discussion was held on the Mission statement.
- Miller mentioned the Mission Statement should be specific and yet broad.

(b) PRC Section Criteria and Roles & Responsibilities

- Crawford reviewed the revisions made on the Project Review Committee (PRC) and the Roles & Responsibilities (R&R). Asked if there are any items to add.
- Van Winkle asked what and how is this committee going to impact on this. Also what are the bylaws. Was suggested to get with ACOE for by-laws. He also said all groups are aligned and should know up front your roles and responsibilities of each group.

**(c) Peoria Lakes Conservation Comprehensive Plan project
(PLCCPP) Communication Plan**

- Crawford explained the format of the (PLCCPP)
- Van Winkle asked what we need to do today to be ready for the next meeting June 13th.

III. Adjournment

Adjourned at 2:20pm

DRAFT

Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan Survey Questions

Intro/Background info: Thank you for participating in this survey. The Peoria Lakes are Greater Peoria's most precious natural resource and have supported life in the Illinois River Valley for 12,000 years. However, as increasing urban development and industrialization occurred over time, water quality declined, habitat was lost and degraded, and sedimentation has steadily filled the Lakes, leaving some areas less than 3 feet deep. The Peoria Lakes Basin Alliance (PLBA) was established in 2001 to coordinate efforts to restore and preserve the Peoria Lakes.

PLBA and other regional stakeholders are joining forces to develop a Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan. The purpose of this planning process is to develop a set of strategies to address Peoria Lakes' environmental challenges and identify opportunities to preserve the natural environment of the Illinois River and Peoria Lakes for current and future generations. By answering the following questions, you can help contribute to the success of this planning process.



Perception Questions

1. I have a negative perception of the lakes.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
2. I am concerned about the current status of the Peoria Lakes.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
3. Conservation efforts for the Peoria Lakes are important for our community.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
4. I would be supportive of future organized conservation plans for the Peoria Lakes.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral

- d. Agree
- e. Strongly Agree

Concerns/Issues

- 5. Asian Carp are an issue in the Peoria Lakes.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
- 6. The water quality is an issue in the Peoria Lakes.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
- 7. The depth of the Peoria Lakes must be improved.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
- 8. Sedimentation is an issue in the Peoria Lakes.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
- 9. The decline of habitat around the Peoria Lakes is a concern.
 - a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree

Usage/Lake Activity Questions

- 10. I use the Peoria Lakes _____.
 - a. Never
 - b. Rarely
 - c. Sometimes
 - d. Often
 - e. Frequently
- 11. The declined state of ecological health inhibits my usage of the Peoria Lakes.

- a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
12. If you answered **d** or **e** in the above question, in what way?
- a. *Comment box*
13. I enjoy using and spending time around the Peoria Lakes
- a. Strongly Disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree
14. I partake in the following activities on the Lakes: **(select all that apply)**
- a. Boating
 - b. Jet skiing/water skiing
 - c. Canoeing
 - d. Camping
 - e. Fishing
 - f. Bird Watching
 - g. Walking/biking
 - h. Other
 - a. *Comment box*
 - i. Not applicable/I do not use the lakes

Demographics

15. Gender
- a. Male
 - b. Female
16. Age
- a. Under 18 years old
 - b. 18-29 years old
 - c. 30-49 years old
 - d. 50-56 years old
 - e. 65 years and over
17. Ethnicity
- a. White
 - b. Hispanic or Latino
 - c. African American
 - d. Asian/Pacific Islander
 - e. Other
18. Education

- a. Some high school
- b. High school graduate/ GED
- c. Some college
- d. Associate degree
- e. Bachelor's degree
- f. Master's degree
- g. Professional degree
- h. Doctorate degree

19. Employment Status

- a. Employed for wages
- b. Self-employed
- c. Out of work and looking
- d. Out of work and not currently looking
- e. A homemaker
- f. A student
- g. Military
- h. Retired
- i. Unable to work

20. Geographic location

- a. Tazewell County
- b. Peoria County
- c. Woodford County
- d. Other

i. Include comment box

Thank you for participating in this survey.

If you are interested in receiving updates on this planning process, please fill out the information below:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan - Project Review Committee (PRC):

Category (per Task 4):	Organization:	Representative:
1. Business-Global	Caterpillar	Henry Vicary/Designee
2. Business-Retail	Bass Pro Shop	Jim Goff
3. Economic Development	Water Res. Team	Shae Birky
4. Environmental Advocacy-State	IL Conservation Foundation	Eric Schenck
5. Environmental Advocacy-Local	Heartland Water Res. Coun.	Tom Tincher
6. Environmental Advocacy-Global	The Nature Conservancy	Doug Blodgett
7. Government-Local	Soil & Water Cons. Dist.	David McCormick
8. Government-Local	Peoria, IL	City Mgr/Designee
9. Government-Local	East Peoria, IL	City Mgr/Designee
10. Government-Regional	Tri-Co Reg Plan Commission	Eric Miller
11. Government-State	IL DNR/IL Riv. Biologist	Nerissa McClelland
12. Government-State	IEPA/Surface Water Mgr.	Gregg Good
13. Government-State	Lt. Gov/IL Riv. Coord. Council	Lt. Gov/Designee
14. Hydrology	Amec Foster Wheeler Inc.	Wayne Ingram
15. Natural Resource Conservation	Emiquon	Jason Beverlin
16. Natural Resource Conservation	Peo. Lakes Basin Alliance	Russ Crawford
17. River Recreation	Boat Club	Roy Bockler
18. River Transportation	Peoria Barge Terminal	Doug Rendleman
19. Science/Scientists	University of Illinois	Demissie/Bhowmik

Project Facilitators: Michael Bruner and Reema Abi-Akar (TCRPC); Jackie Veninger (USACOE)

Project Owners: Peoria Lakes Basin Alliance, Tri-County Reg. Planning Commission & USACOE

Notes:

1. These categories are from our Project documents-Task #4; all categories are included.
2. The categories are in no order of significance, just alphabetical order.
3. Need to determine if other categories or orgs should be included.
4. Standard for Inclusion: We cannot achieve the level of success desired w/o them.
5. The **PRC Roles & Responsibilities (R&R)** is to be determined prior to any PRC invitations.
6. The **PRC R&R** identifies what is in scope and out of scope for the PRC.
7. This is simply a strawman starting point for discussion on the PRC members.
8. No PRC invitations have been approved to date by the PLBA.

Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan Project

Project Review Committee (PRC) Selection Criteria and Roles & Responsibilities (R&R):

Project Facilitators: Michael Bruner and Reema Abi-Akar (TCRPC); Jackie Veninger (USACOE)

Project Owners: Peoria Lakes Basin Alliance, Tri-County Reg. Planning Commission & USACOE

Selection Criteria: PRC Invitations must include agreement by the invitee of the following:

1. The Standard for PRC selection: We can't achieve the desired level of success w/o them.
2. The PRC Member must agree to fully participate in both the PRC meetings and the work.
3. The PRC Member's input should represent the Category & Organization they represent.

Roles & Responsibilities:

1. The PRC Member will comply with scope (in/out of scope & identified start/stop points).
2. The PRC Member will comply with the Communication Plan incl. what/when/how/who.
3. The PRC Member will comply with guidelines for teamwork, collaboration & decisions.
4. The PRC Member will review all public and stakeholder input
5. The PRC Member will contribute in the ranking of the preferred conservation alternatives.
6. Other?

Peoria Lakes Comprehensive Conservation Plan Project - Communication Plan

Plan Element	Task #	Content		Timing			Logistics			Status
		Purpose	Message	Frequency	Timeline	Date	Medium: How?	System: Who?	Commu-nicator	
Public Intro	Task 1	Planning process for the public, inventory concerns and comments	Provide space for community input and knowledge-sharing about Peoria Lakes	OTO (two time slots)	Month 1	July 13, 2017	Facebook, press release, editorial board, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
Kickoff Stakeholder Mtg	Task 1	Introduce problems, history, & concerns about Peoria Lakes	Announce project, purpose, scope, & Q&A	Every 2 Wks/ OTO/ 2 times	Month 1	(TBA)	Email lists, phone calls, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
Stakeholder Mtg 2 (individual)	Task 2	Gather detailed input on desired benefits	Allow stakeholders to comment & shape planning process	OTO	Month 2	(TBA)	Email lists, phone calls, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
PRC Mtg 1	Task 5			(TBA)	Month 6	(TBA)	Email lists, phone calls, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
Public Mtg 2: Report Findings	Task 7			(TBA)	Month 9	(TBA)	Facebook, Press Release & Editorial Board, Org Websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
PRC Mtg 2	Task 8			(TBA)	Month 10	(TBA)	Email lists, phone calls, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
Newsletter 1 Distribution	Task 9			(TBA)	Month 10	(TBA)	Facebook, email lists, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
PRC Mtg 3/ Sustainability	Task 10			(TBA)	Month 11	(TBA)	Email lists, phone calls, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
Document Input	Task 11			(TBA)	Month 12	(TBA)	Email lists, phone calls, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
Report Solutions	Task 11			(TBA)	Month 12	(TBA)	Email lists, phone calls, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	
Replication	Task 11			(TBA)	Month 12	(TBA)	Email lists, phone calls, org websites	TCRPC-USACOE & Org Websites	Bruner/ Abi-Akar/ Veninger	