

**MINUTES OF THE KANKAKEE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018 AT
9:30 AM CDT
Nancy Dembowski Community Center
55 East Lake Street
Knox, Indiana 46534**

Chairman Chris Knochel called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. He asked for a moment of silence in memory of Jody Melton's mother who passed away in the last week.

Secretary Vince Urbano called the roll.

Members present

Kevin Breitzke	Bill Crase	Craig Cultice
Bill Emerson	Mark Kingma	Chris Knochel
John Law	Josh Lawrence	Mike Novotney
Kim Peterson	Ken Purze	Gene Schmidt
Jerry Tippy	Vince Urbano	James Walstra

Guests Present

Bob Barr	Siavash Beik	James Blazey
George Bowman	Melanie Burdick	Allan Cameron, Jr.
Eric Carr	Angie Crawford	Cole Downhour
Myles Downhour	Gus Ellicott	Dan Granquist
Dan Gumz	Steve Heim	Chris Herens
Elizabeth Johnson	Christine Keil	Tom Larson
Matthew Linn	Don Lode	Travis Mead
Nicole Messacar	Julie Morris	Erin Moorhous
Ryan Mueller	State Senator Rick	Niemeyer
Jack Ryan	Jacque Ryan	John Shire
Joe Skelton	Andrea Surma	Jim Sweeney
E Turkowski	Geneva Tyler	Lauren Varga

Staff Present

Jody Melton

Approval of Minutes

Ken Purze made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2018 KRBC meeting. Kevin Breitzke seconded and the minutes were approved.

Ken Purze then asked to be recognized to address an issue outlined in the July minutes. At the July meeting, Ken Purze made a motion to approve the distribution of an RFQ for a Kankakee River master plan. Having studied the RFQ that was approved, he had second thoughts and made a motion to reconsider that action toward the RFQ. Jerry Tippy seconded. To further explain his reason for reconsideration, Ken Purze said that the RFQ should

- 1) Financing resources should be identified and specified including individual County commitments for payments prior to putting consultants through the selection process.
- 2) There is no consideration for the current discussions among state and county officials of Indiana and Illinois as they work together to develop a mutually beneficial and evolving comprehensive plan.
- 3) To that end, the legislators have already commissioned an engineering work plan to be completed at the beginning of 2019.
- 4) There should be references and connections to the historical significance of the Kankakee River. The language of the RFQ needs to identify any additional work of KRBC goals that weren't addressed satisfactorily by that study.
- 5) To be in compliance with Indiana State Statute IC 14-30-1-13, all planning and development programs must be approved by each affected regional planning commission and the Department of Natural Resources.

Chairman Knochel explained that to approve a motion to reconsider would mean the RFQ could be restructured to better reflect the intent of the KRBC in getting a master plan created. The vote was called and the motion to reconsider was approved unanimously.

Ken Purze then moved to table the RFQ to allow time for a rewrite and to address the issues he brought forth. Jerry Tippy seconded, the vote was called and the RFQ was tabled.

Chairman Knochel asked for self-introductions from all guests.

Finance Report

All counties have paid their 2018 share of the KRBC assessment. There has been one repair of river bank in Newton County since last meeting. Otherwise finances are outlined on last 2 pages of packet. Ken Purze moved to accept the finance report, Kevin Breitzke seconded and the report was accepted.

Old Business

Siavash Beik from CBBEL and Bob Barr discussed the work plan they are preparing for the Kankakee River in Indiana and Illinois per the contract passed in July. They have been downriver in boats from St. Joseph County to Aroma Park in Illinois. Surveyors in each of the counties have told them the problems they have in their counties and flood damage from this spring's flood is readily apparent. The work plan will be preliminarily finished by January 1, 2019 and a final report will be completed by late spring. While the present work focuses on the Indiana portion of the Kankakee, the work takes them across the state line and they plan to offer strategies for the Kankakee and Iroquois Rivers in Illinois as well.

Kevin Breitzke, chair of the Executive Director search committee, told the KRBC that the committee will stop accepting applications September 30th and begin the process of reviewing applications and scheduling interviews with potential candidates.

New Business

Jody Melton told the surveyors that if the KRBC legislative book is to be completed by the first of November he needs the financial requests submitted to him soon.

Bob Barr and Siavash Beik along with Bill Crase summarized the Yellow River pilot project and its status to date. Following the adjournment of this meeting, they will lead a trip out to the project site.

The next KRBC meeting will be held on November 8 at 9:30 am. at the Kankakee Fish and Wildlife Headquarter.
The meeting was adjourned.