



**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Council Chambers - City Hall, 3rd Floor
1717 E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** John Tillotson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

2. **ROLL CALL**

Board Members: Present: Donald DeBruyn, Douglas Brandt, Heather Gross, John Tillotson

Virtual: Corinne Weis Absent: Darla LeClair, Tracey Koach

Staff & Others: Matthew Heckenlaible, Scott Ahl, Mike Mathis

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the March 18, 2025, Environmental Advisory Board meeting

Donald DeBruyn made a motion to accept the March 18, 2025, Environmental Advisory Board meeting minutes as discussed noting that the guest at last month's meeting should be spelt as Drury. Motion seconded by Douglas Brandt. Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT - N/A**

5. **NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION, AS NEEDED - N/A**

6. **ONGOING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION, AS NEEDED**

A. **2024-2025 Winter Educational Series**

April 10, 2025 - Light Pollution and Animal Confusion

Scott Ahl stated the presentation by Michael Dietmer was well done and provided a good local perspective. It was also well attended with around 20 people in attendance. This was the last one for this season. Need to work on next year's lineup.

B. **EAB City Posted Videos on Website** – Darla was not present; therefore, no update provided.

C. **Northeast Lakeshore TMDL/Urban Non-Point Source Grant**

Director Heckenlaible and Scott Ahl met with the consultant on April 3, 2025, to discuss the preliminary results of the most recent stormwater modeling and where we compare to the Northeast Lakeshore TMDL requirements. There are multiple drainage basins that the city discharges into, which are the West Twin River, East Twin River, Molash Creek, Forget Me Not Creek and directly into Lake Michigan.

West Twin River required to remove 36% Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and 15% Total Phosphorus (TP). The modeling is showing we are removing 42.3% TSS and 30.5% TP with existing best management practices in place which meets requirements.

Lake Michigan watershed directly discharges into Lake Michigan and was not part of the TMDL

study. As such, there are removal reduction requirements associated with these areas.

Molash Creek (the drainage area up near the high school) has a minor drainage area associated with it. However, since the drainage in this area does not flow through a city (municipal separate storm sewer) system but flows through WDOT and private drainage ways which then discharge to Molash Creek, the City will not be required to achieve any reduction for TSS or TP in this drainage basin. There are a few best management practices already in place in that basin which would be for the STH-42 Industrial Park and Two Rivers High School property.

Forget Me Not Creek watershed is required to reduce TSS by 20% and TP by 50% to meet TMDL standards. The modeling indicates that with present practices in place we are achieving 5.3% TSS and 3.0% TP reductions.

East Twin River watershed is required to reduce TSS by 20% and TP by 28% to meet TMDL standards. The modeling indicates that with present practices in place we are achieving 14.2% TSS and 9.8% TP reductions.

Overall, we are in a very good position with respect to meeting the Northeast Lakeshore TMDL requirements. The consultant will need to make a few modifications to the model and associated maps to provide updated reduction values. This includes modifying the type of street sweeper being used (mechanical vs high efficiency). By modifying the model to include our new high efficiency street sweeper along with modifications to a few existing best management practices and the inclusion of a few additional practices, we should be able to meet our TSS and TP reduction requirements.

7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Park and Recreation Director Mike Mathis provided an update on the following agenda items.

A. Urban Forestry Grant update

Received a 50/50 grant with each portion being \$25,000. A portion of it will be used to fund a youth apprenticeship where they will learn to prune and plant trees along with providing some resources related to education. Plus, there are some tree plantings to be incorporated with this grant.

There will be 60 trees that need to be planted in the southern portion of the city with a majority of those trees to be placed along the newly reconstructed Roosevelt Street. There will be challenges with overhead utilities on both sides of the street, but appropriate trees will be selected. Need to look at locations out in the field over the next couple of weeks.

B. Arbor Day Event update

There will be a gathering at the Lester Public Library on Saturday, April 26th. There will be a demonstration on how to fell some ash trees and the planting of six trees around the library property along with other educational opportunities.

C. Lake Michigan Bird Observatory Grant update – No update

D. Paddlers Park update

City staff planted trees in the park with the assistance of LNRP who added the design of the proposed improvements. The Parks Department has also applied to the Wisconsin Coastal

Management Grant program for further assistance with these improvements. Local staff feel positive about and support the application, which usually means that the project has a good chance of being funded. Currently waiting for the official word.

E. NWFW, Great Lake and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Grant update

Now that the uncertainty related to the funding streams has been clarified, contracts have been signed and the city and consultant can now begin work on how to make improvements to the shoreline from the wastewater plant south to the Light House Inn as well as possible features along Mariners Trail down to the Chamber of Commerce building in Manitowoc.

F. Neshotah Beach Project(s) update

A lot is happening in the park:

1. Replacement of the paved surface underneath the Jaycee Shelter.
2. Foundations for the climbing wall and bamboo climbing areas are being constructed. Everything should be completed prior to Memorial Day.
3. The replacement of Pierce Street along with the construction and modification of parking areas along Pierce Street.
4. Construction of paved trails from the concession stand to Pierce Street, Garfield Street and adjacent to Pierce Street from the parking areas to the beach.
5. Conceptual concession stand/building plans have been received from the consultant so future budgeting and fundraising plans can be made for this project.

G. Kayaks grant funding

Past grants allowed the Park's Department to get a small fleet of kayaks and appropriate paddling gear. They have six (6) paddling programs scheduled for this year including a training program related to adaptive paddling. See their website for additional details. Must register in advance to participate.

8. OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD, WITH CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF NEEDED - N/A

9. SET DATE, TIME, AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING

Proposed for May 20, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

10. ADJOURNMENT: 6:30 pm

Donald DeBruyn made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Heather Gross. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Matthew R. Heckenlaible
Public Works Director/City Engineer