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Meeting Minutes

White Clay Creek Watershed

Management Committee

Funding Subcommittee

May 7, 2002, 3:30 -5PM

Water Resources Agency

University of Delaware

Newark, Delaware

In Attendance:

Fred Muller, Sally Cheyne, Ed O'Donnell, Jerry Kauffman, Charles Barscz

This is the first meeting of the *Funding Subcommittee* which was initiated by Fred Muller and Jerry Kauffman the Co-Chairs of the White Clay Creek Watershed Management Committee. As initially envisioned this subcommittee would be charged with developing funding levels for all of the other subcommittees that have formed.

➔ *A motion was made by Fred Muller to change the scope of the Funding Committee to handle decision-making that may come along and to assist the Co-Chairs in other management issues as they arise. Fred also made a motion to change the name of the Funding Committee to Executive Committee to reflect its new duties. The Motion was unanimously approved by those in attendance.*

Funding Discussion:

Ed O'Donnell asked what the total funding for this fiscal year would be for the Watershed Management Committee projects. Chuck Barscz answered that based on the current 3rd quarter it would still be between \$40,000 and \$50,000; a final figure would emerge as the National Park Service figures in its own costs associated with the White Clay Creek National Wild and Scenic River.

Fred Muller then asked the Subcommittee to consider in the deliberations of the funding levels the hiring of a part time person to act as a "local river manager." Fred explained that there was a need to have someone locally who could work closely with the management partners. Chuck Barscz explained that this was a good idea and that other locally managed partnership rivers that he works on have hired someone for this kind of position. Chuck stated that on the Great Egg Harbor River in New Jersey that the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association hired such a person.

Ed O'Donnell asked if there were other organizations that could house such a staff person. Ed asked if the Delaware River Basin Commission might be a likely candidate since it was a bi-state agency. Chuck

stated that he would prefer that the organization be more local such as the White Clay Creek Watershed Association. If the White Clay Creek Watershed Association were chosen the "local river manager" could assist in strengthening the Watershed Association by working on attracting new members and seeking funding opportunities. Chuck also envisioned the other duties of the local river manager to include working with the subcommittees, tracking projects, working on specific funded projects, and acting as a liaison to the National Park Service.

→ A Motion was made by Fred Muller to utilize \$15,000 for funding a part time "local river manager" position. Fred will contact the White Clay Creek Watershed Association to see if that organization would be willing to house such a position. The Motion was unanimously approved by the members in attendance.

Discussion then moved to the funding levels for the other subcommittees: Education, Fish & Wildlife, Trail Guide (Recreation) and Open Space. Chuck reminded everyone that the Funding Subcommittee will set the total funding for each subcommittee; it will still be up to each of the subcommittees to decide how to spend it. Each subcommittee will have to put together a proposal and work out the details of the kinds of projects that they will spend the money on. This proposal then will go before the entire Management Committee for consensus.

Everyone then went over the number of votes for the various projects which was done at the January Watershed Management Committee meeting. Education was the clear priority. The following funding levels were proposed:

Local River Manager Position \$15,000

Education Subcommittee \$15,000

Fish & Wildlife Subcommittee \$5,000

Trail Guide (Recreation) Subcommittee \$5,000

Open Space Subcommittee \$5,000

Total \$45,000

→ A Motion was made by Sally Cheyne to propose to the full Watershed Management Committee the funding levels listed above. The Motion was unanimously approved.

NEXT MEETING:

No meeting was scheduled for the newly named Executive Committee.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5PM.