

**River Council of the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River**  
***Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting Minutes***  
***August 19, 2009***

**Meeting Called to Order:** at 7:05 PM by Gregory Gregory, Chairperson.

**Roll Call:** by Fred Akers, Administrator.

**Board Members in Attendance:** Julie Akers (Buena Vista Twp), Rick Foster (Corbin City), David Brown (Egg Harbor Twp), Jim Owen (Estell Manor City), Joel Spiegel (Folsom Boro), Dick Colby (GEHWA), Bill Christman (Hamilton Twp), Keith Kendrix (Hammonton City), Rick Coe (Monroe Twp), Greg Gregory (Somers Point City), Bill Handley (Upper Twp) Jay Cook (Atl. Winslow Twp.),

**Board Members Absent:** Bill Egan (Weymouth)

**Quorum Present:** Yes

**Others Present:** Fred Akers (River Administrator), Paul Kenney (NPS), Lynn Maun (Coordinator)

**Open Meetings Act:** Greg Gregory stated that the meeting was advertised pursuant to the NJ Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Notices were sent to official publications for the River Council – The Courier Post and The Press of Atlantic City. A copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board of the Fox Nature Center, Atlantic County Library in Mays Landing and the GEHWA website.

**Approval of Minutes:** Julie Akers made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2009 meeting. Dick Colby suggested a correction to the minutes whereby county be identified as Camden County where “the county” is referenced in the report given by River Council member, Clark Sprigman. Bill Christman seconded the motion to approve the minutes with the suggested correction. Motion carried.

**Public Portion:** None

**Education & Outreach Coordinator Report (Lynn Maun):**

**New Table Drape:** The new table drape was displayed, which incorporates both the GEHWA and River Council logos.

**GEHWA Annual Picnic:** The annual GEHWA picnic and campfire was held on Tuesday, July 28, 2009. There were approximately 20 people in attendance. GEHWA supplied hamburgers and hotdogs.

**Atlantic County Parks:** Fred and Lynn met with Jerry and Eric from Atlantic County Parks, at Estell Manor Park, to discuss possible ways in which GEHWA could help with educational activities.

**Upcoming Events:**

Pinelands Folk Arts Festival: Estell Manor Park, Saturday, August 29, 2009

Hammonton’s Green Day Festival: Saturday, September 19, 2009

GEHWA Member Meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Family Funfest, Birch Grove Park, Saturday, October 3, 2009

Discovery Festival, Sunday, October 4, 2009

### **NPS Report (Paul Kenney):**

1. Paul received Special Programmatic General Permit (SPGP) 19 from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). A SPGP is a type of general permit founded on an existing state, local or other Federal agency program and designed to avoid duplication with that program. SPGP 19 is a general permit for existing and proposed non-commercial piers, docks, mooring piles, boat lifts, timber breakwaters, and the replacement of existing bulkheads within eighteen (18) inches of existing serviceable bulkhead structures. Paul has concerns that new provisions within SPGP 19 conflict with GEHR's Comprehensive Management Plan and he has sent a letter to USACE expressing his concerns.
2. In September Paul will meet with other NPS Wild and Scenic River managers to review 2010 budgets.

### **Old Business:**

1. **Mizpah Tire Cleanup Report Update:** The total costs of the tire clean up exceeded the budgeted amount by \$513.60. Hamilton Township will pay the difference.
2. **South River Shoreline Stabilization Update:** Atlantic County has expressed interest in supporting the South River Shoreline Stabilization project and may provide a grant of between \$1500 to \$2000 dollars. The American Littoral Society has also expressed interest and will possibly provide \$1500. Andrew Shawl, a member of GEWHA, is willing to providing the necessary engineering certifications.
3. **Raptors and Waterbirds Study– Sixth Field Season:** River Councilors received a copy of the 2008-2009 Winter report.
4. **Osprey Monitoring and Banding Project:** There are a total of 39 Osprey nesting platforms along the Great Egg Harbor and Tuckahoe rivers. During the 2009 nesting season, eighteen nests were occupied and 28 young were counted and/or banded. There is a potential need for six new platforms. Several of the new platforms would replace old and/or damaged ones. Estimated cost for new platforms is \$750.

**Other Old Business:** None

### **New Business:**

**1. Resolution R 05-2009 - Support for the GSPT \$400 Million Bond Act of 2009 – S1858/A3901:**

Julie Akers made a motion to accept resolution R 05-2009. Rick Foster seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken: Julie Akers, YES; Rick Foster, YES; Dave Brown, YES; Jim Owen, YES; Joel Spiegel, YES; Dick Colby, YES; Bill Christman, YES; Keith Kendrix, NO; Rick Coe, YES; Greg Gregory, YES; Bill Handley, YES; Jay Cook, YES. Motion passed.

**2. Resolution 06-2009 – Support for ORV Registration and Enforcement Bills A823/S2055:**

Dick Colby made a motion to accept resolution R 05-2009. Keith Kendrix seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken: Julie Akers, YES; Rick Foster, YES; Dave Brown, YES; Jim Owen, YES; Joel Spiegel, YES; Dick Colby, YES; Bill Christman, YES; Keith Kendrix, YES; Rick Coe, YES; Greg Gregory, YES; Bill Handley, YES; Jay Cook, YES. Motion passed.

**3. Grant Request of \$1,500 for New Brooklyn Lake Eagle Scout Project:** Julie Akers made motion to support the project, to approve the \$1,500 funding for the project and have the River Council assume the responsibility of monitoring and/or maintaining this project area each year. Jim Owen seconded the motion.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Rick Coe abstained from both the discussion and also the vote on this project.

A roll call vote was taken: Julie Akers, YES; Rick Foster, YES; Dave Brown, YES; Jim Owen, YES; Joel Spiegel, YES; Dick Colby, YES; Bill Christman, YES; Keith Kendrix, YES; Rick Coe, ABSTAINED; Greg Gregory, YES; Bill Handley, YES; Jay Cook, YES. Motion passed.

Greg Gregory gave credit to the RC for continuing to support projects.  
Rick Coe thanked Fred and Julie for delineating this project.

### **River Councilor Reports for each Municipality**

**Buena Vista Twp.: (Julie Akers):** Buena Vista Township received a \$100,000 grant from the Pinelands Commission to determine the feasibility of building a package treatment plant (community wastewater system) in Richland Village.

**Estell Manor City: (Jim Owen):** An official from the NJ Bureau of Dam Safety is reviewing data on the Stevens Creek dam to determine its stability.

**Folsom: (Joel Spiegel):** Folsom has proposed the adoption of an ORV ordinance. Adoption of the ordinance will align the township with Buena Vista Township, which has already adopted an ORV ordinance.

**Somers Point: (Greg Gregory):** Greg recently gave a speech at the Somers Point Business Association meeting using the “Watershed Minutes”. He gave the same speech at an Egg Harbor Historical Society meeting. These speeches using the “Watershed Minutes” are well received.

**Upper Twp.: (Bill Handley):** Bill is concerned about the length of time it takes to receive the results from a water sample, and if necessary close a beach. He would like the RC to support any legislation (if it exists) that would reduce the length of time from sampling to result.

### **Other New Business:**

**1. Renew Watershed Radio Minutes:** Greg Gregory would like to renew the contract for the watershed minutes. Julie Akers made a motion to renew the contract for 5 months with the provision that the contract include some free time. Keith Kendrix seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken: Julie Akers, YES; Rick Foster, YES; Dave Brown, YES; Jim Owen, YES; Joel Spiegel, YES; Dick Colby, YES; Bill Christman, YES; Keith Kendrix, YES; Rick Coe, YES; Greg Gregory, YES; Bill Handley, YES; Jay Cook, YES. Motion passed.

### **Administrator’s Report (Fred Akers):**

**1. PWSR/NPS Funding Update FY2009 & FY 2010:** Actual expenditures of the River Council are \$17,240 YTD.

**2. NPS Windshield Tour:** Slide show of the tour around the Great Egg Harbor River.

**3. DEP Reduce Herring Catch:** The DEP is proposing to reduce the Herring catch from 35 to 10.

### **Adjournment:**

Upon motion by Bill Christman and second by Keith Kendrix, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.