

**River Council of the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River**  
***Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting Minutes***  
***April 20, 2016***

**Meeting Called to Order:** at 6:40 PM by Greg Gregory, Chairperson.

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

**Board Members in Attendance:** Julie Akers (Buena Vista Twp.), Brian Camp (Corbin City), Jim Owen (Estell Manor City), David Brown (Egg Harbor Twp.), Dick Colby (GEHWA), Bill Christman (Hamilton Twp.), John Keenan (Hammonton City), Greg Gregory (Somers Point City), Clark Sprigman (Winslow Twp.)

**Board Members Absent:** Joel Spiegel (Folsom Boro), Rick Coe (Monroe Twp.), Bill Handley (Upper Twp.), Ralph Bernard (Weymouth)

**Quorum Present** – Yes

**Others Present:** Fred Akers (River Administrator), Lynn Maun (Coordinator), Chuck O'Donnell (Alt. Corbin City)

**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:** Bill Christman made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2016 meeting. Dick Colby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Public Portion:**

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

**Schools:** The next two months are filling up with programs to be held at schools and at the Fox Nature Center.

**Events and Meetings:** GEHWA sponsored and/or supported the following events.

**GEHWA Member Meeting:** The program for the March 22, 2016 meeting was “You Can Become a Citizen Scientist” presented by Lynn Maun.

**Atlantic County Parks Road Clean-up:** The GEHWA/GEHRC participated in a clean-up with Atlantic County Parks on Saturday April 16, 2016 at Galloway West.

**Upcoming Events and Meetings:**

**ACUA Earth Day Event:** Fred and Lynn will be tabling at the ACUA Earth Day Festival on Sunday, April 24, 2016 from 10 to 4, rain or shine.

**GEHWA Member Meeting:** GEHWA’s next event will be a frog walk on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at Sahara Sands in Monroe Township.

**NPS Report (Paul Kenney): Not present**

**Old Business:**

- 1. Resolution 4-2016 Authorizing River Council to Grant a budget not to exceed \$3,000.00 to repair or replace existing River Council stream crossing signs:**  
A motion was made by Dick Colby to approve Resolution 4-2016 authorizing the River Council to grant a budget not to exceed \$3,000.00 to repair or replace existing River Council stream crossing signs. The motion was seconded by Bill Christman. A roll call vote was taken. All yeas. Motion carried.
- 2. Resolution 5-2016 Authorizing River Council Grants for River Signs:** A resolution authorizing the River Council to grant a budget not to exceed \$3,200.00 to purchase and install 16 stream crossing signs at 8 stream crossings on state roads within the federally designated Wild and Scenic River boundary was tabled until the next meeting. Fred is to investigate whether or not the road signs need to be larger so as to be seen when traveling at 65+ miles per hour.
- 3. Resolution 6-2016 Authorizing \$1,750.00 for a River Council Grant for 8 Fernwood Cruises:** A motion was made by Gregory Gorgory to approve Resolution 6-2016 authorizing the River Council to grant \$1,750.00 as a cash match to the NPS "Call to Action Grant" of \$7,300.00 for 8 student trawl cruises in 2016. The motion was seconded by Clark Sprigman. A roll call vote was taken. All yeas. Motion carried.

**Other Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**River Councilor Reports for each Municipality**

**Buena Vista Twp.: (Julie Akers):** Julie encouraged the River Councilors to be aware of the FEMA money being used to repair storm damage in their towns.

**Corbin City: (Brian Camp):** Brian reported that perch and striper are running. He is also planning to do a river clean-up on the Tuckahoe in June.

**Estell Manor City: (Jim Owen):** Jim inquired about the activity taking place to a field at Lenape Farms.

**GEHWA: (Dick Colby):** Dick stated that the GEHWA Trustees need to meet. Dick continues working on North/South trail. Dick would like the affluent tested from the BL England power plant to see how it may be polluting the river.

**Hamilton Twp.: (Bill Christman):** Bill reported the arrival of river herring on 4-16-2016 in Gravelly Run near his house.

**Somers Point: (Greg Gregory):** Gregory has noticed extremes and both high and low tides this past year.

**Winslow: (Clark Sprigman):** Clark reported that the Annual Green Fair at the Winslow Municipal Building will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2016.

**Other New Business:** None

**Administrator's Report (Fred Akers):**

**1. PWSRs FY 2016 Appropriations Update:** The Great Egg Harbor River FY2016 Cooperative Agreement funding will be \$132,000.

**2. Wharf Road Hospice Development Issues:** Fred has been analyzing the property on Wharf Road where Hope and Comfort Hospice is planning build a facility.

**3. Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Damage at the Blue Hole:** Fred showed a YouTube video of an OVR in the GEHR near the Blue Hole in the Winslow WMA.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L29i5bbTHV0>

**4. Osprey Colony Maintenance Update:** Fred worked with a group of veterans repairing and erecting replacement osprey platforms.

**5. Great Egg Harbor Bay Water Quality and Press Campaign:** Fred was interviewed for a recent Press of Atlantic City article titled, "Great Egg Harbor Bay owes its life to Atlantic City's problems.

**6. River Herring and Trawling Update:** In 2015 the focus areas during the trawl survey for river herring did not present any herring. But on April 17, 2016, Fred and Julie found river herring at three of the focus areas: near the trestle bridge in Mays Landing, at the South River where it crosses 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and between the Main St. Bridge and the Lake Lenape Dam. Bill Stuempfig report seeing "many" at the head of the river on the Tuckahoe on April 17. Elmer Ripley reported many river herring on Babcock Creek on April 16, Jim Owen reported river herring on Stevens Creek on both the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, and Bill Christman reported many river herring in the river near Gravelly Run on April 16.

**7. Other Items of Interest:**

**Adjournment:**

Upon motion by Bill Christman and second by John Keenan, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.