Healthy Pine River
Membership Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2026
7:00 PM @ Alma Public Library

Call to Order: Dr. Ben Peterson
Approval of Minutes: Gary R. / Brittany S.
Financial Report:
Beginning Balance as of 08/01/26: $35,231.56
Deposits & Credits: $5,440.00
Withdrawals & Debits: $14,689.52
Ending Balance as of 08/30/26: $25,982.04
Meeting Adjourned: Brittany S. / Sue J.

Dam Risk Reduction: Ben and Luke shared that progress is being made with GEI, but there are not many updates. We'll have a better idea of how things will move forward with the dam in February.

Education Outreach: Luke spoke on behalf of Sara Miller, sharing that the committee is currently working on creating curriculum for the local schools. The committee is made up of two groups. The first group are the educators and how they want to implement the curriculum into the schools. The second group is working on fine tuning resources, implementing those resources in the curriculum, and organizing presentations.

Farm Engagement: Ben is working on setting up a meeting with Laura Campbell from the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Grants: Luke worked on a $400,000 grant proposal through EGLE (Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant) that will focus on Honeyoye Creek and create a plan to work towards restoring the watershed. Both Ben and Luke are also working together on a separate grant for another project.

Collaborations: Ben is working with a few students from Alma College on a few projects to promote HPR. One is a collaboration with the Alma Art Department for an art exhibit revolving around the Pine River. The other is a collaboration with a student who is working with Ben on creating a documentary about people's feelings and thoughts about the Pine River.

Pine River Witness: Ben talked about an initiative to post content on our social media to get more engagement for HPR. He wants people to share their thoughts and a picture that revolves around the river. Whatever people may feel or think, if they share their thoughts and photos, it will be shared on our social media accounts to create more content for HPR to share on a more regular basis.

Next Meeting: October 8, 2026 | 7:00 PM | Alma Public Library