14 Mile Joint Rome/TriLakes Watershed Committee
Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, January 7th, 2019 at 2:00 PM

1. **Establish remote call in, Call to order & confirm posting** Don Ystad called the meeting to order at 2 pm; agendas were posted on 1/7/19.
2. **Pledge** The Pledge was recited.
3. **Roll call** Present: Rick Antin, Carson Heinecke, David Trudeau, Don Ystad, Karen Knotek, John Haugen, John Endrizzi, Rick Georgeson; by phone: Ron Foster, Dan Gohman, Pat Oldenberg. Guests: Steve Oberle, Kason Morley, Sam Peterson, Bob Benkowski.
4. **Review and approve minutes for November 5, 2017** Motion by Rick Antin, second by Dave Trudeau to approve the November 5, 2018 minutes. Motion carried.
5. **Review and approve minutes for December 10, 2018** Motion by John Haugen, second by Karen Knotek to approve the December 10, 2018 minutes. Motion carried.
6. **Review and confirm priorities and activities for 2019** Working from the 2019 Direction document, key activities were established as follows:

2. Hold Nine Key Element Plan meeting with DNR's Andrew Craig in Rome on April 15, 2019 to include Kason Morley, Steve Oberle, 14 Mile members, TriLakes, DNR and area county supervisors, etc. Should we invite the other 3 County Conservationists affected by the watershed? Kason indicated that they may be getting a preview of the information.

3. Ag outreach workgroup launch (John, Rick A, Carson & Don).

a. Discussion on Steve Oberle's role and his priorities; does 9 Key plan overlap with existing LWCC plan which is up for review in 2020. Steve is learning/understanding us and how he can work with us as well as the County Cons to help us meet our goals. Steve will help us to outreach to ag (along with Kason). We need to build relationship/partnership so neither side is viewed as the enemy.

b. Organize Nutrient Mgmnt overview mtg with Sue Porter (DATCP) – Kason arranged for this meeting to help us understand the process; he will get dates from Sue to set up meeting

c. Meet with 4 County Cons in watershed & Steve to discuss synergy w/9KeyEPlan, producer-led watershed groups, ag contacts, etc. – Currently no producer-led groups in our watershed; there are 16 in Wisconsin. Also Adams Co. has none enrolled in Farmland Preservation program. Questions on best approach to use with large vs small farm operations. Steve noted that UW Extension provides funds if a producer-led group is formed. Steve and Kason will serve as our emissaries as we move forward. Steve's priority is to start with County Cons and then ID the farmers; he also suggested that a committee member attend LWCC meetings in the other 3 counties. Don and John E will work on setting up meeting with the 4 County Cons, Steve, 1 or 2 reps from our committee and Pat Oldenburg of DNR is willing to join. Perhaps lunch will be provided.

d. Reach out to Farm Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service to review programs – no discussion

e. Reach out to grower organizations like Wisconsin Potato Vegetable Growers Association & Cranberry Growers for recommendations for ag contact, especially Adams Cty – The group identified Andy

Wallendahl or Tamas Houlihan of WPVGA and Tom Lochner of Cranberry Growers and may invite to a future meeting.

f. Identify an ag member(s) for our committee – too early to do

g. Plan winter/early spring meeting for county cons, key upstream growers & Adams Cty ag contact – Communicate our background,9KeyEPlan, etc – consensus that this needs to be done, but don't want to be premature; further discussion at Feb meeting.

4. Reach out to Producer-led Watershed Committees to understand how to approach our upstream neighbors. Kason, Steve & Ag outreach group – It was suggested to first invite Rachel of DATCP to come and explain to us how the producer-led councils work. Kason will make intro so we can ask her.

5. Reach out to processors like Stokely and Del Monte to understand pesticide/fertilizer requirements, conservation programs and cooperative programs – discussion on whether farmers would perceive us as going around them; consensus to wait til we hear ***directly*** from farmers about processor requirements before pursuing. Steve noted that the 590 Standard in Wis applies to both farmers and corporations.

6. Meet with Sauk County Conservationist Serge Koenig to understand the approach and funding for farmer conservation practices – will move forward with this after Don returns this spring

7. Investigate funding sources – we need to identify person who can help us understand grants available. Karen asked about other grant funds available to 501(c)(3) organizations – we're not eligible because we are a committee of a governmental body.

8. Evaluate Land & Water plans of upstream resources, other lakes, towns, counties. identify other partners/sponsors/advisors –tabled to the Feb. meeting to get volunteers. Steve asked if we could get a large-scale map of the watershed – Kason may be able to, if not, he can provide Nick Eidenschink with electronic file to be printed at Nekoosa Schools.

9. Attend Wis Lakes Conference in May in Stevens Pt – think about signing up; will complete at Feb meeting

10. Hold spring property owners meeting covering 9KeyEPlan, soil & water, town programs, etc – decided to avoid Memorial Day weekend, will plan for a couple weeks later; event will be organized at our next meeting or two. Karen volunteered to help us use social media to advertise the event.

11. Work with Adams County to move Shoreline Protection enforcement from zoning to LWC – Don and John E will work with Kason

12. Work with Adams County, Onie Karch, state & others to insert us in Leola Ditch management – John Endrizzi is pursuing

13. Capture decisions, reference docs, etc in new website – getting closer to happening; will be joint Tri-Lakes and 14 Mile Watershed website and is expected in February

14. Continue with current programs – Don can do remotely with Bob and John E

15. Expand engagement – need to discuss further at Feb meeting

Returned to regular meeting agenda:

7. Review the 5 minute rule

8. **Adams County LWCD update – Kason Morley**
    a. **Status 9 Key Element Plan** Meeting with Andrew Craig set for April 15
9. **Petenwell/PACRS update– Rick Georgeson** Rick reviewed the group's accomplishments for 2018.
10. **Outreach - other projects, experts and any other avenues that provide direction**
    a. **When do we invite Beaver Dam Lake group to visit?** Discuss further at February meeting.
    b. **Political representatives – Antin**
11. **County & town meeting reports**
    a. **County lake alliance – Ystad** Don reported that meetings will be increased to be held monthly in the summer and guest speakers are being scheduled.
    b. **LWCD committee – Endrizzi & Wiessinger** last meeting included presentation by RC&D; meeting tomorrow
    c. **County Board – Benkowski & Wiesisnger**
    d. **County P & Z - Antin**
    e. **Town P & Z - Wiessinger**
    f. **Town Board – Endrizzi & Wiessinger**
    g. **Town Parks and Rec - Endrizzi**
12. **Create farmer relationship workgroup**
13. **Soil testing workgroup – Endrizzi, Benkowski** no report
14. **Recommendations for further septic system testing – Bob Benkowski**
    a. **Recommended pumper program** deferred to February meeting
15. **Watershed flow & nitrate testing workgroup update – John Endrizzi, Dave Trudeau, Scott Provost(advisor)**
    a. **Status of testing to date, evaluation & future direction** John reported that 1 test location has been dropped but a location in Portage County has been added for a total of 9 sites.
16. **Lake friendly fertilizer program workgroup update – Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke and Joe Greco**
    a. **Results of recognized applicator program phone follow-up** Carson reviewed the list; he has 6 signed documents and he will work with the Town to get them on the website and to the association newsletters and websites.
    b. **Town website update**
17. **Water turbine project status – Jerry Wiessinger** no report
18. **Shoreline habitat restoration status – Dave Trudeau, Don Ystad**
    a. **Healthy Lakes grant participant status** Dave has 6 participants with 8-10 practices; he is working to meet the Feb 1st deadline for the grant. He will also be installing anchors this week on Lake Sherwood in preparation for adding 80 fish sticks in the next 3-4 weeks.
    b. **Update on 1/3/2019 Fish Habitat mtg** Don indicated that the meeting went well and there is some interest in fish sticks; Camelot will do cribs again with some modifications; Sherwood Fisheree is scheduled for 1/19 and proceeds go to fish habitat building.
19. **TriLakes/14 Mile website status– Don Ystad**
20. **Set next agenda date (tent. 2/11/2019) and topics** Don indicated that it's been suggested to hold meetings at other times and/or days; will be discussed further at Feb meeting. Next meeting: Feb 11 at 2:00 pm
21. **Adjourn** Motion by John Endrizzi, second by Karen Knotek to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.