

**14 Mile Joint Rome/Tri-Lakes Watershed Committee
Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI
Minutes for Monday, Jan 8th, 2018 at 2:00 PM**

Notification of this meeting has been posted in accordance with the Open Meeting Laws of the State of Wisconsin. The 14 Mile watershed Committee may take action on any item on the agenda. It is possible that the members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above-stated meeting to gather information; no action will be taken by any governmental body at the above-stated meeting other than the 14 Mile Watershed Committee

- i. Call to order & confirm posting:** Meeting was called to order at 2 pm by Don Ystad; agendas were posted on January 6.
- ii. Roll call:** Don Ystad, Bob Benkowski, Wayne Johnson, John Endrizzi, Jerry Wiessinger, Rick Georgeson, Ron Foster(via phone), Carson Heinecke and Dave Trudeau.
- iii. Review and approve minutes for December 11, 2017:** Motion by Endrizzi, second by Johnson to approve the 12/11/2017 minutes. Motion approved.
- iv.** Motion by Georgeson, second by Johnson to defer agenda item IV til guest John Eron arrives. Motion approved.
- v. Financial report & 2018 budget discussion:** Spreadsheet showing projected expenditures was discussed.
 - a. Goals and activities for 2018**
 - b. Workshop approach:** discussion on holding 1 comprehensive workshop or break subject matter into 2 or 3 workshops. Consensus to hold one session patterned after former Environmental Day model with vendor/info booths and seminars. Event to be planned by Endrizzi, Heinecke, Johnson, Wiessinger and Ystad.
 - c. Water testing projection:** included on the spreadsheet
- vi. Determine method for remote attendance of absent members:** Don Ystad explained free conference call facility for dial-in attendance.
- vii. Discussion and planning for 9 key element plan– Wally Sedlar & Scott Provost:** defer to February
- viii. Determine if further septic system tests are required – Wally Sedlar:** defer to February
 - a. Establish workgroup for further review and planning**
- ix. Watershed flow & nitrate testing workgroup update – John Endrizzi, Dave Trudeau, Scott Provost(advisor):** John Endrizzi shared what limited test results have been received and has identified another branch in the watershed where he'll need to go upstream to collect samples as private owner is not cooperative.
 - a. Review and approve seasonal test plan:** included in spreadsheet reviewed in agenda item v.
 - b. Identify any resulting changes to budget:** none anticipated
- iv. History, actions and successes Mill Creek Watershed:** Guest John Eron, Portage Co. farmer and founder of Mill Creek Watershed shared his experience in Portage County in bringing together adversarial groups. Both environmentalists and farmers can learn from each other; 50-60% of farmers are now participating and group continues to grow. Adversaries are acting as advisors and

cover crops and buffers are being implemented. John suggested finding one farmer who's respected, start with him and offer good food at gatherings. Instead of pointing fingers at agriculture, farmers will engage as long as both sides are working at improvements. He suggested working with local Farm Bureau group. Most farmers want to be a part of the solution and want to learn from experts.

- x. Soil testing workgroup update – Wally Sedlar, Bob Benkowski, John Endrizzi:** defer item to February
 - a. Program to increase test candidates and expansion to other areas**
 - b. Plan/approval for tissue tests**
- xi. Lake friendly fertilizer program workgroup update – Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke and Joe Greco:**
 - a. Status of proposed ordinance (Tri-Lakes & town approval):** Wayne Johnson reviewed proposed ordinance as well as the 'best practice' recommendations; after discussion, items 5 e and f need clarification. Ordinance to be voted on at 1/11/2018 Town Board meeting.
 - b. Status of newsletter recommendations with lake associations:** Carson Heinecke reported that notices can go out after the Town Board meeting. Further discussion of a summer intern for educating property owners will be on next month's agenda.
- xii. Upstream agriculture investigation:** Jerry Wiessinger will get a list of upstream farmers. Rick Georgeson suggested changing 'investigation' to 'partnership'
 - a. Testing plan for soil and water**
 - b. Create work group**
 - c. Establish communication plan**
- xiii. Identify and draw from experience of other projects, experts and any other avenues that provide direction - ongoing**
 - a. Confirm the 3rd member to attend April 18-19 WI Lakes Conference (Dave or Rick A):**
Dave Trudeau will attend unless he has a conflict
 - i. Communicating with the community – Don Ystad:** no change
 - a. Quarterly updates**
 - b. TriLakes & Rome website posts**
 - c. Loop with TriLakes, Town, Lake Associations**
 - ii. Outreach:** no change
 - a. Political representatives – Rick Antin**
 - b. Other watershed groups, etc**
 - iii. Petenwell status– Rick Georgeson:** Rick shared that they are currently planning the 3rd annual Healthy Soil, Healthy Water workshop for March
 - iv. Water turbine project status – Jerry Wiessinger:** Jerry is in process of sending letter to 8 property owners with pricing information etc; 3 are full-time residents and others are seasonal
 - a. Establish workgroup**
 - v. Shoreline habitat restoration status – Dave Trudeau, Don Ystad:** Dave reported that 16 areas are interested primarily on Camelot and Sherwood; will be conducting site visits and have a deadline of Feb 1 for the grant application

a. Beach club mowing recommendation – Camelot

b. Fish stick planning mtg with Jennifer Bergman DNR: Dave also reported that he's just received the supplies needed for the project and will be starting work on Wednesday; tree sources are all lined up

vi. Set next agenda date (tent. 2/12/18) and topics

vii. Adjourn: Motion by Endrizzi, second by Trudeau to adjourn. Approved. Adjourned at 4:09.