

## **14 Mile Watershed Committee**

**Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI**

**Agenda for Monday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 2:00 PM**

**Members of the board of Directors of Tri-Lakes Management District may be in attendance. No action by the TriLakes Board will be taken.**

- i. Call to order**
- ii. Roll call**
- iii. Review and approve minutes for September 11, 2017**
- iv. Financial report**
- v. Determine roles and guidelines for restructured committee – All**
- vi. Discuss town wide joint water quality committee – Wayne Johnson**
- vii. Update on soil testing– Wally Sedlar**
  - a. Establish workgroup**
- viii. Lake friendly fertilizer program final presentation – Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke and Joe Greco**
- ix. Mowing beach clubs discussion – Carson Heinecke**
- x. Shoreline habitat restoration discussion – Dave Trudeau, Don Ystad**
- xi. Dr. McGinley water quality report discussion, conclusions, next steps – Wally Sedlar**
- xii. Watershed flow & nitrate testing discussion – John Endrizzi, Scott Provost**
  - a. Establish workgroup**
- xiii. Drainage pipes along shorelines – Rick Georgeson**
- xiv. Contribution of septic systems to water issues– Scott Provost, Wally Sedlar**
  - a. Establish workgroup**
- xv. Water turbine discussion– Jerry Wiessinger**
  - a. Establish workgroup**
- xvi. Petenwell/Mill Creek report – Rick Georgeson**
- xvii. Establish workgroup to investigate outside expertise as motioned – Don Ystad**
- xviii. Communicating with the community – Don Ystad**
  - a. Quarterly updates**
  - b. Tri-Lakes website posts**
  - c. Loop with Tri-Lakes, Town, Lake Associations**

- xix. Outreach - Political representatives, Upstream ag neighbors Other watershed groups, etc**
- xx. Goals and activities for 2018 – All**
- xxi. Set next agenda date and topics**
- xxii. Adjourn**

**14 MILE WATERSHED COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES – MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2017 at 2:00 PM**

- i. Call meeting to order:** Meeting was called to order by Don 2:00 P.M.
- ii. Roll call:** Present: Don Ystad, John Endrizzi, Jerry Wiessinger, Steve Nowicki, Bob Benkowski, Scott Provost, Rich Georgeson, Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke, and Dave Trudeau. And guests Jennifer Bergman and Caitlin Brillowski from the DNR, & Dr. Paul McGinley UWSP
- iii. Review and approve minutes from September:** Ron Foster made a motion to table the approval until the next meeting, second by Carson Heinecke. Motion carried
- iv. Financial report:** Don Ystad passed out a spreadsheet on the expenditures of 14 Mile Watershed thus far and projections through year end. This is a working document. Don is looking for anyone who wants to volunteer to maintain the monthly report.
- v. Determine roles and guidelines for restructured committee:** Don Ystad recommended that workgroups be established to support key activities. They would provide the legwork and the background work for the 14 Mile Committee for decision making and submission of recommendations to TriLakes. Don Ystad requests that the meeting minutes come out more quickly, with review by Chairman and in the hands of the committee at least a week before the next meeting to allow for reasonable review before motion for approval. The open meeting law requires we document any motions that are made. As a bare minimum we would need to capture the wording of the motion, the person making the motion, the second, and the resulting vote. For now, the chair or his designee, capture and repeat the motion and second, wording, and resulting vote before moving on to the next agenda item. It is requested that minutes be provided within a week following the meeting to Don who would revise/approve for release to committee. Request ongoing review and feedback to determine if any changes are needed regarding these guidelines. Consider expanded roles for scribe, process guide and time keeper for the future.
- vi. Discuss town wide joint water committee: Wayne Johnson.** This topic is deferred to a future meeting, as Wayne was not able to attend, due to a previous commitment.
- vii. Update on soil testing: Wally Sedlar** Wally reports that people are still requesting to have their soil tested. Our goal was 150, but we only have about half of that. A request is made for some volunteers for a workgroup, that would work with Wally Sedlar to improve the process and look into expansion of the program. Wally could conduct those tests early in the year, and a work group would assist with administration, expansion of sites and lining up participants with him. John Endrizzi and Bob Benkowski

volunteered to work with him. Wally also inquires if we would like a tissue test be done. This test would let us know how much of the nutrients the plant is taking up. The cost is approximately \$30.

A motion is made to take the tissue tests in spring, first by John Endrizzi, second by Jerry Wiessinger. Motion carried.

**viii. Lake Friendly Fertilizer Program Final Presentation: Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke & Joe Greco.** The committee agreed with the recommendation made by the workgroup, that the existing town fertilizer ordinance should be strengthened, including an applicator permit if legally feasible. Bob Benkowski offered to check with 2 lawyers he knows. Wally asked; “Since the past ordinances were not enforced, will these new additions be enforced?”. Enforcement is a town issue, but the committee can look at various alternatives if asked to do so. The committee originally approved the draft that was presented at a previous meeting. It was decided to present this proposal. Don Ystad makes a motion to submit this draft to Tri-Lakes Management District for approval, and then to present it to the Town of Rome Board, second by John Endrizzi. Motion carried.

**A motion is made to move Dr. McGinley to this spot in the agenda.** First by Jerry Wiessinger, second John Endrizzi. Motion carried.

**ix. Mowing Beach Clubs Discussion: Carson Heinecke.** The beach clubs in some instances are being mowed right down to the water. Can we discuss with them, that they might change their practices, so as not to cause further erosion by removing that buffer?

**x. Shoreline Habitat Restoration Discussion: Dave Trudeau & Don Ystad.** Dave reports that they will be putting together a workshop before the next growing season.

**xi. Dr. Paul McGinley: Water quality report discussion, conclusions, & next steps:** Dr. McGinley provided additional clarification about the tests conducted for Adams County. They put some water level loggers in the 14 Mile Creek watershed in three locations, measuring the level of water in the ditches, and compare with concentration of nitrates and phosphorous in the same time period. They were put in by the county for a 3 year study. Nitrate levels have doubled in the upper watershed since the 2000 study. That may reflect the increased agriculture upstream over that time period. Measurements were taken at D and 73, D and 5th, D and the “S curve”, and at Aniwa. Nitrate levels at D and 5th were over 10 mg/L.

**xii. Watershed Flow & Nitrate Testing Discussion: John Endrizzi & Scott Provost.** John is ready to go and start taking samples. He has signed for, and picked up the testing equipment. He requests direction as to how many sites should be tested. Scott Provost had recommended 5 sites in the upper watershed. It was previously decided the outflow from our lakes should also be tested, to determine the affect each lake has on the water quality. It was confirmed that we would do 7 or 8 tests on a monthly basis, and perform extra tests after heavy rainfall or release events. Dropping the Aniwa site is suggested, plus using the lab in Stevens Point, which would save about \$20 a test. Don pointed out we had earlier approved \$595 per monthly test cycle, plus 4 to 6 testing events. \$13,000 total was budgeted, including the \$6,500 of that was spent on the testing equipment.

The workgroup should come up with a plan to include the upper watershed and the lakes, and to resubmit a reasonable testing budget. Don Ystad suggests, that we go ahead and start testing now to eliminate further delays, while the final plan is put together. Don would like a motion to clarify what we are going to do - We want to test the lake system itself, as well as the watershed, and keep within our budget. A motion is made to give the go ahead to the water testing workgroup to begin testing within the confines of our remaining water test budget for this year. First by Ron Foster, second by Rick Georgeson. Motion carried.

- a. Establish workgroup:** John Endrizzi needs people to volunteer to do water testing with him. Following the meeting, Dave Trudeau offered to serve on the work group, and also assist with testing. More volunteers are needed.

**xiii. Drainage Pipes Along Shorelines: Rick Georgeson.** A weed harvester informed Rick, that there are some drainage pipes 25 feet below the water line. They are probably coming from sump pumps and legally should not be grey water, and should only be ground water. One of Wally's jobs is point source inspections, and he would like to have any addresses of properties that are found so he must test them.

**Agenda items xiv through xx deferred to next meeting**

**xiv. Contribution of septic systems to water issues – Scott Provost & Wally Sedlar**

**a. Establish workgroup.**

**xv. Water turbine discussion – Jerry Wiessinger.**

**a. Establish workgroup**

**xvi. Petenwell/Mill Creek Report – Rick Georgeson.**

**xvii. Establish workgroup to investigate outside expertise as motioned – Don**

**xviii. Communicating with the community – Don Ystad**

**a. Quarterly updates**

**b. Tri-Lakes website posts**

**c. Loop with Tri-Lakes, Town, Lake Associations**

**xix. Outreach – Political representatives, Upstream ag neighbors, Other watershed groups, etc.**

**xx. Goals and activities for 2018 – All**

**xxi. Set next agenda date and topics.** Monday, November 13, 2017 at 2:00 PM will be the next meeting date. Remove Topics: Mowing beach clubs, & Dr. McGinley, Move the deferred bottom items to the top of the next agenda, so that we have time for them. Add the names of who is in each group.

**xxii. Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn, first by Carson Heinecke, second by Ron Foster. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Combs, Administrative Assistant