14 Mile Joint Rome/TriLakes Watershed Committee
Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI
Minutes for Monday, March 12, 2018 at 2:00 PM

i. **Call to order & confirm posting** – John Endrizzi called the meeting to order at 2 pm. Barb reported that agendas were posted on March 8 at Rome Town Hall at 11:43; NPESB at 11:56; Pritzls at 11:50 and US Bank at 12:05.

ii. **Roll call –** Present**:** John Endrizzi, Carson Heinecke, David Trudeau, Scott Provost, David Gorski, Kason Morley, Megan Schnoles, Ron Natxke and Chuck Sibilsky; Don Ystad, Ron Foster and Rick Antin joined via phone.

iii. **Review and approve minutes for February 12, 2017 –** Motion by Trudeau/Heinecke to approve the Feb 12, 2018 minutes; motion carried.

iv. **Status of programs involving Adams County Conservationist –** Wally Sedlar is still on administrative leave with no new news on his status; Don Ystad is working with county supervisor Paul Pisellini to get resolved or find alternatives as his absence greatly affects our projects and plans for the year.

v. **Spring Workshop plans**

   a. **Workgroup, Johnson, Wiessinger, Heinecke, Endrizzi, Ystad –** with members absent, Don Ystad will try to set up conference call for early next week to continue planning

vi. **Lake friendly fertilizer program workgroup update – Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke and Joe Greco**

   a. **Status of proposed ordinance (TriLakes & town approval) –** Ordinance has passed

   b. **Intern for fertilizer ordinance adherence –** discussed under item vii below

   c. **Status of newsletter recommendations with lake associations –** Carson Heinecke reported that article was submitted to all of the association newsletters; unfortunately, it didn't appear in LCPOA newsletter but will be added to their website. A list of applicators was sent to Wayne Johnson/Town of Rome so that they could be notified of the changes. Carson will follow up with Mike Miller to get the notifications out.

vii. **Soil testing workgroup update – Wally Sedlar, Bob Benkowski, John Endrizzi –** Discussion on utilizing intern to help with testing and possibility of identifying additional areas for intern such as the fertilizer ordinance education and/or

adherence. It was also suggested to check with Tri-Lakes on coordinating efforts with their intern program.

a. **Program to increase test candidates and expansion to other areas**
b. **Plan/approval for tissue tests –** depends on availability of Wally Sedlar or alternate
c. **Estimate costs –** to be determined based on implementation of program but a portion may be reimbursed by a grant that Tri-Lakes has requested

viii. **Refine 2018 expenditure budget/goals and activities for 2018**

a. **Confirm soil test budget –** depends on availability of Wally Sedlar or alternate
b. **Determine budget for fertilizer program intern –** after conference call
c. **Revisit workshop budget –** referred to next meeting

ix. **Discussion and planning for 9 key element plan– Wally Sedlar & Scott Provost –** Kason Morely introduced as new Adams Co. Water Resource Specialist. He reported that they met 3 weeks ago with Scott Provost and County Conservationists from Wood and Waushara and that they are in preliminary stages of writing the plan which needs to be submitted by September 1. They may get help in writing it; Carson suggested getting recommendations when they attend the Lakes Conference next month. Meetings have been set up to meet with ag representatives in both Waushara and Adams Counties. Adams County is taking the lead on coordinating efforts for the plan.

x. **Determine if further septic system tests are required – Wally Sedlar –** Scott Provost discussed current understanding that presence of nitrogen is key factor in producing blue/green algae toxins. He suggested contacting GIS techs to get inventory of septics in watershed. Tests can be conducted to determine levels in the lake – because of high expense, a limited number of tests could be done and then use results to extrapolate for the entire lake.

a. **Establish workgroup for further review and planning**

xi. **Watershed flow & nitrate testing workgroup update – John Endrizzi, Dave Trudeau, Scott Provost(advisor)**

a. **Status of testing to date –** Endrizzi reported that they are testing 8 locations (7 in upper watershed and 1 at outflow of Arrowhead). Testing will resume after ice out.
b. **Identify any resulting changes to budget –** none anticipated

xii. **Upstream agriculture partnership –** no discussion

a. **Testing plan for soil and water**
b. **Create work group**
c. **Obtain list of upstream owners**
d. **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 (Rick Georgeson) –** Rick, John and Don will attend
b. **Make contact with other lake groups at conference**

i. **Communicating with the community – Don Ystad –** when Don returns, will pursue further, especially with LCPOA; Don and Carson will plan to attend their next board meeting to get the communication going

a. **Quarterly updates**
b. **TriLakes & Rome website posts**
c. **Loop with TriLakes, Town, Lake Associations**
    i. **Schedule intro meetings with lake association boards**

ii. **Outreach –**

a. **Political representatives – Rick Antin -** Rick reported that Krug has already attended one of our meetings and he will invite Testin to a future meeting
b. **Other watershed groups, etc –** Don Ystad mentioned the Wis Friend of Conservation award to be presented to John Eron, President of Portage County Farm Bureau and who spoke at our February meeting on his efforts in the watershed.

iii. **Petenwell/PACRS status– Rick Georgeson –** no report as Rick and Scott absent

a. **Healthy soil-Healthy water workshop –** scheduled for March 22 at UW-Wood Co in Marshfield. Scott Provost reported that the Wisconsin River TMDL findings were released earlier this month; now need to determine solutions; Pat Oldenburg of DNR has just been appointed to coordinate efforts (Scott spoke very highly of him).

iv. **Water turbine project status – Jerry Wiessinger –** no report as Jerry is absent; Scott Provost will send info on a Wis company that makes the turbines

a. **Establish workgroup**

v. **Shoreline habitat restoration status – Dave Trudeau, Don Ystad**

a. **Healthy Lakes grant –** David reported that they are waiting to hear on approval of the grants
b. **Beach club mowing recommendation – Camelot**
c. **Status of fish sticks program**
d. **Setup meeting w/Jennifer Bergman, Roger Spice, TriLakes and lake associations to coordinate fish stocking, fish sticks and fish cribs –** after discussion, determined need to include more in the meeting so that greater value of fish sticks can be shared.

vi. **Set next agenda date ~~(tent. 4/9/18)~~ and topics – Date for next meeting was moved to Mon, April 23 at 2 pm.**

vii. **Adjourn –** Motion by Trudeau/Heinecke to adjourn. Motion carried – adjourned at 3:50 pm.