14 Mile Joint Rome/TriLakes Watershed Committee
Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, May 13th, 2019 at 2:00 PM

1. **Call to order & confirm posting** Don Ystad called the meeting to order at 2 pm; Barb confirmed agendas were posted on May 8th at US Bank, NPESB, Rome Town Hall and Pritzls.
2. **Pledge** The Pledge was recited.
3. **Roll call** Present: Scott Bordeau, Dave Trudeau, John Endrizzi, John Haugen, Jerry Wiessinger, Rick Georgeson, Carson Heinecke, Don Ystad, Bob Benkowski, Pat Oldenburg, Taylor Hass, and Ron Foster.
4. **Review the 5 minute rule** Bob Benkowski volunteered to be timekeeper.
5. **Review and approve minutes for Mar 11, 2019** Don shared email from Donna Hasdal questioning item #5 on the agenda; Don reached out to Tom Lochner and read his response to the wording of the minutes. Motion by John Endrizzi, second by Scott Bordeau to approve the minutes of the Mar 11, 2019 meeting including the question and response. Motion approved.
6. **Presentation –Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers – Tamas Houlihan,** Executive Director of WPVGA gave a presentation of the industry including US ranking (#3-potatoes and in top 5 for vegetables; #2 overall), changes in irrigation practices, high capacity wells and conservation initiatives. They have collaborated with several groups including: support of improving flow and water quality in the Little Plover River, WI Institute for Sustainable Agriculture, WDNR to monitor wells on Long, Plainfield and Pleasant Lakes, funding UW research to measure nitrates in irrigated water so fertilizer inputs can be reduced and the DNR-WI Water Stewards Program to help conserve water. Growers are starting to address nitrate and phosphorus issues and are willing to share current practices. Tamas will extend an invitation to us for an upcoming meeting of their Water Taskforce. He also fielded questions on crop rotations, no till and cover crops, pesticides, fungicides and herbicides used.
7. **Adams County LWCD update – Kason Morley** Kason was absent.
8. **Steve Oberle activity update –** Steve was absent.
9. **Setup initial mtg with county conservationists – Don, Carson & John – Kason** Don indicated that Kason will help to set this up.
   a. **Possible 14 Mile funded lunch mtg w/Steve, county cons, Pat Oldenburg, 2 committee members**
   b. **Review Jan agenda item 6.3.c & g for content**
10. **Nine Key Element Plan April 15 mtg review** Comments included well-done, good overview of the process, introduced us to milestones and began process to review and provide feedback to Kason.
11. **Review of social media training with Megan – Karen** Karen absent today but Don indicated that she attended the training and will be setting up a Facebook page for us
12. **Discuss June 8th Spring Property Owners Water Quality Mtg –** Keynote speaker will be Patrick Goggin on Healthy Lakes and Shoreline Restoration. Also, Scott Provost will share his presentation again and someone to be determined will give an overview of the 9 Key Element Plan. Rick Georgeson is trying to arrange for the rain simulator demonstration from NRCS and there will be booths and a drawing as well as the Adams Co. Lake Alliance has scheduled their monthly meeting here.
13. **Status of 35' buffer and enforcement –** there will be a new P&Z Dept head in June
14. **Leola Ditch – John** John reported that Scott Provost recommended a change in test locations; will be dropping the two most eastern sites and replacing with a location at the entrance to a cranberry marsh; they are currently obtaining permission from the land owner.
15. **Lakes/Associations updates**
    a. **Arrowhead/LAA – Bob** addressing a lily pad issue

b. **Camelot/LCPOA – Dan** fishermen are working with DNR to improve fish habitat with plans for tree drops and aquatic plants to be placed in DNR land east of the 8th Avenue bridge
c. **Petenwell/PACRS update – Rick G** EPA gave final approval to the TMDL; there is a pending press release announcing it; Pat Oldenburg characterized it as the "end of the beginning." PACRS is setting up a meeting with Discovery Farms re nitrogen uptake with Steve Oberle and the county cons participating to determine if this should be included in the 9 Key Element Plan.
d. **Sherwood/LSPOA update - Jerry**

16. **County & town meeting reports**
    a. **County lake alliance – Ystad** group met Saturday; other lakes in county are dealing with high water issues; he thanked Tri-Lakes for working to obtain local management of our dams
    b. **LWCD committee – Endrizzi & Wiessinger** Meeting is tomorrow.
    c. **County Board – Benkowski & Wiessinger**
    d. **County P & Z – Antin**
    e. **Town P & Z – Wiessinger** no topics pertaining to us
    f. **Town Board – Endrizzi & Wiessinger** last meeting included a presentation on the 14 Mile Committee
        i. John Haugen shared opportunity for Adams County to become part of the Wis. County Forests Program – one of the benefits is watershed protection and suggested that we, as a committee, send a letter of support when the proposal comes out of committee and is headed to the County Board for approval. Jerry Wiessinger is working very closely on this issue and indicated that it is moving forward.
    g. **Town Parks and Rec – Endrizzi** Plan for Center Park is moving ahead
17. **Farmer relationship workgroup status – Endrizzi, Antin, Heinecke & Ystad** There is a July meeting of the Lake Alliance at the Wallendal Farm
18. **Soil testing workgroup – Endrizzi, Benkowski** John has received the GIS maps showing past tested properties and will have a booth on June 8th so additional properties can be signed up.
19. **Recommendations for further septic system testing – Bob Benkowski** This is being pursued by Tri-Lakes.
    a. **Recommended pumper program** it was suggested to work with the new P&Z head to establish inspection protocols. Perhaps invite Paul McGinley to a future meeting.
20. **Watershed flow & nitrate testing workgroup update – John Endrizzi, Dave Trudeau, Scott Provost(advisor)** covered under agenda item #14
21. **Lake friendly fertilizer program workgroup update – Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke and Joe G** Ron has ordered 750 new brochures to have available for June 8. Suggestion to consider a special designation on the lawn signs for properties not using fertilizer at all (eg gold star or sticker).
22. **Water turbine project status – Jerry Wiessinger** Jerry reported that the turbines will be installed the week of 5/27. He's looking for a 6th location. He is putting together results from last year's test and will have it at the June 8 meeting. Bob Benkowski asked whether turbines might help at South Lake Center Marina and Jerry will take a look at the site.
23. **Shoreline habitat restoration status – Dave Trudeau, Don Ystad**
    a. **Healthy Lakes grant participant status** Dave is working with the property owners to implement by providing help with plant lists, photos and calculating size for a rain garden. There are 7 current projects and he will have a booth on June 8.
    b. **Fish Habitat status –** Motion by John Haugen, second by Ron Foster to approve up to $3000 in support of the Sherwood fish sticks project and Camelot's work at the 8th Avenue bridge. Motion approved.
24. **Tri-Lakes/14 Mile website status – Don** As of Friday, the new website has been established and documents can now be loaded.
25. **Evaluate Land & Water Plans of upstream resources** This will be pursued after formal approval of the 9 Key Element Plan

a. **Need volunteers to ID other partners, sponsors/advisors**
b. **Distribute large scale watershed map –John** Completed

26. **Outreach - other projects, experts and any other avenues that provide direction**
    a. **When do we invite Beaver Dam Lake group to visit?**
    b. **Big Eau Plaine producers council** Don will work to schedule a visit
    c. **Political representatives – Antin**
    d. **NRCS, Farm Service & others to understand funding sources – who?**
    e. **Relationship building - Synergy, conservation programs, who in our watershed, etc**
    f. **Review WI Lakes Conference April 10 – 12th – Don, John, Karen, Dave & Bob** Comments included lots of topics to choose from and good networking opportunity with like-minded people from around the state. John Endrizzi concentrated on BGA (blue-green algae) topics and heard that scientists continue to learn a lot about it – still lots of questions! Don concentrated on the economic value of lakes and Karen on communication topics.
        i. **Continue Annual sponsorship of student for Lakes Conference?**
    g. **Review Red Cedar Watershed Conference UW Stout March 14** John Endrizzi attended and marveled at how enthusiastic their small committee is. Rick Georgeson met lots of other lake groups; the meeting recognized the good work being done by farmers.
    h. (not an agenda item) Don noted that he had met with the Sauk County's award-winning Conservationist Serge Koenig at Redstone Lake. Serge's advice for us: "one of the most important things we can do is promote a farmer led watershed council in the 14 Mile."
27. **Schedule nutrient management overview training session with Sue Porter of DATCP – Kason**
28. **Schedule mtg with Rachel of DATCP to discuss producer led councils – Kason/Don**
29. **Determine future alternate meeting dates/times**
    a. **Consider an evening meeting to accommodate those who work**
    b. **Consider a Saturday during the summer to attract weekenders**
30. **Set next agenda date, tentatively June 10th and topics** Next meeting will be June 10th
31. **Adjourn** Motion by Ron Foster, second by Carson Heinecke to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 4:04 pm