

**14 Mile Joint Rome/TriLakes Watershed Committee
Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI
Minutes for Monday, July 9, 2018 at 2:00 PM**

1. **Call to order & confirm posting** Don Ystad called the meeting to order at 2 pm and Barb reported the postings date/time
2. **Pledge** The pledge was recited
3. **Roll call** Don Ystad, Wally Sedlar, John Haugen, Jerry Wiessinger, Ron Foster, Kason Morley, Rick Georgeson, Reesa Evans, Joe Greco, Scott Bordeau, Carson Heinecke, Rick Antin, David Trudeau and John Endrizzi.
4. **Review and approve minutes for June 11, 2018** Motion by Rick Antin, second by John Haugen to approve the minutes for the June 11, 2018 meeting. Motion approved.
5. **Status of agreement with Wally Sedlar for professional services** An agreement has been signed by both parties; Wally will be a contractor who will attend meetings and provide services as authorized at each meeting.
6. **Soil testing workgroup update –Bob Benkowski, John Endrizzi**
 - a. **Revised soil testing approach possibilities using Wally Sedlar/Chris Landowski** Twenty new property owners have volunteered. Reesa and Wally will review last year’s locations before prioritizing the new locations so that there is good distribution of locations on each lake.
 - b. **Obtain and evaluate existing soil test database – Reesa**
 - i. **Resend test outcomes to participants** – Reesa located the 2017 test results of approximately 70-75 properties and will send results to those who didn’t receive them.
 - c. **Program to increase test sites and expansion to other areas** Need to identify areas that might not have been represented as well as beach clubs in order to get a good distribution of sample sites.
 - d. **Plan/approval for tissue tests** Wally explained that a soil test measures what’s in the soil but a tissue test will tell what elements are being taken up by the plant. It would be best tested on a property where a high amount of nitrogen is applied; the tissue test could then tell us if nitrogen is being taken up by the plant or just going into the lake. In addition to the raw sample, questions should be asked about mowing practices and mulching. Wally recommends 5-6 total tissue tests.
 - e. **Estimate costs** Soil test is \$13 and tissue test is approximately \$20-30. Wally’s time should also be factored in and he estimated that he could do about 10 tests in a day.
7. **Discussion and planning for 9 key element plan– Reesa Evans**
 - a. **Status of sessions and priorities** Reesa reported that she’s spent about 130 hours so far working on purpose, funding and background information. She needs well monitoring data (Bob Benkowski will obtain) and water and flow testing results (from John Endrizzi). Next, she’ll be working on crop rotation and identifying practices and impacts as well as education and outreach sections. She’s targeted late July/early August to have a draft completed. The DNR contact person will be in Adams County on July 24. Reesa suggested planning a public meeting for late August to share the plan once it’s been submitted. She also indicated that the Wis River TMDL report included some information on our watershed in Appendix A – Don suggested that we address at our next meeting.
 - b. **Establish communication plan - 14 Mile Committee with upstream ag neighbors**
 - c. **Tie in testing plan for soil and water with nine key element plan**
8. **Evaluate need for further septic system testing – Wally & Kason** Discussion on testing conducted last year by UW-SP to measure if artificial sweeteners etc were being released in the lakes – results were inconclusive. Wally and Kason will discuss further based on UW-SP results. Additional discussion on e coli being found in other water systems; consensus that we should test for it at 5 sites: Camelot, Arrowhead and Sherwood public beach or boat landing as well as the 8th Ave bridge and Lake Arrowhead outlet. More input

from Scott Provost is needed and they will get him added to a future Tri-Lakes meeting. Rick Georgeson suggested working with Lake Redstone, another NE Isaacson-developed lake, to learn of their efforts – Rick Antin will contact them.

a. Number of septic systems in our watershed and how old

i. TriLakes database & followup Bob Benkowski sent an Open Records request to Adams County and is waiting for reply.

ii. County database & followup

9. Spring Forum follow-ups

a. Summary posted for non-attendees Summary has not been added to the website because of technical issues at Tri-Lakes that need to be resolved or another alternative found.

b. Video no report.

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

a. Status of testing to date David Trudeau reported that testing was done on June 9 and an event test was done on 6/19 after a 5” rain event; awaiting results on both. Additional help is needed to interpret the results of the testing program – from Wally and Scott? They also plan to document the habitat at each test site.

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

Ron Foster reported that the committee met on 6/21 and addressed the following open items: need to include disposal of leaves/yardwaste in the new ordinance; recommended fertilizer for the do-it-yourself homeowner 20-0-10;

a. Flyer status created a new brochure for the program; Carson will get estimates for printing and mailing. Motion by Rick Georgeson, second by John Endrizzi to authorize Carson to proceed with total expenses not to exceed \$4000. Motion approved.

b. Yard signs for supportive residents Carson to meet with sign company to get estimates. Who will get the signs? Need to address at next meeting to establish criteria for distribution.

c. Recognized applicator program completed a document to send to applicators for their agreement to the ordinance (waiting for response from Town of Rome).

12. Water turbine project status – Jerry Wiessinger

a. 2018 participants identified Jerry reported that he’s only been able to get 2 participants on a bay and he needs 3-4 for the test to be effective. Several residents from Oxford Court appeared and indicated that there is that level of support in their bay. One of them had already privately installed 2 units and reported that they are working well. Jerry will follow up with the group and got ok to proceed with them.

b. Contract approved

c. Equipment needs

13. Shoreline habitat restoration status – Dave Trudeau, Don Ystad

a. Healthy Lakes grant participant status Dave reported that plants are on order and will be installed. He’s also been in contact with a property owner who is interested for next year.

b. Review beach club mowing recommendation w/ Camelot

c. Meeting w/Jennifer Bergman, Roger Spice, TriLakes and lake associations to determine best direction for fish stocking, fish sticks and fish cribs Dave is working with Tri-Lakes and Jennifer to set up a meeting at the end of July or early August.

14. Adams County Lake Alliance update Wayne Johnson and Don met with the group last month to share vision for improving communication and building relationships with county government. Additionally Wayne has arranged to share this message with the Adams County Towns Association on 7/25.

- 15. Petenwell/PACRS status– Rick Georgeson** Rick shared that they'd visited a farm that has been practicing no till methods for the past five years and that the farmer had been motivated to change because of all the articles in ag journals. On 8/17, they will be celebrating the TMDL completion. Rick also shared that WPR reported a change to acceptable phosphorus levels from 40 to 54 – there was a lot of reaction to the news but Rick explained that it's not an issue.
- 16. Identify and draw from experience of other projects, experts and any other avenues that provide direction – ongoing** No report
 - a. WI Lakes Conference contact follow-up Ystad**
 - i. Paul McInley**
 - ii. Quita Sheehan - Vilas County study**
 - iii. Bob Martini – Oneida Cty study**
 - iv. Emily Stewart – Sheboygan Cty – Iron Slag**
- 17. Communicating with the community – Don Ystad** No report.
 - a. TriLakes/14 Mile website status**
 - b. Quarterly updates**
 - c. TriLakes & Rome website posts**
 - d. Loop with TriLakes, Town, Lake Associations**
 - i. Schedule intro meetings with lake association boards**
- 18. Outreach– Rick Antin** No report.
 - a. Political representatives**
 - b. Other watershed groups, etc**
- 19. Review updated 2018 expenditure budget/goals and activities for 2018** Updated budget was reviewed.
- 20. Set next agenda date (tent. 8/13/18) and topics** Next meeting will be held August 13th.
- 21. Adjourn** Motion by Ron Foster, second by John Endrizzi to adjourn. Motion approved; meeting adjourned at 4:07.