14 MILE WATERSHED COMMITTEE
HELD AT TRI-LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT - 1555 APACHE AVENUE
AGENDA for MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 at 3:00 PM

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

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Review and approve minutes for August 14 & 28, 2017 meetings.

IV. Review Committee Organizational Structure

V. Update on Soil Testing

VI. Progress Update Review & Status on All Tasks and Dates

VII. Petenwell/Mill Creek Report

VIII. Dr. McGinley's Report

IX. Current Funds, Estimate of Expenditures through year end as cash requirements for next year

X. Investigate the following and possible action

- **a. Water turbines**
- **b. Upstream bank easements and nutrient runoff**
- **c. Lake friendly status updates: Ron Foster, Caron Heinecke, Joe Greco**
- **d. Fertilizer Training**
- **e. Baseline data for monitoring wells on County Line**
- **f. Set up watershed flow testing & train citizens update**
  Rob Borski to come and speak with committee.
- **g. Set up nitrate testing in upper watershed & each of the 3 lakes**
  (Nitrates are major contributor to blue-green algae)
- **h. Shoreline Habitat Restoration updates**

XI. Proposed Goals for 2018

XII. Grant updates

XIII. Water Grants For Shoreline Protection: Wally Sedlar

- **A) Drainage pipes along lake shorelines**
- **B) Septic Testing: Wally Sedlar & Scott Provost**

XIV. Set next agenda date and topics

XV. Adjournment

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

I. Call to Order: 3:01 PM by Steve Nowicki

II. Roll Call: Don F, Steve Nowicki, Don Fornasiere, John Endrizzi, Ron Foster, Wayne Johnson, Wally Sedlar, Rick Georgeson, Packers, Scott Bordeau, Dave Trudeau, Joe Greco, Don Ystad, Jerry Wiessinger.

III. **Review and approve minutes for August 14 & 28, 2017 meetings.** First by Jerry Wiessinger second Dave Trudeau. Motion Carries.

IV. **Review Committee Organizational Structure:** Wayne Johnson explains that we fall under the auspices of the Tri-Lakes Management District Board. We have a 50 thousand dollar line item on the Tri-Lakes Board. Recent case law on these type of meetings is such that; when a quorum of the committee gets together to meet, you must post the meeting 24 hours before the meeting, listing the topics that will be discussed. It is also required to take minutes of what is discussed and voted upon. Minutes must then be made available to the public, within a reasonable amount of time. This is to keep us within the confines of the law. Don Fornasiere spoke with Nick Flanagan, the Town of Rome lawyer, about coming to one of these meetings. He would let us know about state statutes. His rate is $75 an hour and he estimates 4-5 hours. Don Ystad speaks on the issues that were brought up by the attendees at the annual meeting. He thanks Scott Provost and Wally Sedlar for all their hard work. There is an impatience as to some of the things, such as the delays of the placement of the turbines, and the sharing of Information with the citizens. Some citizens we are blaming lake citizens and not the agriculture people. He felt it is a perception because we are not communicating with them. Don suggest we separate our bookkeeping and make it known what is spent and what is left. Don also recognizes that there are a number of people on this committee, and not all are active participants and he would like to change that. We have many experts and people with long histories of business experience; such as an agronomist (soil expert), water science guy, retired international CEO, retired US Fish & Wildlife, a retired banker, and people who have managed large projects. A member of the committee needs to take charge, and will need to report what is being done and what needs to be done in the future. Another item that someone mentioned to Don Ystad, is that there would be something on the agenda, that wording should be simple, so it is least restrictive as to what is talked about during a meeting, as long it is legal. This could be under the title of “New Business”, if this is legal to do. We might take a different method of getting the minutes out to the public other than what we have been doing.

Don gives another example as to a project that might have been done sooner, if more people had offered to help Steve, is the Aerator Test Program might have gotten done faster.

It is brought up that the 14 Mile Watershed Committee is an advisory committee, who answers to Tri-Lakes Management. It can communicate what is deems important, and then make requests to Tri-Lakes, who then votes on the spending of funds. Don Ystad reads the motion that was voted on at the annual meeting. 50,000 was allotted to the 2018 budget (fiscal year) for the 14 Mile Watershed Committee, with a portion of that being what is leftover at the end of 2017. The approximate amount that will be left over from 2017, will be $31,000.

Don Ystad brings up that the amount that was allotted for the turbines, has not has not been spent, and only one was purchased. (5 Turbines for $8,500.00 was allotted). For bookkeeping purposed should we order them now or wait until next year. Tri-Lakes board must vote on this.

When this was made by your motion last year, that this committee be formed, and when it was, Steve Nowicki offered to head and sit on this committee as a Tri-Lakes liaison. By the time all the associations got back to Steve Nowicki with their representatives, Steve had been chairing the group. Ron Foster made a motion to nominate Don Ystad to be chosen to head the 14 Mile Watershed Committee, second by Dave Trudeau. Motion Carried. Don will take over at the next meeting, and Tri-Lakes will choose a liaison at their next meeting. The 14 Mile Watershed Committee should also choose a vice-chair and a secretary. Don Ystad asks if it permissible that the committee take minutes, rather than the Tri-Lakes secretary Gina. Don Ystad proposes to his fellow members, that he will put an agenda together for the next meeting. Gina will take/record the minutes and post that and the agenda as required by being a part of a state recognized committee.

V. **Update on Soil Testing:** Wally Sedlar received all the of test results from the lawns he had tested. The average phosphorus that was found on all the properties he has tested, was 48 ppm, and a new high of 176 ppm for phosphorus. The beach clubs average 1 was 13 and one was 14 ppm. It should be in the range of 15-20 ppm. 29-6-8 of organic phosphorus is legal but unnecessary and not right. These are shoreline properties. If everyone stopped using fertilizers, it will be 20 years before it goes down. The key thing we need to do, is to stop fertilizing, add buffers and not leave the grass clippings on your lawn. Don Ystad asked if a group of volunteers, could do a lighter version of these soil tests yet this year or next year. Wally Sedlar responded spring would be a better time of year to do it. Scott Provost asked how these compare to the agriculture farm fields. Wally responded that the ag fields tend to be going up slowly, with an average of 60-70. It is usually the dairy manure and not so much the ag farms. We must communicate to the Tri-Lakes residents as to what they are adding to the waters, as well as how this compares to what the ag land is adding. John Endrizzi speaks to the

meeting we had in July to disseminate this information to the public. John Endrizzi suggests we need another backup meeting to the one in July to disseminate this information to the public. A short concise delivery, face to face with the residents is suggested. Someone should be in charge of finding ideas on how to deliver our results to the public, such as Tri-Lakes and the Town of Rome's website. Don Ystad would be willing to be part of a work-group.

VI. Progress Update Review & Status on All Tasks and Dates: Item #10 touches on this topic**.**

VII. Petenwell/Mill Creek Report: Rick Georgeson from PACRS reported that during the weekend there was the annual PACRS fundraiser held at Petenwell Park. The committee received contributions to their raffle. They received many baskets from local businesses. They raised around $3,600. The perception of the work they are doing on Petenwell/CastleRock is very good. A recording was played of a water report that was on Wi Radio Public radio, on how the lake people are working with the farmers.

VIII. Dr. McGinley's Report: Dr. McGinley has not submitter a report or a bill to Wally Sedlar for the work he has done. Will we know by our next meeting? It should be kept on the agenda for the next meeting. Wally will try to find out, and then we will add it to a future agenda. Wally reported on some of the issues, that Dr. McGinley had verbally reported to him thus far. Don Ystad asked if we are we looking for McGinley, to come back and report on more than what he had already given Wally. Wally reports he has only 2-3 typed pages, and all the rest of the report is graphs and charts. John Endrizzi feels we should lay to rest, one way or another if we should continue testing or not. John's testing will also cover rainstorm events as well as the normal testing that is done. The work done by Dr. McGinley was through a watershed grant, which Wally applied for. This allowed him to do a base flow and water chemistry tests.

IX. Current Funds, Estimate of Expenditures through year end as cash requirements for next year: We came up with roughly $19,000 that was spent to date. There could be commitments that we are not aware of. Ron Foster makes a motion that we have $19,000 for watershed expenditures spent to date, second Carson Heinecke. Motion carries. This is so our treasurer has a number to be able to calculate the amount needed to do the tax levy.

X. Investigate the following and possible action:

a. Water turbines: The second resident from Fosse Court, is not going to do anything this year, as electrical work is needed, and there is not enough time to do that work and get the turbine installed before the winter. In regards to the other location for possible turbine tests, only 3 of the 5 people from the

Quarterstaff bay, returned their agreement to have turbines installed. Thus, this test site was not done. It is discussed to get private citizens who had their own turbines installed, reports of the results they observed.
Don Ystad suggests we get together a workgroup at the next meeting.

b. **Upstream bank easements and nutrient runoff**: Would this fall into the studies we need? If we stop some wind/water erosion it may stop some of the phosphorus from entering the lake. The buffer strips can definitely reduce the phosphorus according to Scott Provost.
c. **Lake friendly status updates: Ron Foster, Caron Heinecke, & Joe Greco:** They met as a workgroup, and put together some information on suggestions for the town of Rome. Carson passed out 2 typed pages which was titled *"Proposed additions to Town of Rome Regulations on the use & application of lawn fertilizer".* The 4 sub topics were: *Part of preamble or incorporate into law, Part of Regulation, Permit Requirements, & Penalty.* He recommends no action be taken until the next meeting.
d. **Fertilizer Training:** The state laws do not allow municipalities to issue any new licensing requirements, unless they were enforce prior to 2016.
e. **Baseline data for monitoring wells on County Line:** Data logger was reported that end of quarter is September and will be replaced by end of quarter. Testing is done 4 times a year and reports will come twice a year. There is another company that has given us a quote for future testing and will be discussed at a future Tri-Lakes board meeting. Don Fornasiere questions, "Who is the certified lab that this new company is going to use?".
f. **Set up watershed flow testing & train citizens update**
Rob Borski to come and speak with committee. John Endrizzi and Scott Provost will be meeting up tomorrow and working on the location of the testing sites. The training for the volunteers in level one certification will be done next spring. Rob Borski is not scheduled to speak at this point.
g. **Set up nitrate testing in upper watershed & each of the 3 lake (Nitrates are major contributor to blue-green algae):** This was discussed earlier today.
h. **Shoreline Habitat Restoration updates:** The money was well spent on the two day workshop. Some of the discussions they participated in: Benefits of Protecting Intact Shorelines. Economic Benefits of Water Quality, Economic Impacts of Degraded Lakes to Property Values and Tourism, State Standards of Wisconsin Biology, Natural Recovery-Accelerated Recovery with Natural Buffers, How to work Effectively with Land Owners, Designing Lakeshore Recovery Habitats, Erosion Control Causes and Factors, Identify Different Causes of Erosion, Erosion Control Practices and Standards, . Uses of a Tool Called NR828. Restoration techniques: Native Plants, Appropriate plant lists. Don Ystad reports that they learned a lot of information. Met a lot of people and found out the projects they were doing. They found out about grants available. Such as Healthy Lakes Grants, such as the one Wally Sedlar was suggesting called DATCAP.

XI. **Proposed Goals for 2018** Steve Nowicki suggests this goes on the next agenda**.**

XII. **Grant updates:**

XIII. Water Grants For Shoreline Protection: Wally Sedlar Wally lets them know there is a cap on the amount of grants. 9 Key element plan for the watershed. You identify what needs to be addressed and must be addressed. You usually have a year to do the plan. Wally will bring it back to the committee.

A) Drainage pipes along lake shorelines: We have asked the harvesters too keep an eye for them and report if they see any. None spotted thus far. They have a past employee who offered to take them out on his pontoon and show them all the drainage pipes he had found.

B) Septic Testing: Wally Sedlar & Scott Provost: Wally had brought up in the past doing septic testing. There is a research grant, through the University at Stevens Point. They can test for some of the artificial sweeteners, which will indicate a septic leakage into the lake.

XIV. Set next agenda date and topics: Remove Rob Borski to come and speak with committee. At the next meeting put together work groups. Next date will be held at the town hall if possible. Monday, October 9 is the next date at 3:00 Remove Item 4 & 5b Upstream Bank Easements, add "New Business" or Citizen Input. Add "Mowing of the beach clubs" as a topic, septic pipes.

Adjournment: John Endrizzi makes a motion to adjourn, second by Rick Georgeson. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Regina Combs, Administrative Assistant