14 Mile Joint Rome/Tri-Lakes Watershed Committee
Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI
Agenda for Monday, Dec 11th, 2017 at 2:00 PM

It is possible that the members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above-stated meeting to gather information; no action will be taken by any governmental body at the above-stated meeting other than the 14 Mile Watershed Committee

i. **Call to order & confirm posting.** Posting was done on Sunday 12/10/17

ii. **Roll call:** Don Ystad, Bob Benkowski, Wayne Johnson, John Endrizzi, Jerry Wiessinger, Rick Antin, Rick Georgeson, Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke, Dave Trudeau, Wally Sedlar, Scott Provost, Jennifer Bergman, Don Fornasiere,

iii. **Review and approve minutes for November 13, 2017:** Correction on no. 4,-- " Inches to expose the popes", should be pipes. Dave Trudeau makes a motion to approve the minutes with changes, second by Wayne Johnson. Motion carried.

iv. **History, actions and successes Mill Creek Watershed – Guest John Eron:** Not able to be present.

v. **Discussion and review of 14 Mile Watershed visuals, and planning for 14 key element plan – Wally Sedlar & Scott Provost:** Wally and Scott explained what they will be doing with the 9 Key Element Plan. This is the first 9 key element plan that will include a groundwater element. The steps are: Build a partnership, Identify Watershed, Set costs and identify Solutions, Design Implementation Program, Implement plant, Make adjustments and Measure Progress. Maps of the shoreline inventory done by Adams County were discussed. Wally defined some of the terms used in the presentation. He discussed the history of the past years regarding the blue-green algae warnings, and the creation of the 14 mile committee, along with the projects that ensued such as the lawn testing, initial meetings with the local lawn applicators and Cranberry farmers and soil and water testing. Some of the delineation work for the 9 Key Element Plan had already been done by the DNR and was just made available to us. There is a lot of work to be done, as our deadline for submittal of the 9 Key Plan to the DNR and EPA is September, 2018. This plan coincides with the Wisconsin River TMDL study done 4 years ago, and includes involvement with Wood County, Waushara County and Portage County. Assemblyman Scott Krug was in attendance as a potential sponsor of funding as we move forward.

vi. **Discuss contribution of septic systems to water issues– Scott Provost, Wally Sedlar:** Utilizing a grant Wally Sedlar procured, two sites have been tested so far. Tri-Lakes chairman, Don Fornasiere had offered his property as one of the two sites. While it is not yet determined of additional sites will need to be tested, the $13,000 cost will be left in the 2018 14 Mile budget.

vii. **Watershed flow & nitrate testing workgroup (discuss activity & budget) – John Endrizzi, Dave Trudeau, Scott Provost(advisor):** John Endrizzi reviewed the sites currently being tested and requested an additional site at Aniwa. The second round of testing has been performed upstream and on the lakes. Because of the danger of testing on the lakes after freeze-up, it

was determined to hold off testing at the 4 sites on the lakes between ice-up and ice-out. Testing upstream at 7 sites will be done year round.

viii. **Soil testing workgroup planning (expand footprint, tissue tests) – Wally Sedlar, Bob Benkowski, John Endrizzi.** No additional tests are being performed until next spring**.** Soil test program group is beginning work on identifying areas where additional test concentration is needed, and establishing a better process for confirming participants for the spring 2018 program.

ix. **Lake friendly fertilizer program workgroup update – Ron Foster, Carson Heinecke and Joe Greco - Status of proposed ordinance**: A new draft was submitted to Tri-Lakes for their approval and then on to the town board. The original draft would have the applicators apply for a permit. The state does not allow a town to require a license/permit in addition to the state permit already required. Another draft for the ordinance was done with the permit requirement removed. This is what will be presented to the Tri-Lakes board and the Town of Rome board for approval. In addition, a write-up was prepared for distribution by the lake associations once the ordinance is approved through TriLakes and the town.

x. **Upstream agriculture investigation** – no action taken

xi. **Identify and draw from experience of other projects, experts and any other avenues that provide direction – ongoing;** Three of our members will be attending the Wisconsin Lakes Conference in April to learn about current watershed improvement practices, and to establish contacts with communities and experts helpful to our cause. John Endrizzi, Don Ystad, and either Dave Trudeau or Rick Antin.

xii. **Financial report & 2018 budget discussion** – Deferred to Jan, 2018

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

- **a. Quarterly updates:** Don sent it to the Lake Associations
- **b. TriLakes & Rome website posts:** This is being worked on by the Town and Tri-Lakes
- **c. Loop with Tri-Lakes, Town, Lake Associations:** Attempting to establish a common communication approach involving CRC, TriLakes, Rome, PACRS, and each of the 3 lake associations. In process.

ii. **Outreach –** Rick Antin will approach Representative Scott Krug and Senator Patrick Testin about attending a future meeting.

iii. **Petenwell status– Rick Georgeson:** Brought 3 DNR people in and spoke about new- Full time dedicated position to the WI RIVER TMDL. This person may be positioned in a Wausau office. This is the largest TMDL that the DNR has done. At the PACRS meeting they talked about the signage for participants. The size about 18 x 32 with the PACRS logo and the farms name which will be awarded

to conservation minded farmers. The Mill Creek farmer led watershed council hosted a fall/winter tour of farms cooperating with no-till and winter cover programs. It was a demonstration of changing farming practices for better outcomes. Sussgestion was mage that we have a member attend the Cover Crop Conference from the UWM extension in Stevens Point.

iv. **Water turbine project status – Jerry Wiessinger:** No updates and the draft letter will go out to them after the holidays.

v. **Shoreline habitat restoration status – Dave Trudeau, Don Ystad –** Proposing a Healthy Lakes grant for about 4 lakefront properties.

vi. **Set next agenda date (tent. 1/08/18) and topics:** This date was agreed upon. For the next agenda re-title the 14 mile watershed to show joint committee. Add to next agenda: add 3 workshops into the agenda and maybe have one very large workshop and be discussed in January's Committee Meeting.

vii. **Adjourn** - Wayne Johnson first, Rick Georgeson second