14 Mile Joint Rome/TriLakes Watershed Committee
Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, March 9th, 2020 at 2:00 PM

1. **Remote call in/video setup** Established
2. **Call to order & confirm posting** John Endrizzi called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm; Barb confirmed that the agendas were posted on March 5th at the US Bank, Nekoosa Pt. Edwards State Bank, Pritzls and the website.
3. **Pledge** The Pledge was recited.
4. **Roll call** Members present: Scott Bordeau, Dave Trudeau, John Haugen, John Endrizzi, Karen Knotek, Jerry Wiessinger, Rick Georgeson, Phil Rockenbach and Gary Gross. Guests: Dr. R. McGrath, Alex Tomsyck and Sue Porter.
5. **Review and approve minutes for Feb 10th, 2020** Motion by Jerry Wiessinger, second by Phil Rockenbach to approve the Feb 10, 2020 minutes; motion approved.
6. **Announcements** John Endrizzi shared the following: 1) Sadly, Wallendal Farms is for sale; they have been a big supporter of water quality efforts in the area; 2) this is National Groundwater Awareness week; Adams County is offering reduced fees for water testing this week; and 3) Alex Tomsyck was introduced as the dam operator and owner of Knee Deep Shore Supplies. Motion by John Haugen, second by Jerry Wiessinger to recommend to Tri-Lakes to approve Alex Tomsyck to join the 14 Mile Watershed committee. Motion approved; it will be taken to the next Tri-Lakes meeting for final approval.
7. **Guest Speaker Sue Porter – DATCP - Nutrient Management Plans** Sue Porter's presentation included an overview of SnapPlus, a software program developed by UW. The software allows farmers to input data such as soil types, wells, nutrients applied and crop rotations on a field-by-field basis. The software can then manage this data and give the farmer directions of when and how much nutrients to apply. She also reviewed the USDA 590 Standard which applies to all farms in Wisconsin. Cost share programs are available to farmers who work under a Nutrient Management Plan or the Farmland Preservation category. Each County Land Conservation Department is responsible for these plans from developing them, issuing permits and enforcement. Only a third of state farms operate with a NMP.
8. **Nine Key Element Plan status – Kason, Scott P** Don Ystad received an update earlier this week from Andrew Craig. The plan is still being reviewed by both DNR and EPA with some additional data requested on Feb 14.
9. **Adams County LWCD update – Kason Morley** No report
10. **Discuss Clean water Cooperator candidates – John** John approached the Nekoosa School District and was able to interview 2 candidates to help with water testing as well as Clean Waters/Clean Boats monitoring at the boat launches. The position pays $12/hour and additional candidates are still being sought.
11. **14 Mile promotion workgroup status– Gary** Gary reported that the group had met after a conference call with Don Ystad. He shared the display board that they have developed for future booths as well as plans for a table skirt. Karen has been working on updating brochures and shared a tri-fold on the fertilizer ordinance. Scott Provost suggested adding the actual ordinance number to the verbiage in the brochure. A logo for our group was shared. Motion by Phil Rockenbach, second by Jerry Wiessinger to approve the logo presented. Motion approved.
    a. **Plan for Earth Day Spring Info Session at the Library April 22 –** Volunteers are needed to man the booth. Additional events this year include: Farmers Market from May through October; the State of the Lakes in June; LSPOA 4th of July, Camelot Frolics on Aug 15 and the Arrowhead Art Fair on September 5.
12. **Assemble team for "State Of The Lakes" planning – John** Volunteers include Karen, Phil, Dave and John E.
13. **Lakes habitat**

a. **Fish habitat – John Kolinski**
b. **Healthy Lakes – Dave** Dave submitted an article in the LSPOA newsletter. Because of the lack of ice depth this winter, the trees for the Sherwood fish sticks project could not be placed out so they'll have to try again next winter.

14. **Lakes/Associations updates**
    a. **Arrowhead/LAPOA – Bob**
    b. **Camelot/LCPOA- Dan**
    c. **Petenwell/PACRS update – Rick G/Scott** Rick shared the following: 1) PACRS sponsored the Cover Crop Conference in St. Pt – there were 420 registrants, mostly farmers. Rick Clark of Indiana shared an inspiring message of how his 7 years' experience of no till/cover crop practice has resulted in reduced input costs and less fuel costs. His message: next year's yield is determined by this year's cover crop with soil health being the key. Rick also shared that General Mills and Ray Archeletta are working together with the help of a 1.6 million dollar grant to help farmers who supply grains to General Mills to discontinue the use of Glysophate (Round-Up) as a weed killer. Finally, Rick reported on the Wis Land & Water Annual Conference (which PACRS also helped to sponsor) and that it had 300 attendees from all 72 counties. Katrina Shanklin was recognized for her work on the State Water Task Force.
    d. **Sherwood/LSPOA-Jerry/Dave** Healthy Lakes as reported in item 13b.
15. **County & town meeting reports**
    a. **County lake alliance – Ystad** no report
    b. **LWCD committee – Endrizzi & Wiessinger** Jerry shared that the LWD work plan for the year was presented and that it includes work on the Camelot County Park beach to deter the geese. The County Forest Plan was also discussed.
    c. **County Board – Wiessinger**
    d. **County Drainage Board – Endrizzi** High water levels in southern Adams County continues to be a concern.
    e. **County P & Z - Antin**
    f. **Town P & Z - Wiessinger** no water-related items
    g. **Town Board – Wiessinger** no water-related items
    h. **County forest – John Haugen** John reported that the county plan is being reviewed at the State level; Visit Rome is investigating purchase of a parcel of land to add to the program.
    i. **Water testing workgroup update**
        i. **2020 testing plan – John, Dave, Phil, Don** Phil is trying to recruit volunteers for testing in Camelot and Sherwood; testing will begin in May.
        ii. **Status of surface waters grant/other**
16. **Lake friendly fertilizer program workgroup update – Carson Heinecke** no report
17. **Outreach - other projects, experts and any other avenues that provide direction**
        i. **WI Lakes Convention – confirm attendance John, Dave, Scott, plus intern** all 4 will attend
        ii. **Big Eau Plaine producers council (EPPIC) activities** John reported that this group is very active and posts items on Facebook regularly. Rick shared that he had learned that producer-led group members need to be farmers only in order to get funding; non-farmers are allowed to be supporters of the group.
        iii. **Political representatives – Antin**
        iv. **NRCS, Farm Service & others to understand funding sources – who?**
        v. **Relationship building - Synergy, conservation programs, who in our watershed, etc**
            1. **Cranberry Growers** Gary spoke to his contact at Ocean Spray and they are interested in having a representative attend our meetings in the future

2. **WPVGA**
3. **other**

18. **Set next agenda date, April 20th, and topics**
    a. **April guest speaker TBD** no guest speaker is scheduled
    b. **Identify future speakers**
        i. **Schedule mtg with Rachel of DATCP to discuss producer led councils – Kason/Don**
        ii. **Beaver Dam, Redstone Serge Koenig, etc** John E recommended Serge Koenig for a future meeting
19. **Adjourn** Motion by Jerry Wiessinger, second by Phil Rockenbach to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm.