

14 Mile Joint Rome/TriLakes Watershed Committee

Held remotely as a video conference meeting, open to the public through a Zoom link Agenda/Minutes for Monday, May 10, 2021 at 2:00 PM

1. **Call to order & confirm Zoom setup & posting:** Don Ystad called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm; agendas were posted on May 6 at Nekoosa Pt. Edwards State Bank, Pritzls and the Town Hall as well as on the website.
2. **Roll call/confirm quorum:** Members present: Don Ystad, Dave Trudeau, Phil Rockenbach, Jerry Wiessinger, Karen Knotek, Carson Heinecke, and Barb Herreid. Also present: Rachael Whitehair, Tracy Arnold, Anna James and Jane.
3. **Review and approve minutes for April 12, 2021:** Motion made by Phil Rockenbach and seconded by Carson Heinecke to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2021 meeting; motion approved.
4. **Announcements:** none
5. **Status – 14 Mile Watershed Alliance –** Don commented that we're really official since the attorney's bill was received.

a. **14 Mile, Town of Rome and Tri-Lakes moving forward:** Speaker, Carl Halstad was unable to attend.

6. **9 Key Element Plan status – Kason Morley:** in Kason's absence, Anna James reported that ACLWD is in process of finding/hiring a candidate who will be overseeing the 9 Key Element Plan.

7. Standing Committees:

a. **Publicity and Community outreach – Karen:** Karen reported that she is working on the following items: 1) with Don and Scott, a brochure on 9KEP; 2) revising and updating the fertilizer brochure; 3) with assistance of Gus Mancuso, she is working with a Nekoosa High School committee on student programs starting next fall; 4) is needing volunteers to help plan the August 7th State of the Lakes and 5) the Rome Farmers Market begins May 21 from 9 to 1; please contact Karen to schedule a date(s) to help man the weekly booth throughout the summer.

b. Watershed Research – John:

- i. **upstream testing:** In John's absence, Don reported that testing had taken place last week
- ii. **In-lake testing:** Weather permitting, Phil plans to start in-lake testing the week of May 24 and it will continue through October.
- iii. **Owens Rock denitrification project:** Taylor Hasz has taken a new job; Don heard from Scott Provost that the test wells will be installed shortly and we will be notified; photos or a video will be taken.

c. Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave:

- i. **Healthy Lakes:** Dave is working with Tri-Lakes to put together an informational packet on Healthy Lakes that will be mailed out to 3500 properties. He also reported that a current project is restoring the shoreline at the Huntington Beach Club with the help of Adams County Land and Water. Anna is documenting the entire process; the project can be seen from the Kings Way dam.
- ii. **Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator:** Carson will get Cooperator signs and pledge sheets to Karen to distribute at the Farmers Market.
- iii. **Catalyst Conservation Landscape grant:** Don reported that the application was submitted by the deadline and that we should find out in July if it is approved; the amount of the grant is \$25,000 and Don received a big help from the Wisconsin Wetlands Association.

d. **Finance – Barb:** Barb shared recent meetings with Phil, Don and Karen to identify potential donors and who is responsible for contacting. Several donations were received as a result of the Special Announcement newsletter.

- i. Phil reported on the donations received via Paypal; the attorney's bill was received and paid leaving a small balance. Phil investigated the Amazon Smile program – in order to be added to

the donation program, our organization needs to be published by IRS and they are currently one year behind in updating the information. He will follow up at a future date.

e. Partnership Development – Don:

i. Speakers: members suggested future topics/speakers including Tracy Hames, Eric Olson or another non-profit group and PACRS. Karen will be attending a Lake Leaders conference and will look for ideas.

ii. Groups: Don is on the agenda today to speak to the WVPGA.

8. Lake reports: there was further discussion on the Huntington Beach Club project – perhaps a Healthy Lake sign could be posted? Dave will follow up. Don also shared a sign he viewed in Clark County announcing ‘You are entering the ___ Watershed’ and wondered if we should pursue one or more for the 14 Mile. The Highway Department needs to be contacted for permission.

9. Town, County, Tri-Lakes updates: none

10. Set next agenda date & place, tentatively June 14, speaker, topics – the next meeting on June 14 will be held in the Community room at the Rome Town Hall and also broadcast via Zoom; Karen and Rachel will coordinate with Jamie on the set up prior to the meeting. It was suggested we get a speaker on launching a non-profit organization with a few possibilities suggested.

11. Adjourn: Motion by Dave Trudeau, seconded by Phil Rockenbach; motion carried. Meeting adjourned.