

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, December 13, 2021 at 2:00 PM

- 1. Call to order & confirm Zoom setup:** Don Ystad called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm; Rachael Whitehair set up Zoom link.
- 2. Roll call/confirm quorum:** Members present: Don Ystad, Dave Trudeau, Barb Herreid, Phil Rockenbach and Karen Knotek (via Zoom). Also present: Anna James, Scott Bordeau, Tracy Arnold, Wayne Johnson, Erin O'Brien, Gus Mancuso, Jerry Wiessinger and Colton Hutchinson.
- 3. Review and approve minutes for November 8, 2021:** Motion made by Dave Trudeau and seconded by Phil Rockenbach to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021 meeting; motion approved.
- 4. Announcements:**
 - a. **Welcome Kyle Kettner** – Kyle introduced himself as he has just joined ACLWD as a Watershed Agronomist and is looking forward to focusing on our 9 Key Element Plan starting with working with Karen to create a brochure.
 - b. **Jan through March meeting coordination:** As Don will be in Arizona for 3 months, he has set up suggested agendas and speakers for Jan, Feb and March. Don also asked us to review the list of names that Phil sent out and to share any recommendations for potential committee members.
 - c. **Co-presenters WI Lakes conf April 8th:** Scott Provost's submission for a topic has been approved and we will be a co-presenter with 3 other lake groups to tell our story.
- 5. Zoom presentation – Dreux Watermolen DNR – engaging with our community**

Dreux heads up Social Science Research at WDNR and provided us with background for understanding what our community's beliefs are and then in engaging them to help. In his 35 years with DNR, he has learned that People Cause Problems . . . but . . . People can Solve Problems. We need to understand the public's beliefs and behaviors as well as how they engage with the lake. There may be different perceptions of what is the problem. He reviewed both qualitative and quantitative options for gathering input. If a survey is used, it should be representative and well-thought-out – e.g. what is the objective and how will we use this information. Different types of surveys were discussed, but whichever method is chosen, the questions matter (only ask questions that matter, not because they would be nice to know and too lengthy of a questionnaire will decrease participation). DNR support is available to review questions so that they elicit the best response.
- 6. Tree Sale Opportunity - Barb:** It's been suggested that we consider coordinating a shrub and tree sale through ACLWD. Barb described how it had been handled in the past by LCPOA. It would be a way for us to offer smaller quantities (not the full bundles of 25) to property owners at a bargain price and encourage them to use for shoreline improvement. After getting approval to proceed, Barb volunteered to coordinate it.
- 7. Standing Committees**
 - a. **Publicity and Community outreach – Karen:**
 - ii. Phil reported on having a booth at the Winter Farmers Market – more residents than weekenders stopped by
 - iv. **Educational programs** – Gus Mancuso reported that Nekoosa HS Principal and 2 teachers are very interested in working with us to provide real-life experiences for their students. Rachael added that the HS also just got a grant approved to do a prairie restoration that she'll be involved in.
 - b. **Watershed Research - Phil:**
 - i. **upstream and in-lake testing:** in-lake is completed for 2021; hoping to test upstream this month
 - ii. **Internship status:** Seven youth were interviewed and offers made to 3 with each one accepting. Two of the students are from UW-SP and the other from Adams-Friendship HS. Training has been conducted and they will be helping with the upstream testing later this month.
 - c. **Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave:** Dave reported that we are in a holding pattern until mid-March when grant awards will be announced. He will be submitting Healthy Lakes reimbursement

requests soon. Don spoke of plans by Rome Parks to install a kayak landing on Walden and that nearby might be a possible spot for a Healthy Lakes project in the future.

d. Finance – Barb: Phil reported on our current checkbook balance.

e. Partnership Development – Don:

i. Speakers for Jan and Mar are set up

ii. **Groups/awards:** Recent certificates have been presented to the Owens Rock project, Heartland Farms and an individual who provides us access for testing.

8. Lake reports: Dave reported the Lake Sherwood Fisheree will be held January 15, as a fundraiser for the conservation committee in conjunction with DNR's winter free fishing day.

9. Town, County, Tri-Lakes updates: Jerry Wiessinger reported that the Lure and LSPOA will be selling gas for recreation needs while Pritzl's is closed.

10. Confirm next agenda date & time

a. **January 10 – Scott P & Colton H – denitrification in the Leola ditch**

b. **February 14 – To-dos for 2022/names/dates – execute grants, build capacity, varied meeting sched, etc**

c. **March 14 – Pat Oldenburg DNR – the TMDL**

11. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Herreid