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, February 14, 2022 at 2:00 PM

1. Call to order & confirm Zoom setup: Dave Trudeau called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm; Rachael Whitehair set up Zoom link.

2. Roll call/confirm quorum: Members present: Dave Trudeau, Barb Herreid, Phil Rockenbach, Jerry Wiessinger, Bob Benkowski and Karen Knotek (via Zoom). Also present: Anna James, Tracy Arnold, Cynthia Haggard and Dave Keuler.

3. Review and approve minutes for January 10, 2022: ***Motion made by Jerry Wiessinger and seconded by Phil Rockenbach to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2022 meeting; motion approved***.

4. Announcements: none

5 Nine Key Element Plan status – Kyle Kettner: Kyle reported on his recent activities including: a. completed a 12-month plan of action; b. met with representatives from Wood, Waushara and Portage counties as well as WDNR and c. set up 2 public informational meetings on the 9KEP (Plainfield on 3/16 at 5:30 and Rome on 3/22 at 5:30). At our next monthly meeting, he will share the 12-month plan and how each item is addressing milestones.

6. Planning for 2022 (assignments/start & end dates)

a. 9 Key Element Plan Milestone task priorities:

i. Table 26-Best Management Practices to Reduce Nutrient Loading: 14 Mile can help Kyle with a roadside survey which will include driving and taking notes

ii. Table 27-Reduce Nutrient Loading to Groundwater: Rome may be a primary area for the County's launch of a private well testing program; Anna is coordinating the project which will probably take place in August; 14 Mile can help to promote the program.

iii. Table 28-Improve Lake Shoreline Conditions: Objectives 1 and 4 are related to our Healthy Lakes efforts; Objective 6-we can continue to educate property owners on impacts from fertilizers; in re-instituting the soil testing program, Rachael suggested that we highlight a couple of properties and include the results in our newsletter; additionally, beach clubs need to be engaged and to convince them of no-mow practices; Objective 8-the completed beach club project on Sherwood can be a primary demo site to promote what can be done.

iv. Table 29-Improve Public Outreach Campaign: We can provide feedback to Kyle on the implementation of county-led programs; Rachael and Kyle suggested that we let UW-Extension and the County work on a survey after getting our input; Karen and Rachael are working together to engage the school community in watershed activities.

b. 14 Mile booth outreach plans/staffing/materials: We will continue with Farmers Markets; March and April indoor markets need to be staffed-Karen will send out email for volunteers and we all need to be involved. Brochures and other items will need to be ordered prior to the weekly summer market.

c. 14 Mile meetings revised schedule and location for improved community attendance: consensus that we should try

d. State of Our Lakes date and location/content/key planning dates: we determined a date of Saturday, June 4 for the event and scheduled the Town Hall. A separate planning meeting will be set up shortly.

e. Execution of DNR Education grant, ordering signs, pamphlets, etc, following approval: The $5,000 grant was recently approved and will commence on March 15, 2022 and run through December 31, 2023. The project budget was reviewed and the following activities will be priorities: publishing a newsletter, signs to build awareness of Healthy Lakes projects, coasters (not placemats), metal Healthy Lakes signs and a Story Map of projects around the lakes as well as holding a State of Our Lakes event. Anna is working on a new property owners' brochure for the entire county and will share with us so that our unique items/information can be added. Kyle is working on a Story Map for the whole watershed to identify lakeshore projects; photos can be imbedded; he will have a basic version to begin with and then add more next fall/winter. It was

agreed that a 9 KEP brochure needs to encompass all entities in the watershed and to have a single point of contact (Kyle).

f. Building capacity & community outreach plans (Dreux Watermolen & Eric Olson recommendations): Rachael will send the strategic goals to us and to Kyle for further discussion. Phil challenged each of us to invite one or more persons to our March meeting to start increasing our numbers. The State of Our Lakes will be another opportunity to engage others in our efforts.

g. Identify alternate meeting dates/times/locations to attract community & upstream neighbors (coffee bar, gazebo, etc.): Consensus that we need to try to implement this this year and to make it fun; one suggestion was to hold movie nights at the gazebo.

7. Standing Committees

a. Publicity and Community outreach – Karen:

i. **Youtube channel/videos/Zoom sessions:** Karen is working with Kyle on an informational 9KEP brochure

ii. **14MW booth plans 2022:** already discussed

iii. **Educational program plans:** Karen and Rachael are working on a survey for high school students and will use the information gathered to develop programs.

b. Watershed Research - Phil:

i. upstream and in-lake testing: The new interns are enthusiastic; 4 of the 7 sites were able to complete flow data testing.

c. **Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave:** Dave reported that we received a $5,000 Surface Water grant and $12,000 Healthy Lakes grant. Additionally, Tri-Lakes received funding for a Clean Boats, Clean Waters program. Dave also mentioned that the fish sticks project on Sherwood was completed with 40 new trees added to the island area.

d. **Finance – Barb:** Phil reported on our current funds and Barb shared that we had received 62 orders for trees and shrubs that came to a total of 800+ items ordered. Distribution in late April or early May will take place at Tri-Lakes and she will need help in assembling the orders and distributing.

e. **Partnership Development – Don:**

i. Our speaker for Mar will be Pat Oldenberg on the TMDL

8. Lake reports: Dave reported that the January Fisheree on Sherwood resulted in the highest profit to date and that it all goes towards their conservation fund.

9. Town, County, Tri-Lakes updates: Jerry Wiessinger reported that a new zoning commissioner will begin on March 7th.

10. **Confirm next agenda date & time**

a. March 14 – Pat Oldenburg DNR – the TMDL

11. **Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Herreid