

14 Mile Joint Rome/TriLakes Watershed Alliance

Held at Rome Town Hall 1156 Alpine Drive, Rome, WI, open to the public through a Zoom link
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, March 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 and Karen Knotek. Also present in person or via Zoom: Anna James, Rachael Whitehair, Scott Bordeau, Pat Oldenburg, Colton Hutchinson, John Endrizzi, Sally Geiger and Dave Keuler.
- 3. Review and approve minutes for February 14, 2022:** *Motion made by Jerry Wiessinger and seconded by Phil Rockenbach to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2022 meeting; motion approved.*
- 4. Announcements:** a. Dave Trudeau introduced Dave Keuler who is joining the 14 Mile Board; he recently retired and moved to Rome and has been helping with the water testing program. His background as a chemist will be very helpful.
- 5. Guest speaker Pat Oldenburg DNR – the WI River Basin TMDL:** Pat Oldenburg gave a Powerpoint presentation updating us on the 20-year project to reduce phosphorus levels throughout the WI River Basin. Updates included: municipal stormwater, wastewater, existing and new producer-led groups, other communities with 9 Key Element Plans, targeted runoff management grants as well as other tracking approaches.
- 6. Nine Key Element Plan status – Kyle Kettner:** Kyle reported on the 2 public informational meetings on the 9KEP (Plainfield on 3/16 at 5:30 and Rome on 3/22 at 5:30). The meetings will be live and also on Zoom. Looking ahead, he'll be working on a survey of cropland once the planting season begins. Later in the summer, he'll work on holding breakfast meetings to hold topics to share with attendees.
- 7. Feb planning session follow-up:** Rachael had shared with us a comprehensive spreadsheet that identified the 2022 Strategic Plan that was identified at the February meeting. For each goal identified, a high, moderate or low priority was listed along with the current status and who was responsible.
- 8. Standing Committees**
 - a. Publicity and Community outreach – Karen:**
 - i. Youtube channel/videos/Zoom sessions:** We need to start to meet to plan the State of the Lakes event; a committee meeting will be set on Wednesday at 3 pm at Lake Sherwood Lodge.
 - ii. 14MW booth plans 2022:** there is one more indoor Farmers Market and then the weekly outdoor market will begin in May
 - 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; they are attempting to get permission to meet with classes at Nekoosa Schools. Rachael suggested appearing on WFHR Morning Show on Thursdays.
 - b. Watershed Research - Phil:**
 - i. upstream and in-lake testing:** The new interns are enthusiastic; 8 of the 9 sites were able to complete flow data testing. In-lake testing will begin in May.
 - c. Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave:**
 - i. Surface Water Grant/Education Grant:** The Surface Water Grant agreement was signed and returned and will begin on March 15th; Phil provided each of us with a log to keep track of time spent.
 - ii. Healthy Lakes status, signs:** Dave closed out 2019 grants and is working on closing out 2020 projects. In 2022, there will be 12 projects that will begin. As for signs, they have been delivered to Scott Provost and he will bring to us.
 - iii. Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator:** signs will be given out at the Farmers Market this summer. Additionally, Karen will take an inventory and order more signs, if needed.
 - iv. Legacy Foundation grant request status – Bob/Don:** no update
 - d. Finance – Barb:** Barb reported that our application for a Class B Raffle License was approved.

i. Treasurer's report – Phil: Phil reported on our current funds and also that an advance payment from the Surface Water grant was expected.

e. Partnership Development – Don:

i. Speakers: The board agreed to wait until after the State of the Lakes before lining up additional speakers.

ii. WI Lakes conference presentation: Karen will be attending; the conference will also be available virtually. Karen and Phil will post links to register on Facebook and on our website.

iii. 14 Mile Alliance status: Because we are now a 501(c)(3) organization instead of a joint community committee, both the Town of Rome and Tri-Lakes Management District have overridden the existence of the local joint committee.

9. Lake reports: Dave Trudeau reported on his article for the Sherwood newsletter describing the fish sticks project as well as the Healthy Lakes projects. Dave Keuler reported that he and his wife are working with Anna James to develop a plan for West Lake Center to present to the LAA board for approval.

10. Town, County, Tri-Lakes updates: Jerry Wiessinger reported that Tri-Lakes recently undertook 6 soil borings in each of the lakes to identify contaminants in the lakes.

a. **Determine next agenda content, date & time:** April 11 at 2 pm

11. Adjourn: Motion by Phil and seconded by Jerry to adjourn; meeting adjourned at 3:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Herreid