14 Mile Watershed Alliance
Held at Lake Sherwood Lodge, Rome, WI, open to the public through a Zoom link
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, September 12, 2022 at 6:00 PM

1. Call to order & confirm Zoom setup: Dave Trudeau called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Roll call/confirm quorum: Members present: Dave Trudeau, Barb Herreid, Phil Rockenbach, Dave Keuler and Karen Knotek. Also present in person or via Zoom: Anna James, Scott Bordeau, John Endrizzi, Jane Janowski, Brian Fischer, Scott Provost, Al Knotek, Gus Mancuso, Colton Hutchison, Rick Mervine, Donna Hasdal and Cecile Johnson.

3. Review and approve minutes for August 8, 2022: ***Motion made by Phil Rockenbach and seconded by Dave Keuler to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2022 meeting; motion approved***.

4. Announcements – Cover Crop and Grazing Field Day: Anna reported on this event which showcased rotational grazing and cover crops for vegetable production.

5. Adams County Report – Carolyn Pralle/Anna James:

Anna reported that the LWCC office is working on grant applications for Big Roche-A-Cri Producer Led Council as well as Healthy Lakes projects in other parts of Adams County. They will also begin planning for 2023.

Nine Key Element Plan status - Kyle Kettner: In Kyle's absence, Anna read his report outlining his plans for a public meeting in June, 2023. He asked us for a letter of support as well as volunteers to help him with a mailing and the event itself.

6. Scott Provost/Colton Hutchinson - Updates: Scott reported on his trip to Iowa along with other key DNR officials to learn new practices for denitrification that they are using successfully. The cost to implement is very reasonable compared to other solutions and is showing benefits. Another practice that was observed was recycling irrigation waters to reduce the use of nitrogen. This information has been shared with groups including WPVGA and the Adams County Drainage District and there is some interest. Scott indicated that if McCain Foods or Frito-Lay would show support, then that would lead to more buy-in by local producers. Scott was also asked about alum treatments since they were discussed at the recent Tri-Lakes annual meeting. Alum will treat phosphorus, but not nitrogen which is the biggest contributor to our algae problem in the Tri-Lakes.

7. Guest speaker – Michael Parsen, Hydrogeologist with UW Extension Madison– WI Geological and Natural History Survey, Nutrient and Neonicotinoid Concentrations in Central Sands streams: Mike shared a collaborative study conducted in 2020-22 which focused on neonic concentrations in the 14 Mile Watershed. Neonics are a new type of insecticide that also affects bees and pollinators and breaks down very slowly. The study employed groundwater modeling which showed 'gaining' and 'losing' sections of the creek as well as flow patterns and speeds. New information that was learned was that the model shows the Big Roche-A-Cri is capturing groundwater flowing out of the 14 Mile. They also learned how slowly groundwater moves, in some cases up to 40 years. They will be continuing to study in this area and will be able to also incorporate high capacity wells as well as the streams.

8. Standing Committees

a. Publicity and Community outreach – Karen:

i. Youtube channel/videos/Zoom sessions:

ii. **14MW booth plans:** had a booth at the Arrowhead Craft Fair and talked to a lot of people; Karen encouraged us to participate in the Rome Halloween celebration scheduled for October 29.

iii. **Educational program plans:**

iv. Farmers Market – coverage for September: volunteers signed up for the remaining days

v. 14-MWA shirts for Board all delivered -

vi. Outreach to Nekoosa Schools and student survey: Gus is leading our effort with Nekoosa Schools and they are planning for fall and spring field trips for the Junior/Senior students. Colton and Anna were asked to help with presentations and a plan for a half day in early October is being planned.

vii. Rachael Whitehair recognition: please sign card that will be sent to Rachael along with a care package recognizing her efforts to help us the past couple of years.

viii. Watershed highway signs:

b. Watershed Research - Phil:

i. upstream and in-lake testing: Phil reported that in-lake testing will be done September 13, upstream testing on September 25. With a new spot near the mouth of the 14 Mile as it enters Petenwell, they can now measure flows all along the 14 Mile Creek.

c. **Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave:**

i. Surface Water Grant/Education Grant – HL Hero Signs:

ii. Healthy Lakes status – Pre-application and resolution approval: the pre-apps are due this week and Dave is working on including 6 – 10 projects.

iii. Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator: Signs are still available at the Farmers Market booth or Camelot Frolics.

iv. **Legacy Foundation grant request status – Bob/Don Walden Park:** after a visit to the park, it was determined that there is 10,000 square feet of area to work on. A vegetative mat for that large of an area could run up to $60,000.

Finance – Barb:

v. Treasurer's report – Phil: Phil reported on our current balance.

d. **Partnership Development – Don/Dave/all**

Speakers for fall:

i Jesse Weinzinger – Eco Services: will be our speaker on October 10

Networking

i. Roche-a-Cri producer-led watershed group – Letter of Support: we will send a letter supporting their grant application.

ii. River Alliance of Wisconsin, monetary support $250 paid; 14-MWA now on their group page.

9. Lake reports: Karen reported that there is lots of BGA on Sherwood

10. Town, County, Tri-Lakes updates: John Endrizzi noticed beavers on a stretch of the Leola Ditch.

11. Determine next agenda content, date & time: Next meeting is Monday, October 10.

11. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

12. Social discussion and conversation (Pulled pork sandwich and potato salad - food donations accepted)!

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Herreid