14 Mile Watershed Alliance
Held at Lake Sherwood Lodge, Rome, WI, open to the public through a Zoom link
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, October 10, 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, Kyle Kettner, Jess Trudeau, Scott Bordeau, John Endrizzi, Jeanne Osgood, Lynne Keuler, Jane Janowski, Scott Provost, Al Knotek and Colton Hutchison.

3. Review and approve minutes for September 12, 2022: ***Motion made by Dave Keuler and seconded by Phil Rockenbach to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2022 meeting; motion approved***.

4. Announcements – The Cranberry Grow and Tell will be delayed until 2023.

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

Anna shared with us that she has accepted a position with UW-Ext as a Regional Natural Resources Educator. She is replacing Rachael Whitehair and her last day with Adams County will be October 21. She also reported that the LWCD office is working on networking, grant applications and 10 Healthy Lakes projects including some in Rome. She was also involved with Conservation Day with A-F 5th graders.

Nine Key Element Plan status - Kyle Kettner: Kyle's been working on a grant request to hold a 14 Mile 9KEP event in 2023; we will provide a letter of support. He is also working with the DNR on a Social Indicator survey for next year.

6. Scott Provost/Colton Hutchinson - Updates: Scott and Colton reported that one year of testing is now completed at the denitrification site.

7. Guest speaker – Jesse Weinzinger, Eco Services, LLC, Aquatic plant and habitat management: Jesse's background as an aquatic biologist with DNR has been centered on the importance of native mussels working as an indicator species of aquatic health as they are very sensitive to changes in lakes and streams. He has also started Eco Services, LLC to aid property owners in aquatic plant management and in installing streambank and shoreline protection alternatives to riprap.

8. Standing Committees

a. Publicity and Community outreach – Karen:

i. Farmers Market – Winter Indoor Market, 12/2: The last outdoor market was 9/30; upcoming winter dates are 12/2, 1/13, 2/10, 3/10 and 4/14. Please volunteer to help man the booth.

ii. **Nekoosa HS Fall Environmental Ed field trip:** Today was the field trip held at both Lake Sherwood and along the Songbird hiking trail at Sand Valley. Thirty-nine students participated and learned about our group, native plants, shoreline protection, economic impact of lakes, our water testing program and careers in natural resources. The principal told Karen that it was a 'resounding success'.

iii. **Watershed highway signs:** Phil and Don Ystad are working on this. Karen requested that we send design ideas to her. State approval to place signs on Highway 13 is required and doesn't seem to have a precedence for them yet. If unable to place them, an alternative may be to work with local property owners to place on their land beyond the right of way. John Endrizzi volunteered his land on County Highway D as well as Z.

iv. – Rome Halloween Party, 10/29 – we'll be handing out candy to kids at our booth from 1 to 3; Karen is working on developing a theme and costume ideas.

b. Watershed Research - Phil:

i. upstream and in-lake testing: Phil reported that in-lake testing was completed for the season on October 3. Upstream testing was done on September 25 and continues year-round. As of the testing that will be done next month, we'll have a five-year base of readings. On October 11, Colton will be helping them with a biotic survey at the s-curve. Scott Provost suggested we contact another group in Juneau County that is very similar to us. The group is GOLD (Guardians of Lake Dechora).

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

i. Surface Water Grant/Education Grant – HL Hero Signs: The Nekoosa HS students today provided some feedback suggestions to improve the impact of the signs; Karen will incorporate them.

ii. Healthy Lakes status – 30 interested, Dave's deadline of 10/15: Dave will continue to meet with interested property owners this week. He has five signed contracts and is following up with others that he previously met with to finalize the grant submission write-up.

iii. Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator: Signs are still available.

iv. **Walden Park grant request status – Legacy Foundation, Visit Rome, HL:** A vegetative mat is a possibility for this project; additional work is needed including identifying a water source for the site.

d. Finance – Barb/Phil:

i. Tree and shrub sale: Barb reported that ACLWCD will be offering this program again. There was consensus for us again to offer individual plants (instead of bundles of 25) to our property owners. Barb will coordinate (with everyone's help at distribution time) and will submit info/order forms to Phil to send out in a newsletter. Karen suggested we also consider selling native plants using Glacial Ridge Nursery in Minnesota; a May date would be better or possibly offer them at the Farmers Market booth.

e. **Partnership Development – All**

i. Speakers for fall/winter: Suggestions included Chelsea Willard-Sorbo from Sand Valley and Corinne from the Fox-Wolf watershed. Winter is a good time to set up joint meetings with other groups.

ii. Networking

a. Roche-a-Cri producer-led watershed group – Letter of Support:

b. 9KEP Annual Stakeholder meeting grant – Letter of Support: in process

9. Lake reports: no reports

10. Town, County, Tri-Lakes updates: As a result of a high-water complaint, John Endrizzi reported on beaver activity in the ditch. He also informed us that of the 5-member Drainage District board, 3 of the members are within our watershed so we have good representation.

11. Determine next agenda content, date & time: Next meeting is Monday, November 14

12. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

12. Social discussion and conversation (Pulled pork sandwich and chips, suggested meal donation $8.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Herreid