

**14 Mile Watershed Alliance**  
**Held at Lake Sherwood Lodge, Rome, WI, open to the public through a Zoom link**  
**Agenda/Minutes for Monday, July 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM**  
**(Food and networking at 5:30)**

- 1. Call to order & confirm Zoom setup:** Dave Trudeau called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. after allowing time for getting food.
- 2. Roll call/confirm quorum:** Members present: Dave Trudeau, Barb Herreid, Phil Rockenbach and Dave Keuler. Also present in person or via Zoom: Jess Trudeau, Scott Bordeau, John Endrizzi, Scott Provost, Brian Fischer, Tom Wright, Mark Samelstad, Karen Knotek, Anna James, Keifer Sroka, Carl & Donna Halstad and Colton Hutchinson.
- 3. Review and approve minutes for June 12, 2023:** *Motion made by Phil Rockenbach and seconded by Dave Keuler to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting; motion approved.*
- 4. Announcements:** Will Winter Workshop in Mauston on July 21 from 2 to 6 pm; register by 7/14 @ \$15.
- 5. Adams County Report –**
  - Kyle Kettner:** not present
  - Keifer Sroka:** Adams County is looking to hire a County Conservationist. The well testing program this year is being held in Big Flats, Colburn, Preston and Richfield and deadline to register is 7/31; first 50 registering will get free testing.
- 6. WI DNR - Scott Provost/Colton Hutchinson – Updates . . . Dive into nutrient data from 14 Mile Watershed**  
**Cranberry operations:** Colton and Scott shared an updated presentation on 1) how water traveling through the cranberry reservoirs actually lowers the nitrogen levels between sites A and D upstream from the Tri-Lakes and 2) the Leola denitrification project near Owens Rock. Early results indicate that wetland restoration would work to denitrify the ground water.
- 7. UW-Madison Extension, Anna James – Updates:** Anna is continuing to be focused on a social indicator survey of producers in the 10 Mile and 14 Mile watersheds; she’s having good conversations with them and feels that there is interest in forming a producers’ group. She explained the nitrogen budget calculator tool developed by UW-SP and indicated that many of the producers in the 14 Mile watershed have decreased inputs of nitrogen. Agronomists also need to be included in the conversation and that they can greatly affect recommended levels to producers. The new State Budget has been passed and signed by the Governor but did not include funding for her position (currently funded 40% by Wood County and remainder by State of WI/DNR). Attempts are being made to obtain federal funding. The position is only funded through December 31, 2023.
- 8. Guest speaker – Scot and Colton above – item 6 on the agenda.**
- 9. Standing Committees**
  - a. Publicity and Community outreach – Phil:**
    - i. Farmers Market:** Phil and Anna will do 7/14; Barb and Dave K will do 7/21.
    - ii. Nekoosa HS Environmental Ed update - Gus Mancuso –** Gus sent out a Google Doc to get feedback from the board and then he will work with Mike, NHS science teacher to develop a fall program. It was suggested to send the feedback form to Anna and Colton as well.
    - iii. Watershed highway signs:** Phil reported that Rapids Signs indicated that the 4’ x 8’ sign is expected to be installed this week.
  - b. Watershed Research, stream and lake testing – Phil:** Stream testing was completed yesterday and lake testing was done on 6/20 and in July, it will be done on 7/24. SWIMS has a new website and it is presenting some issues in the implementation.
  - c. Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave:**
    - i. Surface Water Restoration Grant – Walden Park:** Dave is helping the Town to write a DNR grant submission for 75% of the cost and will be requesting the remaining 25% cost share through Visit Rome’s grant program.

**Surface Water Restoration Grant – Camelot erosion:** A preliminary plan has been prepared by Chuck Sibilsky. Dave is trying to get a cost estimate for the soil socks; Carl H offered to help with some information.

**ii. Healthy Lakes status – 13 HL site evals** – Dave has recently completed site evaluations.

**iii. Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator:** no report

**d. Finance – Barb/Phil:** Phil reported that we had received a check from Visit Rome for the proceeds of the booth sales on 6/9. Barb reported that we may offer a native plant collection as a trial along with next year's tree and shrub sale. Keifer will find out if Adams County will be offering the sale next year.

**e. Partnership Development – All**

**i. Speakers for August:** Anna suggested a program on the nitrogen budget calculator tool. Let Dave know of any other suggestions.

**ii. Networking – PACRS, River Alliance of WI, Lakes and Rivers Conference, WI Cranberry Growers Assoc, WPVGA** – Soctt Boredeau reported that the next PACRS meeting will be held on 7/21 at the Rome Library.

**10. Lake reports:** no reports

**11. Town, County, Drainage District, Tri-Lakes updates:** John Endrizzi shared a video via our email network on the Native American perspective on the earth-man relationship. Mark Samelstad was introduced as the new Tri-Lakes board member, representing Lake Arrowhead. Carl Halstad reported on the immediate impact of the early June application of alum on Lake Sherwood but indicated that the weather conditions during July and August will be a true test of the impact. Also, Tri-Lakes is working on 4 test sites in bays and the Arrowhead marina to gage the effectiveness of aerators. Additionally, weekly e coli tests are being performed at 12 sites on the lakes.

**12. Determine next agenda content, date & time. 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday is 8/14:**

**13. Adjourn: Motion by Dave K and seconded by Phil R to adjourn.** Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Herreid