14 Mile Watershed Alliance
Lake Sherwood Lodge – Lower Level, 6 pm meeting start
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:00 PM
(Food and networking at 5:30 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, Phil Rockenbach, Barb Herreid, Rick Mervine, Brian Fischer and Dave Keuler. Also present: Rick Georgeson, Carl and Donna Hasdal, Scott Bordeau, Pat Rogers, Mark Samelstad, Gus Mancuso, Tyler Torstenson-Harris, Heather Gayton, John Endrizzi and Jess Trudeau.
3. Review and approve minutes for August 12, 2024: ***Motion made by Rick Mervine and seconded by Dave Keuler to approve minutes of August 12, 2024 meeting as printed; motion approved***.
4. Announcements: none
5. Adams County Report:

County Conservationist – Colton Wolosek, separation of LWCD from P&Z: no report
Water Resources Update – Keifer Sroka: no report
Watershed Coordinator – Heather Gayton: Heather reported that she is finalizing a grant request due 9/14 to establish a producer-led group for the 14 Mile Watershed. They currently have 4 of 5 farmers required on board and Greg Sager will be the lead person***.*** There was a successful meet-and-greet held on August 26.
Resource Conservationist – Tyler Torstenson-Harris: Tyler reported that since the county fair, he has received requests for information on cost-share projects.

6. UW –Madison Extension, Anna Mitchell – Feedback re: Coloma Farms Field Day: In Anna's absence, those who attended the Coloma Field Day shared information on a cover crop experiment comparing mustard to annual rye.
7. WI DNR Update - Scott Provost: no report
8. Guest Speaker – none this month
9. Standing Committee Reports

a. **Publicity and Community outreach – Phil**

i. ***E-newsletter, website, FaceBook, social media:*** A September e-newsletter is in the works.

ii. ***Nekoosa School EE presentation, 5/22 – Gus***: Gus shared that the field trip is set for 9/17 with 20 students participating. They will be divided into 4 sub-groups and cycled through the learning stations (1-Watersheds by Anna, 2-Groundwater Model by Jen, 3-Aquatic Plants by Keifer and Shoreline/Native Plants by Barb). NHS will fund the pizza. ***Motion made by Phil and seconded by Rick to fund up to $75 for beverages; motion approved.***

iii. ***Rome Farmers Market Scheduling:*** 9/13 will be Phil and Brian; 9/20 will be Brian and Barb and 9/27 will be Dave and Dave.

iv. ***Science by the River, 10/5, 11 am – 2 pm:*** We will be participating; Anna will provide a watershed simulator.

v. ***Visit Rome Blog:*** the article will appear shortly.

b. **Lake testing – Phil:** testing for the year has been completed

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

i. ***Surface Water Restoration Grant*** – ***Walden Park, fund raising for $6k+ Sand Valley commitment for $500-$1,000, ACEC Round-Up award for $2,000:*** Dave T. reported that he and Brian will be rototilling the site on Wednesday in preparation for planting. A delivery date for 177 rolls of native plantings is being determined. Once on-site, they will be watered down and then over 5,000

earth staples need to be inserted to ensure good contact with soil. While the budget includes an interpretive sign explaining the project, it was determined that some immediate education needs to take place so it doesn't become known as a 'weed' planting. The 9/21 and 9/22 fundraising performances of the Rome Home Town Players will benefit this project.

Surface Water Restoration Grant – Camelot erosion, permits Adams Co. P&Z – no further update.

ii. ***Healthy Lakes status –6 landowners, 11 practices to date:*** Dave continues to work with interested landowners.

iii. **Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator** – **Pat Rogers, Biochar trial:** Pat Rogers also updated us on her research into using biochar logs to control algae. Several have been placed on Lower Camelot and the Channel; they can be used for multiple years. Next summer will provide more info since the efficacy over an entire season can be evaluated.

d. Finance – Phil/Barb - **Updates?** No report.

e. Partnership Development - All

i. ***Speaker ideas for upcoming meetings?*** **Michael J. Goc, November or December –** Dave will ask him to present in November; topic- Pre-Settlement History of the Watershed

ii. ***Networking – PACRS, River Alliance of WI, WI Cranberry Growers Assoc, WPVGA, other partners:*** Scott Bordeau reported that their annual meeting will be held Friday, 9/20 at 10 am at the Monroe Town Hall and that Pat Oldenburg will provide on update on the TMDL. PACRS also received a donation from the WR Kiwanis Club.

f. Strategic Planning – Rick: In November, we'll start working on an update to our Strategic Plan. Happily, we'll update to include support for a producer-led group. Recently, Phil, Dave, Hagen and Brian began work on reviewing and organizing existing CLMN and stream testing data and will focus on the last 4 years during the growing season. They will be meeting weekly and hope to use the data to identify hot spot areas in the watershed. Rick indicated that we will be continuing our recruiting efforts for individuals with graphics and social media expertise.

10. Lake reports – Camelot, Sherwood, Arrowhead, Petenwell: no report

11. Town, County, Drainage District, Tri-Lakes (Annual Meeting and Nanobubbler updates: Carl reported on the Annual Meeting; Jay Michels from EOR provided an update on the progress of the Nanobubbler project; the budget that included a reduction in the assessment required for the Nanobubbler project was passed. John Endrizzi gave an update on the Leola Drainage District.

12. Determine next agenda content, date & time. 2nd Monday in October is 10/14.

13. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Herreid