14 Mile Watershed Alliance
Lake Sherwood Lodge – Lower Level, 6 pm meeting start
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, November 11, 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, Mark Samelstad, Tyler Torstenson-Harris, Heather Gayton, Hagen Kaczmarek and Jess Trudeau.
3. Review and approve minutes for October 14, 2024: ***Motion made by Phil Rockenbach and seconded by Brian Fischer to approve minutes of October 14, 2024 meeting as corrected; motion approved***.
4. Announcements: 2024 WI Water and Soil Health Conference, 12/17 – 18, Kalahari Conference Center, WI Dells. Early bird registration through 11/16, $90 - $130.
https://cropsandsoils.extension.wisc.edu/register-now-2nd-annual-wisconsin-water-and-soil-health-conferenceregistration-is-open-for-the-wisconsin/
5. Adams County Report:

County Conservationist – Colton Wolosek, LWRM 10-year plan: Tyler shared that they are beginning their 10-year plan process. Individuals outside of the department, including Dave T. and Barb have been requested to participate. There will be workshops scheduled to develop the plan which will also include past accomplishments. A final plan will be presented to the county board in December, 2025.

Watershed Coordinator – Heather Gayton: Heather reported that the Farmers of the 14 Mile is official! They were awarded $5,000 for events etc. Heather's position will end later this week; Colton is lobbying for an extension of the position to full time.

Water Resources Specialist – Keifer Sroka: no report

Resource Conservationist – Tyler Torstenson-Harris, Nutrient Management Plans: Tyler presented information on this program which has standards established by NR151, NRCS Practice Standards and DATCP Administrative Code. Manure, fertilizer and conservation practices are tracked by Wisconsin's SnapPlus software which helps the farmer to record what he's doing as well as model for future changes. The county will receive an additional $7,000 next year for a total of $45,000 to use to incentivize conservation practices. Of the 48,000 ag acres in the county, there currently 538 acres with projects. There are tax incentives also for having a plan.

6. UW –Madison Extension, Anna Mitchell – No report
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 November e-newsletter is in the works. Wis. Lakes, our website host, has notified us that they will be integrating new features for our website.

ii. ***Nekoosa School EE presentation, 5/22 – Gus***: Gus is working towards a spring classroom event.

iii. ***Visit Rome Blog:*** Blog has been posted! Also the Lake Camelot newsletter included our submitted article covering three subjects.

b. **Lake testing – Phil:** Pat Rogers collected the biochar bags that she had placed on Camelot and is having them tested.

c. Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave T.

i. ***Surface Water Restoration Grant*** – ***Walden Park, fund raising for $6k+, field work, Home Town Rome Players donation of $1,500 received:*** Dave T. reported on the installation in October of the Walden Project. They will also be seeding a no-mow mix on the path before winter and then again next spring. An interpretive sign will be added to the area to explain the project's purpose (not a bunch of weeds!) and to recognize donors.

Surface Water Restoration Grant – Camelot erosion No further update.

ii. ***Healthy Lakes status –6 landowners, 11 practices to date:*** Dave will be submitting the grant requests before month-end. ***Motion made by Phil and second by Rick to approve Resolution 24-A to authorize support of the grant submission by 14 Mile Watershed Alliance; motion approved.***

iii. **Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator** – No report

d. Finance – Phil/Barb – **Tree Sale and other Updates?** Barb reported that a few orders have been received and that a reminder of the December 15th deadline will be included in the e-newsletter.

e. Partnership Development - All

i. ***Speaker ideas for upcoming meetings?*** **Michael J. Goc, Booked for December 9 –** Michael Goc will at our December meeting and we'll advertise the topic to invite community members to attend; topic: Pre-Settlement History of the Watershed. A pot of chili will be shared with attendees.

ii. ***Networking – PACRS, River Alliance of WI, WI Cranberry Growers Assoc, WPVGA, other partners:*** Scott Bordeau reported that their next meeting will be held Friday, 12/6 at the Necedah Wildlife Refuge and the program will be about restoring the Yellow River. Rick Georgeson also shared that Heather had hosted a small gathering last month to unveil a mural for her barn by a Mauston artist.

f. Strategic Planning – Rick: Rick reported on our first workshop to update the plan for 2025 and shared the objectives that were identified. Our next meeting will be in December and we hope to finalize the plan so we can start right away in the new year.

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

11. Town, County, Leola Drainage District, Tri-Lakes (Nanobubbler update): Carl reported on the status of the Nanobubbler project. Ten of the smaller units will be installed on Sherwood next spring as well as 2-20-foot units instead of 1 40-foot unit on Camelot. A site plan for each location needs to be submitted to DNR. A Project Manager is needed.

12. Determine next agenda content, date & time. 2nd Monday in December is 12/9.

13. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Herreid