14 Mile Watershed Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2024
Rome Lester Public Library
6:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. Dinner and networking

6:00 p.m. Presentation begins.

In order to give our Michael Goc, our guest speaker, adequate time, the business meeting will start after his presentation.

Mr. Michael Goc gave an outstanding presentation on the history of the 14 Mile Watershed, and answered questions afterward.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. Zoom setup confirmed. Welcome attendees.

Board of directors members present: Rick Mervine, Brian Fisher, Phil Rockenbach, Dave Keuler, and Dave Trudeau; Barb Herreid present on Zoom.

Members/guests attending meeting: Dave Keuler, Michael Goc, Vern Schuetz, Pete Hoffman, Carl Buenger, Kathy Buenger, Lynn Greco, Joe Greco, Scott Bordeau, Rick Mervine, Jess Chipley-Trudeau, Dave Trudeau, John Endrizzi, Jeannie Endrizzi, Brian Fischer, Phil Rockenbach, Rick Georgeson, Tom Wright, Don Ystad, Phil McLaughlin, Heather Gayton, Gary Engle, Jennifer Bergman, Bruce Hoeppner, Tom Schulz, Jackson Sager, Greg Sager, Jeanne Osgood; on Zoom: Barb Herreid, Paul Whaler, Nathan Sandwich, Tyler Torstenson-Harris, Gus Mancuso, Paula Klevene, Don_____.

Motion to approve minutes of November 11, 2024 meeting: Motion by Rick Mervine; second by Brian Fischer. Motion carried.

Announcements:
Funding for Heather Gayton's watershed coordinator position will be full time. Plans for 2025 include setting up programs for central sands watersheds.

Scott Bordeau and Rick Georgeson reported on the Necedah National Wildlife program they attend Friday, December 6, 2024. Scott discussed the Little Yellow River Restoration project update given by Refuge Biologist Brad Strobel.

Tyler Torstenson-Harris stated that there will be a UW Extension meeting later this week addressing nutrient management plans. He also commented that nutrient management plans are in the beginning stages.

Dave Trudeau stated that there will be upcoming board meetings to plan for speakers and business for 2025 14 Mile Watershed Alliance meetings.

Rick Mervine discussed the 14 Mile Watershed's strategic plan. Because of the work done at the first two planning meetings, there won't be a need for the January, 2025 planning time. Instead, Rick will contact Colton Wolosek to schedule a planning meeting with Colton, Heather and Cynthia to work out our plans to move the 9KEP forward in 2025. This meeting should take place sometime in the middle of January. Our number one objective for the 2025 Strategic Plan is to drive the Nine Key Element Plan forward. Our second objective is to support the producer led group in our area. Part of the third objective has been met: We have found water and farm specialists to be active in 14 Mile Watershed Alliance. We still need to recruit skilled people in the areas of graphics, social media, data management, education, and in grant writing. We need to uncover and secure other sources of funding. Data drives funding, and shows what needs to be done. Our education objective continues with a focus on what happens to the water in the watershed – talking to our schools, and to all of our stakeholders. Producers are a great asset to the discussion, and they need to be a part of the plan. Additionally, the public needs to understand that the 14 Mile Watershed Alliance and the Tri-Lakes Management District are two different groups, with two different coverage areas and responsibilities so they will know who to go to for information and for answers to their questions.

The 14 Mile Watershed Board of Directors will be receiving the newest set of worksheets soon.

The most recent Lake Arrowhead Newsletter contained an article and recruitment notice from 14 Mile Watershed, an Adams County LWCD update from Heather

Gayton, and some excellent water quality and fish habitat information from Tom Wright.

John Endrizzi mentioned that Joan Kramer (nee: Reed), who was very crucial in water testing in our area, recently passed away. Joan supported water quality testing by allowing access across her property to two key sampling sites. She was recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation a few years ago by the 14 Mile Watershed Alliance.

January 9, 2025, is the scheduled date for the next 14 Mile Watershed Board of Directors meeting.

January 13, 2025, will be the next 14 Mile Watershed general membership meeting, at the Lake Sherwood Lodge (5:30 p.m. dinner; 6:00p.m. meeting).

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jess Chipley-Trudeau