14 Mile Watershed Alliance
Lake Sherwood Lodge – Lower Level, 6 pm meeting start
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, January 13, 2025, 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 Hasdal, Scott Bordeau, Mark Samelstad, Colton Wolosek, Heather Gayton, Anna Mitchell and John Endrizzi.
3. Review and approve minutes for December 9, 2024: ***Motion made by Phil Rockenbach and seconded by Rick Mervine to approve minutes of December 9, 2024 meeting; motion approved***.
4. Announcements: 1) Biochar Workshop, Heartland Farms, 1/15, Noon – 2:30 pm, registration required…https://bit.ly/biocharworkshop – 14 Mile is sponsoring the lunch; 2)2025 Lakes and Rivers Convention, Stevens Point, earlybird registration through 1/31; 3) A series of Winter Water Quality webinars by UW Extension starting Jan 21. Registration is free, but required https://eventreg.wisc.edu/en/5f4YRxR7/g/extension/2025-agriculture-water-quality-webinar-series-5a2TQr16KwL/overview
5. Adams County Report:

County Conservationist – Colton Wolosek, LWRM 10-year plan, 9 KEP review (1/16): Colton reported that he's involved with a lot of reporting activities presently. On Feb 11, the Advisory Committee for Land & Water's 10-year plan will be meeting from 10 – 2. A second meeting of the group will be scheduled for late May or early June. On Jan 16, 14 Mile Watershed will be meeting with the County concerning funding for the 9KEP coordinator position. The original Tri-Lakes grant has enough remaining funding to cover 8 to 9 months in 2025, but another funding source will be needed beyond that. Colton and Heather expressed their desire to expand coverage of the coordinator position to other watersheds in Adams County, but also to request funding from other counties that are part of these watersheds.

Watershed Coordinator – Heather Gayton: Heather reported that the Farmers of the 14 Mile will have their first meeting at 11:00 am on Jan 15 prior to the Biochar Workshop. She has met with Andrew Craig re 9KEP milestones and at the end of the month, will be meeting with Scott Provost and another individual to learn of tools that she can use. She is also working to set up a nutrient class in March as well as trying to set up a Wild Ones chapter in Adams County.

Water Resources Specialist – Keifer Sroka: no report

Resource Conservationist – Tyler Torstenson-Harris: No report

6. UW –Madison Extension, Anna Mitchell – Anna reported that she and Guolong Liang are reaching out to agronomists in the Central Sands with some planned workshops to share the information that was gathered from their social indicator survey. She is also planning a gathering for the 9 producer led groups that she works with and is applying for grant funds from EPA to set up learning opportunities for farmers who may not be currently involved in a group or implementing conservation practices. Funding for her position by DNR may again happen, but is dependent on approval of the next State budget for fiscal 2026-27.
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 monthly e-newsletter is in the works. Wis. Lakes, our website host, has implemented some new significant improvements to WordPress that should help us.

ii. ***Nekoosa School EE presentation – Gus***: Gus is working with the high school to set a spring classroom event.

b. Lake testing – Phil: no report

c. Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave T.

i. ***Surface Water Restoration Grant*** – ***Walden Park, interpretive sign development:*** Dave T reported that most of the work on the project has been done; just a few minor items will be finalized in spring along with designing an interpretive sign. Anyone with some graphics experience to help on the sign would be greatly appreciated.

Surface Water Restoration Grant – Camelot erosion, completed except planting: DCM did a great job on the project; biobags will be planted in the spring. A Healthy Lakes grant has been applied for to cover native plantings.

ii. ***Healthy Lakes status – 1-6 landowners, application to be submitted soon:*** Dave will be submitting the grant requests once signatures from involved property owners have been finalized.

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

d. Finance – Phil/Barb – **Tree Sale and other Updates?** Barb reported that fewer orders were received this year, but have been submitted and that there will be additional items for sale on the distribution day this spring.

e. Partnership Development - All

i. ***Speaker ideas for upcoming meetings?*** **Suggestions?:** Let Dave T know

ii. ***Networking – PACRS, River Alliance of WI, WI Cranberry Growers Assoc, WPVGA, other partners; Any attendance at WWASH on 12/17-18:*** Scott Bordeau reported on the WWASH event and is looking forward to the Biochar Workshop as well as other upcoming meetings

f. Strategic Planning – Rick: Rick shared the final plan and highlighted the five objectives that will be prioritized for 2025.

10. Lake reports – Camelot, Sherwood, Arrowhead, Petenwell: Mark Samelstad gave us an update on the Arrowhead fish sticks project that placed and anchored 8-10 trees with more planned.

11. Town, County, Leola Drainage District, Tri-Lakes (Nanobubbler update): John Endrizzi reported on a state-wide meeting of Drainage Districts; other districts in the southeastern part of the state are not directed towards agriculture as we are here. Carl reported on the status of the Nanobubbler project. The 2 20-foot units instead of 1 40-foot unit have been placed on Camelot. At the next Tri-Lakes meeting, EOR will provide data on all of the 2024 testing. They are also working to design a less expensive box for the smaller units.

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

13. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Herreid