14 Mile Watershed Alliance
Lake Sherwood Lodge – Lower Level, 6 pm meeting start
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, April 14, 2025, at 6:00 PM
(Food and networking at 5:30 PM)

1. Call to order, confirm Zoom setup, welcome: Dave Trudeau called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Roll call of Directors: Members present: Dave Trudeau, Phil Rockenbach, Barb Herreid, Rick Mervine, Brian Fischer and Dave Keuler. Also present: Rick Georgeson, Scott Bordeau, Heather Gayton, Jay Michaels, Tyler Torstenson-Harris, Anne Wilkinson, Jess Trudeau-Chipley, Hagen Kaczmarek, Scott Provost, Keifer Sroka, Tom Wright and John Endrizzi.
3. Review and approve minutes for March 10, 2025: ***Motion made by Phil Rockenbach and seconded by Rick Mervine to approve minutes of*** **March 10, 2025** ***meeting; motion approved***.
4. Announcements: 1) Central WI Farm Profitability Expo, April 30, registration ends 4/24; 2) Upper WI River Basin Summit, April 23, registration required; 3) Feedback from Lakes and Rivers Convention: attendees shared highlights including funding seminar, the importance of 'Donate' buttons on our digital documents and learning that Heartland Farms has achieved a 30% reduction in nutrients used while still increasing yields; and 4) State of Our Lakes, 6/7, planning in progress.
5. Adams County Report:

County Conservationist – Colton Wolosek, LWRM 10-year plan: results of Resource Advisory Committee Meeting 4/3 No update

Watershed Coordinator – Heather Gayton: Heather reported on the recently-held Biochar Symposium and that she has applied for a grant and is expecting to hear on it in early May. She will be meeting with the Nepco Lake group as well as getting to know the 14 Mile Producers better and will encourage them to develop a logo.

Water Resources Specialist – Keifer Sroka: Keifer has been working with property owners on Lower Camelot who experienced ice damage on their shoreline. He will be checking on signs at the dams and replacing, if needed. Spring clean-up of the dams as well as adding gravel where needed is taking place. Rick M brought up the issue of parking on the west side of the Kings Way dam and Keifer will check further on what can be done to further discourage the practice.

Resource Conservationist – Tyler Torstenson-Harris: Tyler is working on a shoreline design for the West Lake Center on Arrowhead. He's also encouraging producers to participate in the CRP conservation program.

6. UW –Madison Extension, Anna Mitchell – No report
7. WI DNR Update - Scott Provost: Scott attended the Biochar Symposium and agreed that it would be a great practice for sandy soils. He recently saw a program on the History Channel that highlighted the use of biochar 7,000 years ago!
8. Guest Speaker – Scott Provost, discussion on legacy and deposited organic sediment as a contributor of nitrogen, phosphorus and Biochemical Oxygen Demand: Scott's Powerpoint presentation 'Tri-Lakes Buried Sediment Legacy' explained how the lakes were developed in the late 60's/early 70's by dredging wetland material, depositing it on shore and then burying it. The method has led to reduced oxygen levels in the water and the release of N and Ph. Ph is the sparkplug and N is the fuel for algae blooms. This result is shared by the other manmade lakes that were developed by N.E. Isaacson. He suggested that we work with Adams County P&Z POWTS records to map out areas on the lakes where there are concentrations of buried organic matter and that they could be potential targets for the nanobubbler placements.
9. Standing Committee Reports

a. Publicity and Community outreach – Phil

i. ***E-newsletter, website, FaceBook, social media:*** Our April newsletter on the importance of wetlands was just released; our info@14Mile email is now set up.

ii. ***Nekoosa School EE coordination – Gus Mancuso, Save the Date, 9/16***: Gus has set up a tentative date of 9/16 for a field trip. For the future, we will try to target younger students for these conservation programs. Because the school referendum was not approved by voters, there may be budget reductions coming which may be clearer in May.

iii. **Proposed producer water quality sign –** Phil shared the sign's message with us, but is getting some graphics expertise with the design. The sign will be 8' x 12', two-sided in a v-configuration so that it can be viewed by all passing by. The sign has been approved by Adams County Highway Department and will need to be placed beyond the right-of-way. We will be looking for a location to place it as well as some funding partners.

b. Lake testing – Phil: Phil started lake testing yesterday on Arrowhead; Camelot and Sherwood will follow once boats are in the water. Scott P indicated that Nitrogen testing may be added for this year.

c. Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave T.

i. ***Surface Water Restoration Grant*** – ***Walden Park, interpretive sign development:*** Dave T reported that he is getting bids for the graphics for the sign.

Surface Water Restoration Grant – Camelot erosion, completed except planting, received a plant mix recommendation from Agrecol. HL grant funding 3 native prairie plantings at site.

ii. **Healthy Lakes status – 2 landowners, amended application replaced landowners who opted out of project completion.**

iii. **Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator, any discussion** – No report

d. Finance – Phil/Barb – **Tree Sale and other Updates?** Barb reported that we will be bundling up the orders on Friday, 4/25 and distributing them on 4/26. There will be excess items available for sale.

e. Partnership Development – All:

i. ***Speaker ideas for upcoming meetings?*** **Suggestions? Shane Wucherpfennig, Wood County LWCD…tentatively scheduled for 5/12:** We hope to learn from the Mill Creek group whose 9KEP was approved a year before us. Please share any other ideas with Dave Trudeau.

ii. ***Networking – PACRS, River Alliance of WI, WI Cranberry Growers Assoc, WPVGA, other partners:*** Scott B stated that their monthly meeting will slide to the 25th because of Easter weekend; PACRS is working with Coloma Farms on a project.

f. Strategic Planning – Rick: Rick shared that our board is focused on those activities that reflect the Strategic Plan.

10. Lake reports – Camelot, Sherwood, Arrowhead, Petenwell: Dave T shared that he and Brian have been helping Jennifer Bergman, DNR Fish Biologist, with the comprehensive fish survey on Lake Sherwood.

11. Town, County, Leola Drainage District, Tri-Lakes (Nanobubbler and data collection update): No report.

12. Determine next agenda content, date & time. 2nd Monday is May 12.

13. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Herreid