14 Mile Watershed Alliance
Lake Sherwood Lodge – Lower Level, 6 pm meeting start
Agenda/Minutes for Monday, June 9, 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: Heather Gayton, Pat Rogers, Mark Samelstad, Hagen Kaczmarek and Jess Chipley- Trudeau.
3. Review and approve minutes for May 12, 2025: ***Motion made by Dave Keuler and seconded by Rick Mervine to approve minutes of*** **May 12, 2025** ***meeting; motion approved***.
4. Adams County Report:

County Conservationist – Colton Wolosek, LWRM 10-year plan: results of 1st Resource Advisory Committee Meeting 4/3 No update

Watershed Coordinator – Heather Gayton: She has met with Andrew Craig, the Wis. Coordinator for 9KEP plans and has been bridging Kyle's reports with current happenings in the watershed; 319 funds will be available to us for future projects. At the State of Our Lakes on Saturday, she was happy to see lots of interest in biochar from attendees and from other groups such as the Nature Conservency and UW-SP. She also shared that she's working with the Farmers of the 14 Mile to create a storybook of the 14 Mile using drone technology. It will be presented to the Land and Water committee as well as the County Board in July. She suggested we plan a pontoon get-together to meet with the producer group on a possible date of June 25.

Water Resources Specialist – Keifer Sroka: No report

Resource Conservationist – Tyler Torstenson-Harris: No report

5. UW –Madison Extension, Anna Mitchell – No report
6. WI DNR Update - Scott Provost: No report
7. Evening Program: Biochar Primer and Discussion – Dave shared 2 videos explaining biochar and its uses. Links to the videos: https://biochar-us.org/what-biochar and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHswfXKCCTQ Pat Rogers gave us a recap of her efforts using biochar bags in her bay at the end of last season and an update on plans for 2025. Testing results after a full summer's implementation will give us better information on the efficacy of the bags. We will be looking for funding sources to possibly expand this practice in the future.
8. Standing Committee Reports

a. Publicity and Community outreach – Phil

i. ***E-newsletter, website, FaceBook, social media, Email access:*** We'll be putting together a June newsletter shortly.

ii. ***Nekoosa School EE coordination – Gus Mancuso, Save the Date, 9/16***: No report

iii. **Proposed producer water quality sign –** Phil shared a draft of the sign with WPVGA and got positive feedback; Heather will follow up with the Farmers of the 14 Mile.

iv. **Farmers Market, 5/16, 5/23, 5/30, 6/6:** Sign-ups for working the booth as follows: 6/13 – Dave T and Brian; 6/20 – Phil and Dave T; 6/27 – Dave K and Barb; 7/4 – Rick and Phil; 7/11 – Brian and Phil.

v. **State of Our Lakes: Debrief –** Comments included: estimate of crowd-275 with 242 staying for lunch; attendees were very attentive; big screen was a big improvement and presentations were very understandable and relatable to a general audience. Further debriefing will take place next week at the 14 Mile board meeting.

b. Lake testing – Phil Rockenbach, CLMN testing: June testing is scheduled for the 14th and 15th, weather permitting.

c. Environmental Quality/Grant development – Dave Trudeau:

i. ***Surface Water Restoration Grant*** – ***Walden Park, interpretive sign development:*** Mulch has been spread. He is finalizing the interpretive signage. There is an issue with snowmobile traffic in the winter that will need to be addressed.

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. DCM will be doing the plantings after piers have been repositioned.

ii. **Healthy Lakes status – Potential contacts from State of Our Lakes –** several property owners responded at State of Our Lakes; Dave gave information to them and is scheduled for a home visit.

iii. **Fertilizer/Clean Water Cooperator, any discussion?** – none

d. Finance – Phil/Barb Visit Rome donation from FM sales: Phil noted that we received $305 in Visit Rome sales at the Farmers Market in May. Also, we netted more from both the Silent Auction and the Raffle Baskets at State of Our Lakes than last year.

e. Partnership Development – All:

i. ***Speaker ideas for upcoming meetings?*** **Suggestions?** Dave T. suggested that next year each board member be responsible for a speaker and/or topic for each of our monthly meetings.

ii. ***Networking – PACRS, River Alliance of WI, WI Cranberry Growers Assoc, WPVGA, other partners:***

f. Strategic Planning – Rick: Rick shared that our board is focused on those activities that reflect the Strategic Plan such as education at the Farmers Market and that the State of Our Lakes event hit 9 of 10 parts of the Strategic Plan.

9. Lake reports – Camelot, Sherwood, Arrowhead, Petenwell: The Camelot Lodge is open again after extensive remodeling. Parking will be an issue, especially on the dam.

10. Town, County, Leola Drainage District, Tri-Lakes (Nanobubbler installation, data collection, Neo unit cover procurement, DNR permit update): Mark Samelstad shared that Tri-Lakes Board will be addressing wake boats at their 6/18 meeting and that he and Carl will be meeting in Minocqua later this month with a group that is advocating for local ordinances. Once Tri-Lakes makes a decision, the Town Board will be approached and will be encouraged to have a public meeting for additional input on the issue. As for the nanobubblers, Tri-Lakes is working with the County for a permit and will be allowed to operate in the meantime. The large unit was activated last Thursday and the smaller units will begin to be placed on Sherwood next week.

12. Determine next agenda content, date & time. 2nd Monday in July is the 14th.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Herreid