

Waushara County Watershed Lakes Council

P.O. Box 634
Wautoma, Wisconsin 54982

Minutes August 12, 2017

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The August WCWLC meeting was called to order at 9:00 by Dan Trudell. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Twenty-four individuals were in attendance representing fourteen lakes and flowages. County Board members present included Everett Eckstein, Michael Kapp, and Bernadette Krantz. Patrick Nehring, UW-Extension; Terri Dopp-Paukstat, Waushara County Land Conservation & Zoning Committee; Anna Cisar, Golden Sands were also present.

Dan began the meeting by introducing the WCWLC Board members.

Public Comment

It was noted that the Waushara County boat patrol will no longer be visiting county lakes on a regular basis. If a problem is identified and they are notified, they will come to your lake.

Agenda, Minutes, Treasurer's Report

The meeting agenda was modified by Dan to remove Ted Johnson's presentation as he was not present, and to move Eric Olson to open "New Business", with Terri Dopp-Paukstat moved forward to follow Eric.

The May 13, 2017 minutes were amended by Marty Wilke. "Mark Their" was corrected to Mark Theis on page 2; Anna Cisar was corrected to Anna Cisar on page 3.

Marty moved the minutes be approved as corrected, Arnie Wilke seconded the motion; it was unanimously approval.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Van Dongen

Bill Van Dongen presented the treasurer's report. He stated he would send out an updated report following the meeting.

As of today, 6 lakes have paid dues for 2018; 2 lakes have paid dues for 2019. Dues can be sent to the WCWLC PO. Box or paid at the meeting. Currently:

Total Useable Funds Available:	\$ 1,714.14
Total Environmental Education Funds	\$ 9,850.64
Savings <u>not</u> including Environmental Education	\$ 1,614.14

Old Business

WCWLC Social Media

The May 13, 2017 WCWLC meeting focused on websites and a Facebook page for WCWLC. This morning, Sandy Oemichen suggested that WCWLC adopt a way of assessing web and Facebook traffic to our sites. Discussion followed. Lee Simono moved that WCWLC table discussion on web site traffic assessment at this time. Paul Zimmer seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Richard Delisle moved that the WCWLC create a web site now. Mark Theis seconded the motion. The motion passed. Final changes for the web site will be reviewed by the Board before it goes live.

Sandy Oemichen moved that WCWLC develop a Facebook page as soon as possible. The motion failed for lack of a second.

New Business

Eric Olson – Lakes Associations

Eric began his presentation highlighting *Lake Tides* a UW-Extension publication (<https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/resources/newsletter/default.aspx>) began by Lowell Teasing. Eric also noted that *People of the Lakes* is now in its 11th edition. <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/organizations/guide.aspx>.

Eric shared that Waushara County has 20 Lake Districts (as defined in Chapter 33 of the Wisconsin statutes) and 20 Lake Associations. Waushara County is unique in the state in having 20 Lake Districts within the county. He reminded those present, every year there is a Lake District Commissioners training at the Wisconsin Lakes Convention in Stevens Point. Eric suggested that Waushara County host a local Chapter 33 training to aid county lake district commissioners to participate in Chapter 33 training.

He asked for suggestions for a good time to get lake district boards together to meet for a commissioners training session. It was suggested that Eric come to each district's Board of Commissioners meeting, Eric's preference was to meet as a group given there are 20 lake districts in Waushara County. He proposed the training be scheduled between Memorial and Labor Day or during the months of May or September. He suggested a Monday, Tuesday, or Thursdays and that it last three hours.

It was suggested that Lake Associations be invited as well in that some of them may be planning to transition to a lake district.

Eric will come up with a couple of dates and share them with Patrick Nehring. Marty suggested that the invitation be extended to the other Central Sands counties.

DNR Reports, Requests, and Possible Action

No one from the DNR was present.

Land Conservation & Zoning Report – Terri Dopp-Paukstat

Terri reported that the county had received several inquiries regarding county CAFOs and Nutrient Management Plans. She shared that Waushara County is considering the development of a drinking well water testing program. She noted that all county septic systems in the county inventory are currently reviewed every three years.

Terri noted county lake elevation changes this year have been dramatic. She distributed a lake list table showing lake historic highs and lows, lake elevations for 2018-2017, and a comparison of the two years for Waushara County lakes with available data.

She shared that this summer, the Big Silver and Pearl Lakes Clean Boats-Clean Waters program have been staffed by Golden Sands' AmeriCorps Volunteers. The county is considering working with AmeriCorps next summer.

Marty Wilke thanked Terri for all the work she has done for WCWLC and the county.

Environmental Education Program Results – Dan Trudell

The 2018 WCWLC Education Grant award was made to Waushara County Conservation Days.

Nominations for 2018

Dan Trudell passed the gavel to Francie Rowe to conduct business for the 2018 board nominations and election. She opened nominations. The Board nominated Dan Trudell and Gary Wisbrocker each for a three-year term. No nominations were received from the floor. Paul Zimmer moved Dan Trudell and Gary Wisbrocker be elected to the WCWLC Board for 2018. Mark Theis seconded the motion, it passed unanimously.

AIS Grant Program - Anna Cisar – Golden Sands RC & D.

Anna Cisar reported Little Hills Lake worked with a student from Ripon College to explore zebra mussel populations this summer. White River and Pine River were investigated for AIS during Snapshot Day.

Anna reported that aquatic plants have had a good season this year. The additional water in the lakes has made a difference.

She noted that Aquatic Invasive Species “snapshot day” was a big success. Snapshot Day is a joint venture to identify aquatic invasive species in Wisconsin lakes and streams. It is sponsored by partnership between UW Extension's Citizen Lake Monitoring Network and the Wisconsin DNR.

UW-Extension – Patrick Nehring

Patrick distributed the handout: *How We Serve the People of Waushara County*.

He spoke to the planned County water tests for drinking well water quality. The county program will look for nitrates, and chlorides. Tests for nitrates, pH, and bacteria are also available. Patrick stated that sending more than 50 samples per day to the lab required providing prior notice to the UW-Stevens Point lab. Waushara County has a 2018 date reserved for Waushara County samples. Cost of testing for bacteria and nitrates is \$35.00; if homeowners select the “Home Owners” package it will include: bacteria, nitrates, pH, hardness for \$49.00. MaryAnn at the UW-Extension office can help with questions regarding water quality or health issues.

Patrick reported that the Pleasant Lake Management District is expanding their boundaries to include the land they recently purchased north of Pleasant Lake.

Bill thanked the county and Patrick for their services in light of the state reductions in financial support.

Patrick reported that the Wisconsin Natural History Survey will be taking lake core samples of several county lakes this winter.

Legislative Report – Marty Wilke

Marty reported on two key legislative initiatives and a CAFO associated court case: Funding for Act 10, 2017, Foxconn, and a suit filed against the DNR by the Dairy Business Association.

2017 Wisconsin Act 10 enables irrigators to replace, transfer, or repair an existing high capacity well without any additional review or permitting. It also includes a provision to study the hydrology of three Wisconsin lakes: Plainfield, Long, and Pleasant – all in Waushara County (<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Wells/HighCap/CSLStudy.html>). There has been considerable discussion as to how the legislation defined the study area. Specifically, if any streams or additional lakes are to be included beyond the named lakes.

Marty noted that the Foxconn deal will not likely have a direct impact on Waushara County.

The *DBA vs. DNR* court case addresses the application of Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permits to Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO). The DBA is claiming the Wisconsin DNR has no authority in most cases to require large-scale farms to obtain WPDES permits. WPDES permits impose pollution regulations, including requirements on the way manure is spread.

Discussion followed.

WCLWC Lake Group Report – Gilbert Lake

Karen Reynolds began her report by sharing the lake statistics for Gilbert Lake. Gilbert Lake is a 139-acre lake located northeast of Wild Rose. The fishing is good – in recent years trout and pike have been stocked. The Lake Association was formed in the 50's as a social organization, pre-EWM, groundwater quantity issues, etc. The Lake Association includes committees that address water safety, water quality, the fishery and lake habitats. The Association has written policies and procedures.

The Association includes 105 properties on the lake, plus several off the lake. In addition, they have a Friends Group composed of people that enjoy the lake, but don't live on the lake. The Association is a 501c3 with dues of \$25.00/year. The Association sells Gilbert Lake clothing and glassware to defray costs. The Town of Springwater helps with EWM costs.

Annual meetings are attended by 100 people and include educational programs. Two social events are held each year during August and at Christmas.

The Association has sponsored a well water testing program for all drinking water wells around the lake. They have worked with UW-Stevens Point to analyze the data.

Vouchers

Marty Wilke moved that Bill pay the outstanding vouchers. Karen Reynolds seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned

Everett Eckstein, Waushara County Board noted the County supports the work of WCWLC and is grateful for their work in the County.

Everett Eckstein moved and Richard DeLisle seconded; the motion passed, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Francie Rowe, Secretary

2017-18 WCWLC Meeting Dates:

Nov 11, 2017	10:00 am
Feb 17, 2018	10:00 am
May 12, 2018	9:00 am
Aug 11, 2018	9:00 am
Nov 10, 2018	10:00 am

WCWLC Board Members

Sandy Oemichen (term 2016-19)
Mel Heaney (term 2016-19)
Francie Rowe (term 2016-19)
Dan Trudell (term 2017-20)

Bill Van Dongen (term 2015-18)
Gary Wisbrocker (term 2017-20)
Marty Wilke (term 2015-18)