

Waushara County Watershed Lakes Council

P.O. Box 634

Wautoma, Wisconsin 54982

Minutes

November 11, 2017

Gary Wisbrocker, Pres. E 1125 South Radley Rd. Waupaca, WI 54981 715-258-0790 gwisbrocker@gmail.com	Dan Trudell, V.Pres. W10708 S.Huron Rd Plainfield, Wi 54966 608-852-5269 dant@peakperform.net	Bill Van Dongen, Treas. N 1628 S. White River Rd. Wautoma, WI 54982 920-787-0956 bcvandwo@gmail.com	Francie Rowe, Sec. W 13475 Czech Lane Coloma, WI 54930 608-345-5250 frowe@edgewood.edu
--	---	---	--

The WCWLC meeting was called to order by Gary Wisbrocker at 10:04 am on November 11, 2017. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, and a thank you to all veterans present. Twenty-five individuals were in attendance representing 15 lakes and flowages. County Board members present included Everett Eckstein and Michael Kapp. Patrick Nehring representing UW-Extension; Terri Dopp-Paukstat and Todd Wahler representing Waushara County Zoning and Land Conservation; and Anna Cisar representing Golden Sands RC &D were also in attendance.

Public Comment

Rodger Volden, Pearl lake, brought to the attention of the group that Pearl Lake has had problems with wake / bladder boats. The problem at Pearl Lake is that these boats create a large wake which results in shoreline erosion, safety hazards, etc. An additional problem is the residual water in the boats' tanks presents a huge problem for the Clean Boats-Clean Waters crew. DNR claims they can't help. He asked if any other lakes are having similar problems.

Dan Trudell announced welcome packets were available to anyone who would like to pick them up. He directed those interested in packets to Mel Heaney who has 10 with him today to give away.

Agenda, Minutes, Treasurer's Report

Marty moved the agenda be accepted as presented. Dan seconded the motion and the agenda was approved. Anna Cisar proposed the following two changes to the August minutes under the AIS Grant Program Section: White River be changed to Little Hills Lake and that White River and Pine River AIS work was part of Snapshot Day. Marty Wilke moved the minutes be accepted as corrected, Dan seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Gary Wisbrocker

Gary presented the treasurer's report as Bill Van Dongen was unable to attend the meeting. As of today, 18 lakes have paid 2018 dues; three lakes have paid 2019 dues; and one lake has paid 2020 dues. Dues can be sent to WCWLC, PO. Box 634, Wautoma, WI 54982 or paid at the meeting.

Account Balances of 10/24/2017:

Total Useable Funds Available:	\$ 1,714.17
Total Environmental Education Funds	\$ 9,930.58
Savings <u>not</u> including Environmental Education	\$ 1,872.03

Dan moved the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Mel seconded; the report was accepted as presented.

Old Business

WCWLC Social Media

Marty reported the WCWLC web site is now “live”. To send a request or information to WCWLC please do so through the “Contact Us” tab on the web page, <https://wcwlc.org/>.

The intent of the web site is to provide a platform to showcase WCWLC projects as well as those of the various Waushara County lakes. On the web site there is a password protected section for WCWLC members only to access the current WCWLC group list. If a member group would like the password, it can be requested by using the “Contact Us” page and submitting a request. WCWLC members or others can contact the Zoning & Land Conservation Dept. office and request a copy of the current lakes group list. (The list is now protected by these measures to prevent “phishing”/scam e-mails being sent to lake groups concerning money).

In the future, member lake groups’ may choose to have a link added to connect to their web page.

Sandy Oemichen asked that we begin to compile use data as soon as possible.

2018 WCWLC Meeting Dates

The following meeting dates were proposed for 2018:

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

Roger Jansen moved ^{that} the proposed meeting dates be accepted. Arnie Wilke seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

State of the Lakes – Patrick Nehring

Patrick shared with those present the “State of the Waushara County Lakes, Lake Data Summary 2010 -2012 Study”. The report can be found on the WCWLC web site (<https://wcwlc.org/>) and the Waushara County web site (<http://www.co.waushara.wi.us/>) as, *Waushara County State of the Lakes Report 2010-2012*.

Patrick’s presentation noted highlights of the report. He began with a look at the lake elevations within the County, page 6. He noted that the subcontinental divide (high ground that separates the Mississippi Basin from the Lake Michigan Basin) runs northeast to southwest in western Waushara County.

Water quality information is included in the report. Patrick noted that the proximity of roads to lakes determines the chloride pollution found in a lake. Nitrates in Waushara County lakes can be found on page 20 in report; phosphorus levels on page 19.

Algae concentration in lakes is monitored by determining the chlorophyll level. Page 14 in the packet reports chlorophyll data for the Waushara lakes. Terri noted that phosphorous is the limiting reagent for algae production. Water Clarity data is reported on page 11.

Plant species distributions within each lake are also include in the report. They can be found on page 25. The table includes notation for species of special concern.

Terri Dopp-Paukstat noted that the project was grant funded. She suggested that lakes may consider repeating

data collection to update the data presented in the report. Francie Rowe noted that data is currently being collected by the DNR and the USGS on 3 Waushara County. Lakes: Plainfield, Long, and Pleasant via the Central Sands Lake Study as a result of 2017 Act 10. Information on the study can be found at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Wells/HighCap/CSLWorkplan.html> .

Golden Sands RC &D – Anna Cisar

A new European invasive clam species has been observed in Waupaca County, the Asian clam. The clam was found on Snapshot Day, summer 2017 in Stratton Lake. the clam has also been found in Taylor Lake. Anna provided a handout describing the clam and passed around specimens to enable everyone present to become familiar with the mollusk. The Asian clam is similar to the native fingernail clam, the difference is that the Asian clam has ridges on the external section of its shell and the valve hinge is a three-part structure. Information on the clam and a distribution map can be found on the Wisconsin DNR's web site (http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/invasives/AISLists.aspx?species=ASIATIC_CLAM). The Asian clam can be spread via its larva, similar to zebra mussels. Anna noted, like zebra mussels, Wisconsin has no best management practices or plan strategies in place to address an Asian clam invasion. She was asked about manual removal options such as raking or using a DASH approach. She replied that she would look into it.

Anna noted that her AIS work is currently grant funded and that she would like to work in partnership with Waushara County. Golden Sands RC & D is available for contract services. They are working on developing a scuba team to help lakes with EWM hand-pulling operations and CB-CW programs. The grant deadline is Sept 10, 2017.

Zoning and Land Conservation Request – Terri Dopp-Paukstat

Terri introduced Todd Wahler, who will be taking over her position after the first of the year.

Terri noted that the Central Sands Lake Study has begun. The County has been asked for data collection help.

She also noted that the work on phosphorus standards has been pushed to the County. She reported that multi-discharge variances are becoming more common and that funding is coming to the County as a result to study non-point pollution.

Terri was asked about manure spreading currently going on in Waushara County. Terri responded that a good deal of Waushara County is under Nutrient Management Plans (NMP) and that all CAFOs are required to have one. Arnie Wilke noted that it was mentioned Wednesday night in Stevens Point at the Clean Wisconsin event that 2500 head of cattle produce feces equal to the feces produced by 450,000 people.

Terri ended with a reminder that Eric Olson continues to encourage WCWLC to host and look for an opportunity to have a Waushara County education session for lake district commissioners.

Gary thanked Terri for her work over the years, her contributions to the county, and generous support for WCWLC.

UW-Extension – Patrick Nehring

Patrick began his report by asking those present to complete a survey addressing demographic data.

He shared that UW-Stevens Point is working on developing water quality inventory for the County. The study will assess nitrates and chlorides in drinking water. They are not collecting data on bacteria, because bacteria in drinking water is a local problem. If anyone is interested in having their well tested, he has bottles available. However, homeowners will need to return the filled bottles to the hygiene lab on their own.

Marty noted that water testing in the fall or spring is the better choice than winter.

Legislative Report – Francie Rowe

Francie noted that the action in the capitol addressing lake issues has slowed since the passage of 2017 Act 10. The legislation that provided repair, replace, transfer without DNR approval for high capacity wells and created the Central Sands Lake Study. The bi-annual state budget provides \$400,000 for the study. However, Francie reported that currently there are four court cases in progress addressing water issues in the state: *Clean Wisconsin - PLMD v. DNR*, *Dairy Business Association v. DNR*, *Golden Sands Dairy LLC v. Town of Saratoga*, and *Pleasant Lake Management District v. Richfield Dairy*. She provided a brief summary of each.

Clean Wisconsin - PLMD v. DNR addresses the DNR's failure to carry out its duties and authority under the Public Trust Doctrine to protect navigable waters. At issue is the permits issued for 8 high capacity wells the DNR had determined would cause negative environmental impacts. October 11, 2017 Judge Bailey-Rihn required the DNR to void the permits and fulfill their constitutional duty to protect Wisconsin's waters.

The *Dairy Business Association v. DNR* case addresses Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permits. Currently, CAFO's are required to have WPDES permits and nutrient management plans. The DBA is claiming the state does not have the authority to do so. October 19, 2017 the case was settled out of court.

Golden Sands Dairy LLC v. Town of Saratoga is about is focused on *vested property rights*. Specifically, whether Wysocki Farms has the right to use the land they have purchased (6,388 acres) for their identified purpose, the construction of a new dairy confined animal feeding operation (CAFO). This case is on its way to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Pleasant Lake Management District v. DNR and Richfield Dairy this case addresses the Wisconsin DNR's failure to uphold and enforce Judge Boldt's September, 2014 contested case hearing order linking water use at the Richfield Dairy, limited to 52.5 million gallons per year, to the number of animal units that can be sustainably supported by that water limit. The case is schedule for court spring 2018.

WCLWC Lake Group Report – Fish Lake – John Sierks

John Sierks, a Fish lake resident and President of the Fish Lake Management District, share the Fish Lake story. Fish Lake is located near Hancock. The lake is 175 acres with a narrows connecting two lobes of the lake. The management district dredged the narrows this past summer, it is now 9 feet deep. The two lake lobes have very different characters. The east lobe has a sand bottom; the west lobe has a muck bottom.

As noted earlier at Pearl Lake, wake boats are a problem on Fish Lake as well. They move slowly to produce a 4-foot wake. The District is concerned because the wakes produces from these boats create waves that will destroy the work they have done to open the narrows. The District is working with the town to develop an ordinance to protect the lake shore. They currently have a 10:00-2:00 "no wake" ordinance, but it is not proving to be sufficient to take care of the problem. Problems with boat bladders and AIS spread, shoreline habitat damage from the waves, and destruction of the narrows repair work are all concerns. The cost to dredge and repair the narrows was \$90,000.

The Fish Lake Management District's web site is, <http://fishlakemanagement.org/> .

Like most Waushara lakes, Fish lake has AIS problems. Both Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and phragmites are their greatest problems. John noted that he does the chemical treatments to maintain EWM control himself.

Other District activities include: fish stocking: walleye and perch; EWM control program, and water quality sampling. The water chemistry has shown no change over the last many years;

Water quantity has been a problem for Fish Lake. In 1990 the water was above the OHWM. In 2013 the lake was 6 feet below the OHWM and the District installed a lake gauge and groundwater sampling well. In August, 2017 the lake level was 12 inches higher than groundwater, now they are equivalent.

Future Meetings & Agenda Items

Gary asked if there were any requests or suggestions for WCWLC meetings programs for 2018. Two were offered:

Changes in boating regulations, a DNR update
By-Laws update

Meeting Adjourned

Everett Eckstein moved the meeting be adjourned. Arnie Wilke seconded the motion; the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Francie Rowe, Secretary

2018 WCWLC Meetings:

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

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)