

Waushara County Watershed Lakes Council
Meeting
P.O. Box 634
Wautoma, Wisconsin 54982

Minutes
November 11, 2023

Richard DeLisle, Pres. N2678 Bugh Lake Rd Wautoma, WI 54982 414-305-9570 rconstructive@yahoo.com	Mel Heaney, Vice Pres. N5102W.Round Lake Rd. Wild Rose, WI 54984 920-622-3863 heaneys@centurytel.net	Bill Van Dongen, Treas. 1628 S. White River Rd. Wautoma, WI 54982 920-787-0956 bcvandwo@gmail.com	Francie Rowe, Sec. W13475 Czech Lane Coloma, WI 54930 608-345-5250 waterlorax@hotmail.com
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The WCWLC November meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by President Richard DeLisle. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Richard asked WCWLC Board members present to introduce themselves. Board members present in person or via phone included: Richard DeLisle, Mel Heaney, Jim Morgenroth, Jim Peirce, Mark Theis, and Bill Van Dongen.

John Jarvis, Waushara County Board Chair, and Mark Piechowski, Waushara County Board Member and Chair of the Land/Water/Education Committee, attended the meeting. Allen Luchini, Jacob Hansen, and Molly Detjens attended as guest speakers.

Public Comments

Mel Heaney mentioned the that the annual Fisheree will be held at Kusel Lake on Saturday, February 3, 2024, sponsored by We Really Kare Fishing Club. The club works closely with the DNR and stocks 12 lakes in Waushara County.

Agenda, Minutes

Mark Theis moved that the agenda be approved; Mel seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mel moved the August, 2023 minutes be approved as written; Mark seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report– Bill Van Dongen

Bill Van Dongen presented the treasurer's report. He directed those present to the printed report distributed with the August minutes and the November agenda.

Mel moved that Bill be directed to pay outstanding vouchers. Mark seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Guest Speaker – Allen Luchini, Waushara County Emergency Management Director

Allen discussed the purpose of the department, which is to develop and maintain the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and recover from disasters. The phases of emergency management are preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. The department coordinates all personnel and resources needed to save lives, stabilize after an incident, and protect property.

He also discussed PFAS in the county. Local fire departments no longer use PFAS foam. All Waushara County water sampled for PFAS showed levels that are below the dangerous threshold. A handout that he provided stated that the maximum contaminant level for PFAS in Wisconsin (PFOA and PFOS) is 70 parts per trillion, either individually or combined. Allen does not consider PFAS to be a major threat to drinking water in the county.

The county will be moving away from the Code Red system. A decision will be made in January regarding which alternative system to employ, and the information will be communicated to all county residents. There will be a transition period as the new system is deployed.

Guest Speaker – Jacob Hansen, Waushara County Recreation Deputy

Jacob discussed boat patrol results for 2022 and 2023 and presenting the following statistics:
2022: 80 patrol hours, 4 citations, 11 warnings, 0 OWI incidents, 2 boating safety classes taught
2023: 244 patrol hours, 13 citations, 45 warnings, 2 boat crashes, 2 fatalities

The goal for 2024 is 450 water patrol hours and at least one boater safety class.

Guest Speaker – Molly Detjens, WDNR Recreation Warden and Incident Investigator

Molly covers multiple counties in this area of the state, and she coordinates with local recreation deputies such as Jacob. She indicated that there have been 24 boating fatalities in Wisconsin so far in 2023, compared with 20 total fatalities in 2022. Many of the fatalities involved alcohol.

Environmental Education Grant Program

Mel delivered flyers regarding the grant program to all area schools. We are hoping to attract more grant applications this year.

Welcome Packets

Richard said that the Welcome Packet grant application has been submitted to the DNR.

AIS Grant Program – None

Land Conservation Requests – None

Future Agenda Items

Richard said that future programming may include the updates to Chapter 33, which controls how Lake Management Districts operate, and possible legislative action regarding wake boats.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mark. Jim Morgenroth seconded the motion; the meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Reynolds, for Francie Rowe

WCWLC Board Members:

Richard DeLisle	(term 2021-24)	Bill Van Dongen	(term 2021-24)
Mel Heaney	(term 2022-25)	Mark Theis	(term 2023 -26)
Francie Rowe	(term 2022-25)	Jim Peirce	(term 2023-26)
Jim Morgenroth	(term 2022-25)		

Future WCWLC meetings

February 10, 2024, 10 AM

May 11, 2024, 9 AM

August 10, 9 AM