

**AIS Committee meeting
Monday, July 21, 2014 6:30 p.m.
Barnes Town Hall**

Ingemar called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Ingemar Ekstrom, Barb Romstad, Lee Wiesner, David Pease, Sally Pease, Glenda Mattila, Steve Krivinchuk, Jeremy Bates, Chris Webb

Also present: Leslie Hall

Absent: Gerald Gustafson

1. Communication

Ingemar asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting, Lee made a motion to accept the minutes; Dave second, motion carried.

2. Clean Boats Clean Waters

Sally indicated the 4th of July weekend went well. The group check of the landings by the game wardens on the 5th occurred as planned. The towels distributed to the boaters, as part of the statewide landing blitz, on the weekend were well received and there was lots of traffic at the landings.

In Wisconsin over the 4th of July weekend 700 boats were inspected and over 1300 boaters were contacted statewide at boat landings. 50% of the contacts made were in Bayfield County.

Sally has trained 2 new landing monitors for Island Lake, she will get those names to Barb for inclusion in the landing monitor database. She indicated Carrie Krob has also expressed an interest in volunteering at the landing on Robinson Lake.

3. AIS budget for 2014

FOECLA(Friends of the Eau Claire Lakes Area) presented the Town of Barnes with a check in the amount of \$3,460 for the AIS project.

Gus will work with the new town deputy clerk to better document the past and current grant budgets. Chris and Gus have discussed how detailed they would like the reports. Ingemar questioned whether Matt has submitted his invoice for recent services; it appears that he has not.

4. Tomahawk/Sand Bar and George Lake EWM activity

Glenda, John, Gus and Jeremy did an excellent job presenting to the lake property owners at the June 21 meeting. The group extended an extra thank you to Glenda for bringing refreshments to the meeting.

Matt Berg checked the three lakes on June 20th and found some EWM on Tomahawk Lake in two places on the lake. It would be nice if we could get some divers to pull the plants; Matt is too busy to do it but Jeremy did contact another person who might be available. The group offered the names of some other scuba divers however Jeremy explained that it is best if the diver pulling has had some experience. Matt did not find any EWM on Sand Bar Lake or George Lake.

5. Eau Claire Lakes Curly Leaf Pondweed activity

On June 27 a group of volunteers pulled Curly Leaf Pondweed in Upper Eau Claire. They pulled about 4-5 five gallon buckets. Sally indicated that she and others have pulled on other days and she has also harvested some on Middle. Lee said Matt Berg and his students did some pulling on Middle on June 23rd. Other than that there hasn't been a large effort to pull partly because there hasn't been good conditions for pulling. The group discussed the possibility of hiring people to do the pulling.

6. Shoreline Volunteers activity

Ted Eastland has been supplied with the names of volunteers that do shoreline monitoring. Ingemar knows that not all the shoreline monitors are submitting their hours. Perhaps we will need to make some phone calls this fall to get the hours submitted. Leslie supplied the names of additional shoreline and landing monitor volunteers who expressed an interest in attending the August 4th training. Jeremy will be available after the training session to work in the area, doing some onsite training or help with pulling. Barb will send out the letter and form to the Shoreline Monitoring volunteers around August 15th.

7. Recruitment of new members for AIS Committee

Carl Heltne is a new member of the AIS committee. He is also the new FOECLA president. The group is still looking for a couple more people to join the committee. Leslie indicated that she would no longer need to serve on the AIS Committee as the FOECLA liaison since Carl will be able to serve in that capacity as a member of both.

8. Technical assistance – Memorandum of Understanding – Jeremy Bates

Lee Weisner made a motion that we approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Barnes AIS Committee and the Bayfield County AIS Project; Glenda second, motion carried.

9. Bayfield County AIS activities

Paddle the Pearls, an on-the-water workshop coordinated by the DNR and UW Extension, to promote the understanding of water ecology is scheduled for July 25th on the Pike Chain and July 31st on Fish Creek Slew.

The area has a new Water Guard, Pete Carlson, who is a DNR Deputy warden working out of the Spooner office. Spooner has one of the 3 state owned boat decontamination units. Jeremy has attended the training on the decontamination unit and may be able to bring it to our area if Pete is unavailable.

Jeremy reported that the seminars at the NW conference were well received. He is on the committee for next year's conference and invited input from the group.

On September 13, 2014, *Project Red Snapshot Day* will be held throughout the state. It is an event organized to educate people on river invasives. The program consists of 1 ½ hours of training then 1 ½ hours in the field doing actual inspection. One of the locations for the event is scheduled in Drummond with other venues to be added at a later date.

There will be an AIS booth at the upcoming Bayfield County Fair, July 31, August 1, 2 and 3. Volunteers who give 2 hours will get free admission to the fair for one day; those giving 6 hours or more will get a season pass.

10. Other Business

- A recent DNR lake survey found no Cisco present in Tomahawk or Sand Bar Lakes. This fish needs cold water and high oxygen levels to survive. There had previously been Cisco in both lakes.

11. Next Meeting date is August 18, 6:30 at the Barnes Town Hall.

12. Motion to adjourn

Glenda made a motion to adjourn; Lee second, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.