

Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting

Monday August 19, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chris Webb at 9:05am. Roll call of committee members verified a quorum was present.

Members Present: Sally Pease, Ingemar Ekstrom, Marcia Wellnitz, Diane Menard, Chris Webb, Gerald Gustafson, Jim Krook, and guest, Andy Teal

Members Absent: None

1. Roll Call and Verification of Public Notice: Public notice of meeting was posted on August 14, 2019 at 9:30am by Judy Bourassa.

2. Agenda approval: A motion was made by Sally, seconded by Marcia to approve the agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

3. Approval of last month's minutes: A motion was made by Marcia, seconded by Ingemar to approve the minutes of previous meeting held on July 15, 2019. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

4. Communications:

A. FOECL email: Tami Hoff received an email from Jeri McGinley, treasurer of FOECL. Jeri was questioning the wages of CBCW employees. Wages were \$10 per hour. This spring, they were increased to \$12 per hour with the understanding that FOECL would reimburse AIS for the increase cost. At the end of our CBCW season, we will bill FOECL for costs up to \$4,000. Chris will be following up.

B. Tomahawk/Sandbar file grant extension: The original grant was for \$62,785.08. There is \$16,384.33 remaining in-kind donations applied to next claim for this grant. The grant end date is 12/31/2019. We need to reapply, but who can do the paperwork? For how much money? Early detection? Who can help us, Tami Hoff, Pamela Toshner, Jeri McGinley, or someone else?

C. Purple Loosestrife: Sally sent out an email picturing the Purple Loosestrife plant. She said 2 plants have been found below the lock/dam and a patch on Cranberry Lake. Sally is going to investigate the prospect of pulling the plants and how large and stabilized the patch is. Raising beetles to control the patch was suggested as a possibility.

D. Chris (Kate) Mayberry emailed about becoming a volunteer.

E. Shawn Griffin emailed about becoming a resource to scuba divers.

5. Lake Volunteer Mailing:

Chris updated the volunteer letter that gets sent out to Shoreline Monitors. Our members suggested a couple revisions to be made. Chris and others will work on preparing the mailing to go out this week to volunteers. The form asks for email addresses. We will use this year's responses to formulate next year's volunteer list. Our goal is to create a spreadsheet of all AIS volunteers with data on each person's favored AIS volunteer activities.

6. Grant Balances/budget:

Sinking Fund Balance: \$11,255.41 (same).

CBCW 2019: This grant is due on 12/31/2019. \$15,000.00 remaining.

Middle EC: \$11,279.39 remaining.

Upper EC: An extension was granted to 6/30/2020. \$4,916.41 remaining.

Tomahawk/Sandbar: \$33,025.66 remaining.

Expenses for Jan. 1-July 30, 2019:

Middle ECL: \$413.81

CBCW Misc.: \$1,463.65

CBCW Wages and Taxes: \$17,969.83

Tomahawk/Sandbar: \$5,528.65

Total Expenses: \$23,912.29

The next year's AIS budget will be discussed next month.

7. CBCW:

Sally stated that 3,069 boats and 6,896 people have been contacted at the boat landings so far this year. Sally will email an updated statement of volunteer hours at each landing. She reiterated that Tomahawk Lake and Robinson Lake landings are short of volunteer hours. She discussed two upcoming events: Plant ID Day on September 20, 2019 at NGLVC; and the Science Symposium Day on October 11, 2019 at NGLVC at 12:30. Sally will have a display there.

8. Bayfield County A.I.S. coordinator report:

Andy Teal reminded us about the Do-It-Yourself (DIY) workshop planned for August 26th from 8:30-11:30. However, no notices were sent out, so the committee decided to postpone this event until next spring (May). A date needs to be selected. It was suggested that we advertise this event in the FOECL and the Conservation Club's newsletters. Also, we should put up posters to advertise it.

9. Friends of Eau Claire Lakes annual meeting:

Nothing new this month. Please refer to last month's minutes.

10. BAISS boat:

Gerald mentioned exploring the possibility of the BAISS boat traversing the river between MEC and LEC, but no date was set for that trip. Gerald discussed a "Way Point" handout he created for all of the members. Way Points are GPS locations where the BAISS boat collected invasive weeds. We discussed the need to learn more about the life cycle of the Curly-leaf Pondweed plant. We discussed the progress on eradicating this plant. Gerald said progress was questionable, that maybe we are just "holding our own." On Tomahawk, new Milfoil plants have been found along the shoreline plus there is the main patch near the swimming beach. Water clarity is an issue with a depth of only 6 feet. On Sandbar this week, first the diver will search the lake, then pull any patches found. This is the last week for collecting weeds for the 2019 season. We discussed next year's plan of having 2 divers and alternating hours in the water to keep the divers fresh and to be able to extend the day to 8 hours of collecting time as our 4 hour day is not enough time (only 2-3 hours is usable diver time). We discussed the application process and where we could locate additional divers. Gerald described a newer version of the Garmin GPS that

would fulfill our needs of saving and printing data on the computer. It costs about \$600. It will likely be a budgeted item in the next budget.

11. Next meeting for Town of Barnes AIS Committee is Monday, September 16, 2019 at 9:00 am. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

12. Adjourn: A motion was made by Jim, seconded by Marcia to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:02am.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard
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