

Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting

Monday, October 12, 2020

1. The meeting to order was called by Chris Webb, Town Board Liaison acting as temporary Committee Chair, at 9:10 am. Roll call of committee members verified quorum was present.

2. Roll call: Members Present: Sally Pease, Ingemar Ekstrom, Marcia Wellnitz, Diane Menard, Chris Webb, Gerald Gustafson, Christine Neff (guest), and Pamela Toshner (DNR Water Resources Management Specialist). **Members Absent:** Andy Teal (Bayfield County AIS Coordinator).

Verification of Public Notice: Public notice of meeting was posted on October 8, 2020 at 12:18 pm by Judy Bourassa, Clerk/Treasurer.

3. Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Marcia and seconded by Diane to approve the agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

4. Approval of last month's minutes: A motion was made by Ingemar and seconded by Sally to approve the minutes of previous meeting, held September 14, 2020. A spelling error was noticed by Ingemar that in item #5 (Budget), the word "diver's" was spelled "driver's." This error was corrected in my saved documents. Then, a voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

5. Summary of summer 2020 program:

Gus said the BAISS boat was used to take buoys out of the water. It will be winterized and stored soon.

Sally said the last day for paid boat landing monitors was Labor Day weekend. Sally said that we have enough volunteer hours recorded now.

Regarding the Shoreline Monitoring: Volunteers have sent their time sheets to the office. The drawing for the three gift certificates will happen as soon as Tami returns to the office and can prepare for this event.

6. Grant Payment Requests for 2020:

a. CBCW Paperwork:

Sally is still having difficulty getting her data imputed into the SWIMS website. It seems to be a user name and password issue that she will continue to work on. She was encouraged to come to the Town Office and get help from Judy or a committee member.

b. Eau Claire Lakes Rapid Response:

This grant ends at the end of 2020. All data needs to be totaled and sent to Chris and the Town Clerk. All committee members that have volunteer hours are encouraged to get them sent in immediately.

c. Tomahawk/Sandbar Research Grant:

Gus is totaling data and writing summaries to finalize reports before the grant expires.

7. Grant Application for 2021 Established Population Control on all Lakes:

The pre-application is done. Pamela Toshner suggested some corrections.

a. Letters of Support:

Just one letter of support has been returned so far – from Andy Teal, Bayfield County. Letters have been sent out to about a dozen local organizations, but not returned. Diane was assigned to write a follow-up letter that illustrated a guide to writing their response letter. Note: This letter was written, revised, and sent out to those organizations on October 14 by Judy Bourassa. If this is not effective in getting responses, Diane and Marcia will follow-up with telephone calls.

b. Chemical Treatment of Tomahawk:

Pamela Toshner discussed the chemical treatment. For small-scale treatment of 4-5 acres, Porcellacor can be used. It costs about \$2,500/acre or around \$12,500. The area to treat depends on Matt Berg's survey map – Grids 1, 2, and 3. Dale Dressel, herbicide expert, could help with an estimate. Ingemar will contact Dale. Ingemar will also contact Matt Berg about map survey.

A question came up: Do lakes need more herbicide because of high water levels now?

Pamela suggested that we write up a short history of our past chemical treatments. It may make our application more thorough. However, there is a limit to how much writing can be done in each section of the application form. Pamela suggested that an application which is less than \$50,000 is more competitive and could more likely be granted. To keep the state's share at that amount, it is possible that the Town's share may have to be budgeted for 40% of the total instead of 25%. Our new application may total around \$70,000 (instead of around \$40,000 as in the past). It was noted that we had over \$36,000 in expenses in 2020.

c. Plant Surveys versus Bed Mapping:

We will need before and after treatment data. This would be done by Matt Berg.

A question came up: Do water samples and water monitoring have to be done daily/regularly after treatment? Is this a DNR requirement? Pamela Toshner will check with the state on this matter.

8. Educational avenues to pursue, i.e. lake brochure, tax bill insert, spring mailing:

Chris Webb wrote a trifold lake brochure and printed it for us all to look at. We read it and analyzed areas of the brochure. A few changes may be made, but this is just a first copy. The plan would be to have a separate brochure for each of the three lakes: Upper, Middle, and Tomahawk/Sandbar. Each would be personalized with a map showing AIS locations and information about the particular AIS that occurs in that lake, either Curly-leaf Pondweed or Eurasian Water Milfoil. It would be included in a spring mailing to all property owners, and it would be available to pick up at local establishments.

9. Bayfield County A.I.S. Coordinator report: Andy Teal No report.

10. DNR Biologist Representation:

Pamela Toshner responded to our DNR application issues earlier in the meeting.

11. Next meeting Date for Town of Barnes AIS Committee is Monday, October 26, 2020 at 9:00 am. All interested parties are welcome to attend. Zoom will be available. Our main purpose will be to review and finalize the DNR grant before the November 2, 2020 deadline.

12. Adjourn: A motion was made by Marcia and seconded by Gus to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard, 715-795-3464, menard5@msn.com