

## Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting

Monday, October 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chris Webb at 9:10 am. Roll call of committee members verified quorum was present. We met at the Barnes Town Hall and via Zoom Video Conferencing.

### 1. Roll call:

**Members Present:** Ingemar Ekstrom, Marcia Wellnitz, Diane Menard, Chris Webb, Barb Clements, Andy Teal (Bayfield County AIS Coordinator), and Cris Neff (liaison for FOECLA).

**Members Absent:** Sally Pease, Gerald Gustafson, Doug Stearly, Julia Lyons, Eric Neff (liaison for the Town of Barnes), and Tyler Mesalk (DNR Water Resource Management Specialist).

**Verification of Public Notice:** Public notice of meeting was posted on October 7, 2021 at 11:00 am by Judy Bourassa, Clerk/Treasurer.

**2. Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Ingemar and 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 and seconded by Barb to approve the minutes of previous meeting, held September 13, 2021. However, Cris Neff had a correction to Section 5, item c ("AIS Population Control Grant for Four Lakes"). We were discussing water quality and Cris said she would check on the status of the program. She got this response from Geri McGinley, "Water quality testing is done by volunteers with the DNR's Citizen Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN), coordinated in our area by DNR staff person Kris Larsen. FOECLA's involvement is to recruit and refer volunteers to Kris." A motion was made by Marcia and seconded by Ingemar to approve the amended minutes for September's meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

### 4. Bayfield County A.I.S. coordinator report: Andy Teal

\* The LEEP fieldtrip on September 28<sup>th</sup> was a success. It included the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Drummond because all LEEP programming was cancelled last school year due to the COVID virus.

\* No new information on the invasive plant, Arrow Arum. The DNR has not contacted the landowners.

\* Andy has conducted 4 sight visits in the Barnes area for riprap, erosion control, or planting projects. Only one project involved the Healthy Lakes Grant and that was at Traut's Resort.

\*Tuesday, October 12 was the state-wide AIS meeting.

\* Andy will send 18 copies of a booklet, "Shoreline Stabilization...." to distribute to committee members and others.

\* Date for training meeting: **Friday, April 22, 2022** in the afternoon (about 2 hours) for CBCW and Shoreline Monitoring volunteers. It will be advertised by email, postcards, and the "Barnes Calendar of Events." A second meeting could be scheduled for **Friday, May 20, 2022**. Mark your calendars!

## **5. Grant Applications 2022**

### **a. Surface Water Planning Grant for Tomahawk/Sandbar Lakes**

Deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup>. Tomahawk/Sandbar grant will likely not be approved as there is no APM in place. We are going to try to extend the current grant (\$5,000 remaining) by “reclassifying” the unspent money to prepare the APM. Chris has a meeting with Tyler Mesalk on Thursday.

### **b. Surface Water Planning Grant for Upper and Middle Eau Claire Lakes - phase 1 w/Lower Eau Claire - phase 2**

Dave Blumer will submit grants on November 1.

### **c. AIS Population Control Grant – four lakes**

We will submit our grants. The diver’s wages are the biggest expense. If we do not get our grants, the Town of Barnes may have to cover our expenses for one year. Chris prepared a letter asking for support from our town’s partners, financial and volunteerism. Responses should be received by October 25.

## **6. Wisconsin DNR Input: Tyler Mesalk**

Tyler did not attend our meeting, but Chris will meet with him on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Dave Blumer at LEAPS is preparing our grants.

## **7. 2021 AIS Operations**

### **a. Shoreline Monitoring**

#### **1. Summary of time by volunteer and by lake they represented**

We received 23 volunteer time sheets for 718 hours of time spent monitoring shorelines and our lakes for AIS. These hours were not arranged by lakes they represented. Ingemar did a great job of promoting this program. We feel that more advertising and education is still needed. Also the laminated book, *Lake Plants You Should Know: A Visual Field Guide* was deemed to be a very important resource. The committee agreed that committee members could be included in the drawing for gift cards if an independent person conducts the drawing.

#### **2. Drawing procedures**

These are the winners of the drawing for \$40 gift cards at area restaurants:

Cedar Lodge: Patti Prusila

Trading Post: Sally Pease

Doorn’s: Dean Breunig

### **b. BAISS Operations**

#### **1. Summary of summer operations**

Julia Lyons did not attend the meeting, so we have not received the final summary of the volunteer’s hours and bags of AIS collected in each lake.

#### **2. Summary of hours by volunteer and by organization they represented**

No final summaries have been submitted.

## **8. Clean Boats Clean Waters: Sally Pease**

### **Summary of hours:**

Sally Pease did not attend the meeting. No final summary was available.

We discussed the possibility of increasing boat monitors pay from \$12 to \$13 per hour. No resolution. The meeting for the boat monitors in September presented data from each landing monitored, shared information, and got input from our monitors. They need to reapply for their job using the new job descriptions which include some new responsibilities.

**9. AIS Budget/Grant Balances 2021:**

**2021 State Grants:** \$34,390.71 (same)

**AIS Expenses:** Secretarial: \$42 (same)

AIS Population Control: Misc.: \$5,971.41 (including \$3,503.85 for barrier supplies)

BAISS-AIS Harvester Maintenance: \$1,140.69

**Total:** \$7,154.10

**CBCW Expenses:** Boat Ramp Monitor Wages: \$14,511.72

Coordinator Wages: \$7,083.58

Employer Taxes: \$1,345.33

**Total CBCW:** \$22,940.63

**Tomahawk/Sandbar Lakes Grant:**

Diver's Wages: \$18,292.50

Employer Taxes: \$890.24

**Total:** \$19,182.74

**Total Lakes-AIS:** \$49,277.47

**Total Grant Money Remaining:** -\$14,886.76 (Reimbursement of monies are still needed from CBCW and DNR grants.)

**Planned Budget 2022:**

The committee discussed the AIS items in the Town of Barnes budget, line by line and determined our monetary needs for 2022.

**10. Herbicide Barrier Project Updates:**

Volunteers are meeting weekly on Wednesdays at 4:00 at the Conservation building to build the barrier. There is more than 400 feet built at this time. 1,000 feet of barrier is the goal.

**11. Next meeting Date** for Town of Barnes AIS Committee is Monday, April 11, 2022 at 9:00 am. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

**Adjourn:** A motion was made by Marcia and seconded by Cris to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard  
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