

# Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting

Monday, July 15, 2024 (Revised 8/7/2024)

The meeting was called to order by Chris Webb at 8:30 AM. Roll call of committee members verified that a quorum was present. We met at the Barnes Town Hall and via Zoom Video Conferencing.

## 1. Roll call:

**Members Present:** Sally Pease, Diane Menard, Chris Webb, Doug Stearly, Barb Clements, Cris Neff (Liaison for FOECLA), Andy Teal (Bayfield County AIS Coordinator), and David Blumer (LEAPS LLC)-guest.

**Members Absent:** Julia Lyons and Mavis Gagne

**Members Excused:** Eric Neff (Liaison for the Town of Barnes)

**Verification of Public Notice:** Public notice of meeting was posted on July 2, 2024 at 12:08 PM by Lisa Meyer, Clerk/Treasurer.

**2. Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Sally and seconded by Barb 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 Barb and seconded by Doug to approve the minutes of previous meeting, held June 10, 2024. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

## 4. BAISS Coordinator – Cris Neff:

Cris reported on the BAISS boat work. The results of each individual lakes is written up in item #6 in our agenda. She mentioned again about the vast amount of CLP in Upper EC Lake. Our committee discussed some options for containment, such as a weed harvesting machine; chemical treatment (this option could be a possibility if a patch exceeds 5 acres as it is written into our APM document); or extending our diving day to 12 hours with additional weeks on Upper to get the patches under control. This last option is the most realistic, and it will be discussed more in the future. Our schedule of lakes may change in 2025 with [Shunenberg](#)- first, [Lower](#)- second, and [Upper](#)- next in the rotation, but it will be discussed more in the future also. The computerized schedule on the Town of Barnes website seems to be working well. Volunteers have been signing up in a timely manner too.

## 5. Douglas and Bayfield County AIS Coordinators:

### Andy Teal, Bayfield County AIS Coordinator

Andy and the DNR will inspect George Lake for Eurasian watermilfoil toward the end of July.

Andy will join the BAISS boat diving team on Tuesday, July 30 and Thursday [morning](#), August 1<sup>st</sup> on [Tomahawk Lake](#).

Yellow iris plants have been reported on Middle EC in front on the Rupnow property. They will be removed by the landowner or others.

Plant ID Day is back on schedule for July 26 from 1:00-4:00 PM and the last Friday of the month for the remainder of the season at the NGLVC near Ashland.

**Zach Stewart, Douglas County AIS Coordinator**

Zach was not unable to attend our meeting due to fieldwork obligations. However, in our August meeting (August 12<sup>th</sup>), Zach will make a presentation about CLP in Douglas County. Particularly, he will tell us more about the CLP found in the river downstream from the Mooney Dam.

**6. Projects Funded by Grants:**

**a. Clean Boats Clean Waters CBCW14024**

Barb is keeping up with the data entry in the SWIMS website. Our goal of 200 hours worked at each boat landing seems to be on target at this time.

**b. Headwaters of Eau Claire Lake Chain – Early Detention Rapid Response AIRR**

Done for 2024. Chris Webb said all the data from Shunenber Lake has been collected and is organized in her binder, which she showed us. Sections covered volunteer data, volunteer hours worked, daily bags collected, summaries of all work done on each lake, and lake maps.

**c. Upper/Middle Eau Claire CLP Dash Management Project AEC135124**

BAISS boat operations have concluded on Upper for this year with a total of 180 bags of CLP collected over 19½ days of work in the main patch behind the island and the Lyndale Bay patch. 6 bags were collected along the east side of the peninsula in ½ day of work there, and 19 bags were collected in Pease Bay in front of the Schnettler property over 1½ days. The total bags collected on Upper was 180 bags. There is still lots of CPL remaining in this lake.

Pulling and collecting CLP in Middle EC Lake began on July 15<sup>th</sup> and will continue for 2 weeks until July 25<sup>th</sup>. The work will begin near the Bony Lake entrance and work on other patches, especially near the boat landing.

**d. Lower Eau Claire/Cranberry Lake – Early Detention Rapid Response AIRR28724**

Six days of pulling and collecting CLP have concluded on July 11<sup>th</sup>. 52½ bags were collected on Lower Eau Claire Lake. The biggest patch is in Mooney Bay. It was worked on, but there is still lots remaining. In fact, CLP has gone over the dam and is now growing below the dam in the river too.

**7. Projects Funded by Friends of Eau Claire Lakes Area (FOECLA) and Town of Barnes:**

**a. Tomahawk/Sand Bar Lakes EWM Harvesting and Surveys:**

It was reported that the ProcellaCOR treatment in Sand Bar Lake in June worked very well. The Eurasian watermilfoil is gone from the treatment beds and even among the dead trees along the shoreline. There are a few plants in the deep water that the BAISS boat can pull in August when the lake is scheduled for Sand Bar. In Tomahawk Lake, the chemical treatment from 2023 in the panhandle area looks really good too, no EWM. There are a few plants in shallow areas, but they can be hand pulled in a few hours. The BAISS will pull and collect any EWM they find and will search both lakes for stray plants. It is possible that they will not need the full four weeks that have been scheduled.

**8. Education, Training and Sharing Information with Stakeholders at events held in July:**

**a. FOECLA Annual Meeting- Sally Pease will have display table**

Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> is the annual FOECLA meeting. Sally will handle the display table and Cris and Lea will set up a computer to sign up volunteers.

Other information sharing: Lea Colliton is handling Facebook posts; the Town of Barnes website always has information; the boat landing kiosks have information; a lake map was posted at the Upper boat landing showing the CLP locations for boaters to avoid; and letters have gone out to all lakeshore

property owners informing them of our AIS activities with the BAISS boat and the chemical treatment on Sand Bar.

## **9. 2025 Grants**

### **a. Recommend Town Board Approve Authorizing Resolution**

Chris Webb is taking this grant project resolution to the Town of Barnes Board this week. This is letting the DNR know that the Town of Barnes will be submitting a cost sharing grant in the near future.

### **b. Northwest Regional Planning Commission**

The AIS committee may meet with FOECLA and the Northwest Regional Planning Commission representative for consultation about our DNR grant writing needs. The AIS committee is searching for a new consultant to work with us on grant writing beginning in the near future. We may meet with other organizations also to find the one that best meets our needs.

## **10. Financial Reports:**

### **AIS Revenues:**

Reimbursements from previous years: **\$36,507.39** (one item reimbursed was **\$19,327.21** from Tomahawk and Sand Bar Lake grants)

Current Year Advances: **\$16,953.10**

Donations: **\$1950.00** (Gus Gustafson Fund)

Year-To-Date Revenues: **\$55,410.49**

**AIS Saving Account: \$24,755.41**

### **AIS Expenses:**

Administrative/Clerk: **\$346.50**

Maintenance: **\$201.81**

### **Projects:**

#56910 CBCW Expenses: **\$15,457.23** (mostly boat landing monitors wages and taxes)

#56911 Tomahawk/Sand Bar Lake Expenses: **\$24,329.54** (ProcellaCOR was **\$21,484.00**)

#56913 Upper/Middle Eau Claire Lakes Expenses: **\$15,987.49** (divers wages were **\$11,475.00**)

#56914 Lower EC/Cranberry Lakes Expenses: **\$6,008.59**

#AIRR29724 Headwaters: **\$1,922.62**

Year-To-Date Expenses: **\$64,253.62**

## **11. Other Discussion:**

A new more "user friendly" GPS devise is needed. It will be in next year's budget.

**12. Next meeting Date** for Town of Barnes AIS Committee is Monday, August 12, 2024 at 8:30 AM. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

**13. Adjourn:** A motion was made by Sally and seconded by Barb to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard  
715-795-3464, [menard5@msn.com](mailto:menard5@msn.com)