

WAPOA Board Meeting
January 22, 2015
2:30 p.m.
Ideal Town Hall

Directors Present: Tom Watson, Gary Olson, Dave Fischer, Mike Winkels, Fred Strohmeier, Jessie Eide, Dave Topinka, Jim Brandt, Ann Schrupp, Pat Hecker

Directors Emeriti Present: Alan Sherburne, Marv Erdman, Judy Wallschlaeger

Others Present: Jim Schultz

Directors Excused: Joe Brodil, Pam Vaughan, Ken Neihart

Guest: Dr. Dan Molloy

President Tom Watson called the business meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

MSC: Brandt/Winkels to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2014 Board Meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

MSC: Schrupp/Fischer to approve check register with deposits and checks #2361-2378

MSC: Strohmeier/Eide to approve the 2014 Year End Financial Reports

MSC: Brandt/Schrupp to approve the January 21, 2015 year-to-date Financial Reports

Communication and Information:

Clamshell Lake Association voted to become \$500 members of WAPOA.

Kimble Lake Association has submitted an application for 500 Inspection hours to the DNR. Their winter newsletter featured Jim Brandt and Ideal Township for receiving the "Minnesota Township of the Year" award.

Fifty Lakes Association: Fred Strohmeier was voted to the Planning and Zoning Board for Fifty Lakes. Curly leaf pond weed has been found in Mitchell Lake.

Friends of Lower Hay: Lower Hay applied for 1000 hours for 2015 boat inspections.

Land and Waters Preservation Trust: The committee sent out an appeal letter before the end of 2014. We have received approximately \$14,000 this year. Total funds collected to date are \$144,005.91.

Executive Committee Report:

The appeal on TLC's EAW & CUP: Both appeals have been heard but we have not received the decision of the MN Court of Appeals.

AIS Prevention Innovation Grant Application: The grant application was sent to the Initiative Foundation. Dr. Molloy advised us and provided input for the grant application. The foundation has awarded three grants so far. We were not awarded a grant the first round but are still in the running for one. The applications will be reviewed again in 6 weeks.

Nominating Committee Report: The committee has met. The committee will be sending out a VerticalResponse to WAPOA members outlining the needs and asking for volunteers to fill various positions. There will also be an article in the Echo News.

Action Items:

MSC: Winkels/Olson to accept with regret the resignation of Dave Schrupp. Congratulations

to Dave on winning the Crosslake City Council seat.

MSC: Strohmeier/Brandt to appoint Dave Topinka to fill out the first year of Dave Schrupp's term (ending September 2015).

MSC: Brandt/Fischer to appoint John Forney to Land & Waters Endowment Trust Board (Jan. 2015 until Jan. 2018).

Note there is a correction to Ed Egan's term in the May 2014 minutes. His term is until Jan. 2017. Dave Fischer's term is until Jan. 2016.

MSC: Schrupp/Topinka to appoint Jenny Max as the "2015 Run for the Walleye Coordinator".

MSC: Brandt/Winkels to approve the 2015 Action Plans

Gary Olson reviewed the proposed budget with Board Members. MSC: Fischer/Brandt to approve the 2015 Budget

Planning Meeting summary was distributed to all board members. We hope to reference it while moving forward in our mission during 2015.

Program Reviews:

AIS: As a part of the proposed Crow Wing County AIS plan, WAPOA will receive 1600 hours and Friends of Lower Hay (FOLH) will receive 400 hours from the state AIS appropriation funds. Under the CW County proposed plan, they will also use state AIS funds to operate a decontamination station in Crosslake. A DNR grant for additional inspection hours has been applied for. WAPOA applied for 1000 hours and FOLH also applied for 1000 hours from the state AIS boat inspection grant funds. We will again be coordinating DNR volunteer inspector training this year.

Business Relations: Winterfest will be February 5-7 this year. The new PAL cabin calendars are being finalized for printing.

Publicity: We have begun revising the WAPOA brochures and hope to have it to share with the board at the April board meeting before going to press. Pam is checking into the DNR grant option for publicity funding.

Newsletter: The winter newsletter is almost ready and will be sent by VerticalResponse. Articles for the spring newsletter should be sent to Ann **before** March 30. The newsletter must be out by May 1. Mike Holst has agreed to write articles for the newsletter.

Membership: Dave Topinka reported 40 business memberships and 778 regular memberships for 2015. A second membership request will be sent to members who have not renewed their membership on February 1 and to businesses on February 15.

Natural Resources: Mike Winkels responded to 2 members requesting a change to the limit on northerns. He explained that the legislature is the only one that can change this limit.

Outreach: Ken is continuing to forward relevant information to the outreach group.

Shoreland Restoration: Jim Brandt reported ice heaves are a major problem this year. ACOE did draw down the lake level properly. The conditions are exceptionally bad this year due to the lack of snow.

Water Quality: Fred Strohmeier is finalizing the kick-off and testing schedule for 2015. The

TSI maps have been completed and are ready to go to print.

Land Use: Governor Dayton will be asking the Legislature to require a 50-foot vegetative buffer along the state's waterways and wetlands, and to give the DNR the authority to enforce it.

The Brainerd Chamber has approved the Enbridge Pipeline. WAPOA is not against the pipeline, but supports the most environmentally responsible route.

Crow Wing County has approved the use of steel containers that are 160 square feet or less in shoreland areas without permits.

Pipeline Action Items:

Friends of the Headwaters (FOH) & Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy (MCEA) have filed a lawsuit to require an Environmental Impact Statement before permitting of the Enbridge Sandpiper pipeline. WAPOA approved supporting FOH in this effort with a \$1000 donation from the Land Use program in 2014. This donation will be designated for the MCEA/FOH Sandpiper legal action.

WAPOA received a \$3,000 undesignated donation from the John Larsen foundation, currently held in an unrestricted board designated fund. Mr. Larsen has approved using these funds to support the MCEA/FOH Sandpiper legal action. MSC: Fischer/Strohmeier to take \$3000 from the John Larson Foundation donation (money in unrestricted board designated funds) and send it to MCEA designated for support of the MCEA/FOH Sandpiper legal action.

WAPOA also received a \$1,000 donation from the John Larsen Foundation designated for donation to the MCEA. Mr. Larson has approved using these funds to support the MCEA/FOH Sandpiper legal action. MSC: Topinka/Schrupp to make a donation of \$1,000 to the MCEA designated for support of the FOH Sandpiper legal action. As in past years, this donation will come from the Land Use program.

MSC: Fischer/Eide for WAPOA to make a 2015 donation of \$1000 from the Land Use program to FOH designated for support of the MCEA/FOH Sandpiper legal action.

WAPOA has made Dr. Dan Molloy an honorary (complimentary) member of WAPOA

Meeting adjourned: 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Pat Hecker, Secretary

Executive Committee Meeting – Thursday, April 2, 9 am
Board Meeting – Thursday, April 23, at 2:30 pm Ideal Town Hall