

**WAPOA Board Meeting
June 23, 2016, 2:30P.M.
Ideal Town Hall**

Directors Present: Tom Watson, Gary Olson, Pat Loban, Pam Vaughan, Dave Topinka, Jessica Eide, Joe Brodil, Fred Strohmeier, Ken Neihart, Jeff Laurel, Brian Olson

Directors Emeriti Present: Alan Sherburne, Dave Fischer, John Forney, Ron Meyer, Jim Brandt,
MJ Schneider, Judy Wallschlaeger

Others Present: Judy Topinka

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

Approval of Minutes:

MSC: Strohmeier/Neihart to approve the amended minutes of the May 19, 2016 Board Meeting

Treasurer's Report: Gary Olson reviewed the monthly/annual reports provided to the Board.

MSC: Vaughan/Brian Olson to approve check register with deposits and checks # 2520-2533

MSC: Laurel/Strohmeier to approve 2016 Year-to-Date reports

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Lake Associations

FOLH: Alan Sherburne- Steve Curry of Lower Hay used his small recreational drone to take photo looking at the Lower Hay access. It showed probable algal discoloration of water extending from the access ramp into the lake. Dave Topinka remarked that Darren Mayers of the Crow Wing SWCD was at the access when it was raining and he noted visually that the rain water was running off the access into the lake. They will be discussing this at their already planned meeting with the PRWA and will eventually be looking for grant sources.

CBLA: MJ Schneider-Their Annual Meeting is July 16 at the Ideal Town Hall and their speaker is Kevin Kenow, USGS Research Wildlife Biologist

Fifty Lakes: Fred Strohmeier-The next Board meeting is June 25th and then they will be setting up a booth for the Fifty Lakes Days Celebration.

Pine River Watershed Alliance: Ron Meyer reporting. Their annual meeting was held on June 21 with one Board member resigning. The primary topic of discussion was the WRAP process and the project plans to address things identified in the watershed plan. 29 water bodies were noted as priority. The Trout Lake and Ossie watersheds are being looked at. Jeff Laurel is working with PRWA and CW SWCD on putting a project together. Ron provided copies of their brochure which he feels should help with their effort. Grant writing will be addressed by a newly formed team from PRWA and CW SWCD. They are in the process of updating information on their website with the new administrator from CW SWCD. The basics will be completed by the end of the month and a "Projects" section by the end of July.

Land and Waters Preservation Trust: John Forney reporting. Their Advisory Committee meeting was June 16th. Balance is \$223,000, raised \$57,000 with last fall's mailings. Pelican Lake Association will not use the entire \$3,000 grant so they have asked for the remainder to be refunded and they will apply towards this year's grant making \$4,200 available. They are working on their annual report and considering expanding their grant committee. They are also

Lake Association will not use the entire \$3,000 grant so they have asked for the remainder to be refunded and they will apply towards this year's grant making \$4,200 available. They are working on their annual report and considering expanding their grant committee. They are also looking at additional ways of raising funds.

WAPOA might want to look at applying for grant for ground water testing through the Land and Waters Preservation Trust.

MSC: Gary Olson/Brodil to approve WAPOA submitting an application to Land and Waters

Preservation Trust Grant for ground water testing project.

MN COLA: Tom Watson reporting. This is a group formed 3 years ago consisting primarily of 15 county based lake associations and WAPOA. They had their bi-monthly meeting June 21st in St. Cloud including election of officers. Tom Nelson was elected President for another year, Lynn Goodrich is Vice President, Kevin Farnum is Treasurer and Joe Shneider is Secretary. They had an update on the battle with Starry Stonewort in Lake Koronis. The work they are doing in trying to contain it is still enabling it to spread. They only have two accesses so they are trying to cut channels so that people can navigate through the channels to have access to the water so they aren't transferring this material and having it reseed itself. They are working with professor out of Clemson Univ. who is doing research on Starry Stonewort. They would like to quarantine the lake but the DNR refuses because it is public water. Richard Smith, Friends of Headwaters, gave an update on Enbridge pipeline projects. Enbridge wants to start the review process before the EIS is complete. Update was also provided from people from the Ely area on the Copper-Nickel mining activity. The issue is that it impacts not just surface but ground water. It is having an impact on the Superior National Forest. We may host MN COLA's August meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Tom Watson Reporting

Annual Meeting: Discussion held on length of meeting, whether a speaker was needed and whether to serve a breakfast. No final decisions made. Gary Olson recommended that we do call for nominations from the floor.

Sandpiper: There were so many comments submitted during the scoping process that it has taken the Dept. of Commerce an extra 6 weeks to get through them. They were originally to have their response back in June but are now indicating the earliest they will have them back is by the end of July or possibly early August. Enbridge wants to speed up process by starting hearings on first draft of the EIS vs waiting for the finished product. FOH and MCEA have to file responses to Enbridge stating their opposition. Tom submitted the same scoping letter previously submitted which he will provide to board members.

Summer Seminar Series: Tom asked for volunteers to take over the program.

June: no seminar

July: Sarah Fogderud and Sara Ahlers of AW Research Labs speaking on water testing.

Other possible speakers include:

Gail Haglund with the State Health Dept.; Tannie Eshenauer, a MN Dept. Of Health educator;

or MPCA and work with Laurel Mezner or see if Scott Lucas is available

August: Tentatively have Steve Woods, Executive Director of the Freshwater Society of Minnetonka.

"Master Water Stewart Program" and they are looking to expand to greater MN.

September: Tentatively Lindsey Ketchell, Executive Director of the Leech Lake Foundation, to discuss

forestry and easements.

It was agreed upon that we would look into holding the seminars in Crosslake either at the old fire house or the Community Center.

Nominating Committee: Ken Neihart accented the 3rd 2 year position on the 2016-2018

fire house or the Community Center.

Nominating Committee: Ken Neihart accepted the 3rd 2 year position on the 2016-2018 Nominating Committee voted in at the annual meeting on June 11, 2016.

MSC: Vaughan/Strohmeier to elect Ken Neihart a two-year term on the 2016-2018 Nominating Committee.

Initiative Foundation: They are still looking for applicants and have removed deadlines.

PROJECT REVIEWS:

Shoreland Restoration: Brian Olson reported that the Shoreland Contest award recipients were named June 22 and letters of awards will be sent to the contestants along with forms in the next couple of days.

Brian provided a copy for those present of the Restoration Contest Guidelines which he would like to modify. It was recommended that this be done at the November Annual Planning Meeting. Brian provided draft of Shoreland Restoration signage with Pam Vaughan recommending that mention be made on the sign that funding was provided by the organizations listed on the sign. BWSR and CW SWCD have approved our request that the costs for creating the signs can be paid for out of the \$13,000 grant that WAPOA received last May. Purchase of 30 signs was recommended and payment could also come out of WAPOA funds per Treasurer Gary Olson.

MSC: Vaughan/Strohmeier to approve Contest Awards as recommended and Shoreland restoration signage with the modification "funding was provided by."

Membership: Dave Topinka reports business memberships are at 46, down 18 from last year and that regular memberships are at 972, down 161 from last year. He will be doing 30 business mailings and 2000 mailings to everyone on the chain.

Run for the Walleye: Dave Fischer/Judy Wallschlaeger report that registration is up 30% from last year. Volunteers are still needed

Natural Resources: Jeff Laurel reports that the total cost to WAPOA for the tree planting campaign was \$440. Board agreed to repeat campaign next year and Jeff recommended getting 1750-2000 trees. Jeff met with CW SWCD, Sheila Carleton, Ron Meyer, and Darren Mayers to establish a working plan for moving forward on Forest Stewardship plans for the Big Trout Lake sub watershed. For the initial phase Jeff will be meeting with 3 land owners to build a better understanding of the potential benefits to landowners of forest stewardship management and funds available to assist. July 31 is the targeted completion date. The Big Trout Highway 66 project has a meeting scheduled with utility companies to determine a solution to the problem of utilities all running through the proposed project placement: re-routing the utilities or alternate placement for the "Defender" system.

Water Quality: Fred Strohmeier reports they did 2nd testing last Monday and sent off 57 samples the higher number due to the calcium samples they are doing. Pace Analytical raised their prices 60%, however, in speaking with them they will maintain their prices this year but warned that an increase should be expected next year. AW Research Lab prices were higher although they would provide a 20% discount. It was decided to cancel the second calcium samples.

Communication-Newsletter: Tom would like to do a history on the Old Boat Show if he can find a writer. Possible writers are Scott Harrison and Dave Thomson. They have original pictures. John Forney has agreed to work with them on writing the article. The History of Camp Foley will be another article. Pam will contact Chelsey Perkins of the Brainerd Dispatch for permission to print her article about the annual meeting in the newsletter. The deadline for articles is on or about July 10.

Publicity: Pam Vaughan reports an ad regarding preventing the spread of AIS will be published in the CWC Map. Also, an ad regarding Zebra Mussels was published in the Northland Press Summer Fun Guide June 21 and in the Echo on June 16 and will be repeated in Northland Press

in the CWC Map. Also, an ad regarding Zebra Mussels was published in the Northland Press Summer Fun Guide June 21 and in the Echo on June 16 and will be repeated in Northland Press on June 28. A follow-up article regarding the Shoreland Restoration Contest winners should be drafted and published soon. Chelsey Perkins did a great article about our annual meeting in the June 22 Brainerd Dispatch. Alli Faricy was interviewed today about Camp Foley for an article in the WAPOA Summer newsletter.

Business Relations: Jesse Eide reports it was the busiest Boat Show since moving from July to June.

Outreach: Ken Neihart-no report

AIS: Joe Brodil reports scheduling of COE volunteer has been a challenge with total hours of inspections for June at 45/hrs. vs expected 100-120/hrs. DNR no longer requests Zebra Mussel reports per Dan Swanson. The last AIS training class available is June 28 with a 5PM start at the DNR headquarters in Brainerd. An E-Blast will be sent to WAPOA members. The DNR has no way of telling us who took the on-line refresher training course. We can communicate only if we are contacted, which has happened twice. Question was raised on how a volunteer who is trained signs up to volunteer. Pam will include in the E-Blast a message to trained volunteers to contact Joe Brodil. Recommendation was also made that information on volunteering procedure be posted on the WAPOA website.

The Executive Committee authorized \$2500 expenditure for the CW County map using AIS funds secondary to having the board confirm the expenditure.

MSC: Vaughan/Brodil to approve \$2500 ad on the CW County map using AIS funds.

Land Use: Dave Fischer gave an update on the city of Crosslake giving approval to use four access ramps if a parking permit was obtained effective next year.

Other Matters: Tom Watson reported that John Pribyl had recommended that he set up a meeting with the new Commodore of the Yacht Club, Jim Anderson. To date he has not heard from Jim but will initiate another contact.

Meeting adjourned: 5:00PM

Respectfully Submitted: Pat Loban, Secretary

Next Executive Committee Meeting: July 14, 2016 at 9:00
Next Board Meeting-Thursdays, July 21, 2016 at 2:30PM Ideal Town Hall