

WAPOA Board Meeting
July 23, 2015
2:30 p.m.
Ideal Town Hall

Directors Present: Tom Watson, Dave Fischer, Gary Olson, Ken Neihart, Mike Winkels, Fred Strohmeier, Joe Brodil, Dave Topinka, Jim Brandt, Pam Vaughan, Pat Hecker

Directors Emeriti Present: Alan Sherburne, John Forney

Others Present: Jim Schultz, Jeff Laurel, Pat Loban

Directors Excused: Ann Schrupp, Jessie Eide

President Tom Watson called the business meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and welcomed the new directors in attendance.

Additions to the Agenda

Adding: Ideal Food Co-op; County Road 66; ACOE master plan

MSC: Topinka/Winkels to approve the additions to the July 23 Board Meeting Agenda

Approval of Minutes:

MSC: Brandt/Olson to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2015 Board Meeting

Treasurer's Report:

MSC: Topinka/Strohmeier to approve check register with deposits and checks # 2425-2442

MSC: Brodil/Vaughan to approve the 2015 Year-to Date Financial Report

Communication and Information:

Friends of Lower Hay (FOLH): A number of adult zebra mussels have been found near the launch site. A postcard will be sent to homeowners on Low Hay with information about zebra mussels. FOLH are out of county designated inspection money and around August 1 will run out of Lower Hay inspection money.

Kimble Lake Association: We have 25 trained volunteers but are having trouble getting volunteers to sign up. After two inspections for Eurasian Milfoil we are pleased to report none has been found.

Fifty Lakes Association: On August 8, Jeff Forester will be speaking to our association. Lake Emily and Lake Ruth have Eurasian Milfoil

WAPOA: After discussion it was decided WAPOA would again send out postcards to members in late August or early September regarding zebra mussels and AIS inspection

Pine River Watershed Alliance (PRWA): The development plan will be presented at our August meeting for membership review. The website is up and running. WAPOA board members discussed what our relationship with PRWA is and how both organizations can work together in a more effective way.

Land and Waters Preservation Trust: Fund balance as of June 2 is \$146,700. We held our first small group meeting with six potential donors on July 15. Individual contact with these six

donors will take place in the coming weeks requesting donations. Second meeting will be July 28.

Executive Committee Report:

Volunteer Appreciation Reception: The volunteer appreciation reception will be held on September 17 at 5pm, Ideal Town Hall. MJ Schneider will coordinate the food with Jeff Feltmann, Old Milwaukee Club. Invites will be sent out late August early September.

Lake Management Planning: Heather Baird (MN DNR) & Darren Mayers (CWSWCD) gave a presentation on storm water management approaches and options for private property owners and local governments. Our next educational seminar will be held August 19, 2-4 pm at Ideal Town Hall

Sandpiper Pipeline: WAPOA will host an informational meeting with Richard Smith, Friends of Headwaters, about the possible impacts of pipelines proposed to go through Crow Wing, Aitkin, Cass and Hubbard counties. The meeting will be at 2 p.m., Aug. 5, at the Fifty Lakes Foundation Building. A Vertical Response will be sent to members with information about the meeting. Information will also be posted on the website

MN COLA: We hosted a MN COLA meeting last Thursday. Board positions were elected. Richard Smith updated attendees on the status of the pipelines. WAPOA provided lunch and those that ate paid \$6.00. The remaining about \$150 cost was picked up by us.

Initiative Foundation Grant Application: We are still working on the grant application for AIS prevention. Hope to meet with Joe Schneider and Don Hickman in the next few weeks.

Ideal Food Coop: After discussion it was decided that direct financial support of the Coop is not within WAPOA's mission and a direct donation would not be appropriate. We will support the Coop, along with all our business members, by inviting them to setup displays at our public functions, listing business members in our newsletters and giving them an opportunity to write an information article (not ad) in our newsletter.

Area Schools: We would like to foster a relationship with our area schools.

County Road 66 storm water runoff and catch basins filled with debris are problems contributing to the decline of Trout Lake's water quality. The Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (CWSWCD) would like to acquire and install a Downstream Defender (catch basin system) to help resolve the issues. CWSWCD desires to submit a grant application for \$250,000 from the Clean Water Legacy Fund with a required 25% match by recipients to help fix this problem. Four government units (Manhattan Beach, 50 Lakes, Crosslake and Crow Wing County) must also endorse and support the work. We need the catch basins cleaned before installation of the system. There also must be a commitment from some local government unit to continue cleaning and maintaining the catch basins on a regular basis after installation.

MSC: Vaughan/ Strohmeier WAPOA resolves to support the application by CWSWCD to submit a grant application to the State of Minnesota Clean Water Fund for the acquisition and installation of a Downstream Defender (catch basin system).

MSC: Fischer/Topinka WAPOA will agree to spend up to \$500 to clean out the sediment in the three current catch basins along County 66, one time, prior to more work being done.

Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) is working to update their 10 year management plan. Dave Fischer handed out copies of a guide to be used to revise the Mississippi River Headwaters Master Plan. This plan is a strategic land use document that will guide the ACOE during this process. After the plan is updated a meeting will be held to review the new 10 year plan.

MSC: Brandt/Neihart to allow the Executive Committee to draft a response that provides our input to the ACOE and submit it by August 21.

Program Reviews:

Membership: Dave Topinka reported we presently have 62 business memberships (6 Stewards at \$500; 9 Sponsors at \$250 and 47 Friends at \$100). As of today we have 1094 regular members. Dave has corrected the addresses and re-mailed the 125 non-deliverable regular membership request forms.

Outreach: Ken Neihart continues to send out information to interested parties. He has sent out the information on the August 5 pipeline meeting and will send a follow-up email.

Water Quality: Fred Strohmeier reported that 100% of the lakes brought samples this month. In August we will do the normal tests plus calcium and PH testing.

Shoreland Restoration: Jim Brandt reported that three of the projects are complete and 3 will be starting work very soon. Things are moving along nicely.

Publicity: Pam Vaughan reported Ads and Articles will cover the topic of forest management for August. She will submit the reimbursement of approximately \$1900 to the DNR for grant money to pay for AIS prevention, Pull the Plug ads, and for the fish rulers. This money will go back into the publicity account.

Newsletter: no report

AIS: AIS state funds for inspection on the WFC have all been used. Joe Brodil will be meeting with Mitch regarding the undistributed money available for inspections. We hope to get more money from the county, but if we do not we will have to eliminate Monday, Tuesday and/or Wednesday inspections, plus cut back on inspection hours on remaining days.

Business: no report

Natural Resources: DNR is still working on a new 10 year plan for fisheries. Mike Winkels and Jeff Laurel will meet with Marc Bacigalupi in August.

Run for the Walleye: Dave Fischer thanked everyone for their help with this event. There were a total of 520 runners this year: 499 last year. Areas that need improving have been identified.

MSC: Topinka/Vaughan to increase the compensation for race coordinator from \$200 to \$250.

Land Use: there is nothing new to report. Tom Watson has had conversation with the Mayor of Crosslake regarding issues in the area. Mayor Roe has been interested and would like to be involved and kept informed.

Meeting adjourned: 4:45PM

Respectfully Submitted: Pat Hecker, Secretary

Lake Management Seminar #3 – Aug 19th at 2-4 pm Ideal Town Hall

Executive Board meeting – Thursday, September 10 @ 9:00 AM

Board Meeting – Thursday, September 17 @ 2:30 PM @ Ideal Community Center

Volunteer Appreciation Event - Thursday, Sept 17 – 5:30 to 7:30PM, Ideal Comm Center

Lake Mgmt Seminar #4 – Sept 30(to be confirmed) @ 2:00 PM @ Ideal Community Center