

**WAPOA Board Meeting  
October 20, 2016, 2:30P.M.  
Ideal Town Hall**

**Directors Present:** Tom Watson, Pat Loban, Gary Olson, Pam Vaughan, Dave Topinka, Joe Brodil, Fred Strohmeier, Jeff Laurel , Jesse Eide, Brian Olson, Tony Coffey

**Directors Emeriti Present:** Alan Sherburne, John Forney, MJ Schneider, Ron Meyer, Judy Wallschlaeger, Jim Brand, MJ Schneider

**Others Present:** Jim Schultz

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

MSC: Strohmeier/Vaughan to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2016 Board Meeting as amended.

MSC: Laurel/Topinka to approve the New/Incoming minutes of the September 15, 2016 Board Meeting.

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

MSC: Brodil/Coffey to approve check register with deposits and checks #2576-2587

MSC: Brian Olson/Vaughan to approve 2016 Year-to-Date reports

**COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION**

**Lake Associations**

**Kimble Lake-**Jim Schultz-Finished access monitoring on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> and had their final Board Meeting on the September 29<sup>th</sup>.

**CBLA-**MJ Schneider-They had their meeting on the Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>. Ron Meyer will be their guest speaker at next year's annual meeting. Marv Erdman went out with water testing and will replace Ray Steffen.

**FOLH:** Dave Topinka-They took Darren Meyers on a cruise of the lake to have him point out problematic shorelines and they will be contacting lakeshore owners to let them know they are there to work with them.

**Fifty Lakes:-**Fred Strohmeier-They do not have their interim use permit for the Burma Shave signs they have made for AIS education/awareness. He is in touch with Chris Pence and Jacob Frie to see if the Highway Dept. will put signs up on highways 1, 3 or 6.

**Pine River Watershed Alliance:** -Ron Meyer-WRAP has started working with 3 lake associations: Lower Hay, CBLA and Upper Hay. Revegetation and fencing is done on Arvig Creek. Progress will be monitored and a plan set for next year. Two targeted mailings are going out. Steve Roe has built a data base that gives better access to members and partnering organizations. Unless 75% of the watershed is protected through such efforts as conservation easements the impact is minimal.

**Land and Waters Preservation Trust:** -Ron Meyer-They are working with the Initiative Foundation to develop a grant writing process for organizations with limited expertise. They are looking at a simple word document and then using the Foundation for final documentation of the grant request and approval. John Forney-The Trust members met with the Initiative Foundation on October 3rd to deal with how to handle pledges reports and the grant process. Applicants who do not have 501 (C) 3 status may use WAPOA as their fiscal agent. The Trust would like to piggy back with WAPOA in fund raising.

**WAPOA Directors Emeriti Communication-emailed by John Forney**

John Forney reminded directors and emeriti that President Watson accepted the position for another term contingent on the election of a Vice President. He then outlined the job of the President as stated in the by-laws. He acknowledged AIS as a new challenge during Tom's term and Tom has taken the presidency to a higher level. President Watson spoke to the "nature of the responsibility" with issues that couldn't be

foreseen such as AIS and the pipeline, the” jobs that aren’t getting done” because of a shortage of directors (i.e. grant writing and the newsletter,) and finally his “personal view” and work ethic and the direction we need to take. Brian Olson questioned whether a paid position was indicated and Tony Coffey recommended hiring an Executive Director both supporting their view considering the size of our organization. All are in agreement that the topic should be dealt with at the November Annual Planning Meeting.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Tom Watson reporting

**Pipeline Update:**

There is a hearing Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> to determine if the EIS should start over considering that there is now only one pipeline going forward. FOH sent out notification of the court decision that eminent domain cannot be used on the behalf of a private company. Richard Smith (FOH) has been spending more money through MCEA and will need more money to proceed. WAPOA may need to consider a blast to members to raise funds.

**Summer Seminar Series:** There will be no fall seminar.

**City of Crosslake, MN Design Team – follow up – attachment**

Water quality is their main focus and WAPOA needs to determine how they will connect with the working group. Tom shared a communication he sent to the Crosslake “group” indicating support for the MDT reported priorities – water quality was overwhelmingly the highest priority – and offering WAPOA interest in assisting with the implementation of the priorities.

**CH 66 Storm Water Project:**

Tom Watson reports that there is still no maintenance agreement with the City of Manhattan Beach and Melissa Barrick plans to meet with them. Jeff Laurel and Tom plan to attend the Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> City Council Meeting and will ask Manhattan Beach to make an offer. Jeff pointed out that there are 3 defender systems and the cost of maintenance has gone up. He questions whether they should be offered a “Not-To- Exceed number.”

**Action Item: approve \$500 grant to Cross Lake Community School – attachment**

Jesse Eide reported on the efforts of Miranda Graceffa, a science teacher at the Crosslake Community School, who wishes to expand her water testing abilities with her students with the purchase of a new piece of equipment. They test in 3 locations, write reports and do drawings. The teacher is willing to write up a report with children’s writings that we could publish. CCS Director Todd Lyscio approved the grant application and request.

MSC: Strohmeier/Eide to approve \$500 grant to the Cross Lake Community School.

**Planning Retreat:**

Tom Watson presented a draft of the agenda for the Annual Planning Retreat. Board agreed that focus needs to be on organizational development. Possible speaker will be Dean Fitch who will speak on the Design Team Plan. This year again there will be break-out groups. Social event will follow at the Topika’s with Watsons co-hosting.

**PROGRAM REVIEWS:**

**Newsletter: Publicity:** Pam Vaughan-No report.

**Outreach:** Tony Coffey reports that it will cost Roosevelt Lake \$22,500 to treat Milfoil and they are looking for a donation. Gary Olson recommends that WAPOA establish a donation policy. Executive Committee will discuss donation at Nov. 4 meeting and do an electronic vote if deemed appropriate and confirm at the Planning Meeting Nov. 10.

**Water Quality:** Will be changing from PACE, who increased their pricing, to RMD of Detroit Lakes to process water samples. Cost will stay the same as this year.

**AIS:** Joe Brodil reports PLM has completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> survey and reports no new AIS on the WFC. COE volunteers are done for the season putting in approximately 320 hours which at \$16.50/hr. is worth \$5,280. He has spoken with Corrine and Jason about WAPOA upgrading another campsite for additional inspectors. At one session of the AIS conference in St. Cloud mandatory inspections were discussed. Inspections would be done at one site, possibly at the decontamination site. Enforcement would be by the Sheriff's department. The Initiative Foundation would pick up one half of the cost.

**Shoreland Restoration:** Brian Olson reports that all but two projects are completed, signs are up and that inspections have been done by himself and Darren Meyers. They have not heard about grant availability for next year by they are assuming it will be available. Discussion on plans for next year's contest was postponed until the Annual Planning Meeting.

**Business Relations:** see Jesse Eide's report under Action Item

**Membership:** Dave Topinka reports Business Membership is at 59 and regular membership is at 1088 with monies within normal range. President Watson once again asks the Board to seek out businesses that they do business with and solicit their membership.

**Natural Resources:** Jeff Laurel reports DNR base mapping for a permanent Conservation Easement on a 140 acre parcel will take place 10-26-16. Working with PRWA and CW SWCD we still need to develop a plan to get information on this to more landowners within the Big Trout sub-watershed and deal with misconceptions. The MN Design Team provides opportunity to participate with the working groups spawned out of the team's effort, to jointly pursue common objective centered on water quality. Fishing Update: Approximately 5500# of fingerlings were stocked in the Whitefish Basin in Oct., with another 2000# stocked in Cross Lake. Marc Bacigalupi has asked if WAPOA would be interested in arranging an access lease with the landowner on one of the rearing ponds (Esden Lake). Probable cost would be in the range of \$200-\$250. The lease had formerly been arranged by a now inactive group called the Walleye Alliance. Watson indicated that we should seek legal advice and review, possibly Brian Carlson.

MSC: Laurel/Gary Olson to approve obtaining legal review of the lease.

**Communication:** Tom Watson states he has 3 articles available. Board agrees fall newsletter should be sent out with targeted date 3<sup>rd</sup> week of November.

**LAND USE:** Tom Watson reports that Crow Wing County has about 20 proposed amendments to its land use ordinance out for comment by Oct. 31. The county wants to expand home based businesses.

Meeting adjourned: 5:02PM

Respectfully Submitted: Pat Loban, Secretary

**Next Executive Committee Meeting: November 7, 2016 at 9:00**  
**Annual Planning Meeting-Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 8:30PM Ideal Town Hall**