

**WAPOA Board Meeting
April 27, 2017
Ideal Town Hall**

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

Excused: Gary Olson

Directors Emeriti Present: Judy Wallschlaeger, Dave Fischer, Jim Brandt, Marv Erdman, Ken Neihart, Ron Meyer, MJ Schneider

Others Present: Jim Schultz, Ruth Strohmeier

President Tom Watson called the business meeting to order at 2:35 PM

Approval of Minutes:

MSC: Strohmeier/Vaughan to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes as amended.

Treasurer's Reports: In the absence of Gary Olson, Tom Watson reviewed the monthly/annual reports provided to the Board as well as the Federal 990-EZ Short Form and State Annual Report Form

MSC: Laurel/Topika to approve Disbursement and Check Register #2605-2919

MSC: Coffey/Strohmeier to approve 2017 Year-to-date Reports

MSC: Vaughan/B. Olson: Resolution to approve and submit the 2016 Federal 990-EZ Information Return and the Minnesota Charitable Organization Annual Report Form.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION:

Kimble Lake: Jim Schultz reported they had an April Board meeting. They are transferring AIS activities to LID. They have applied for a DNR grant. CWC approved their access monitoring plan. Their Annual Meeting will be Memorial Weekend.

CBLA: Marv Erdman reported that they are finally recognized as a Public Charity, their first meeting is in May and Ron Meyer of the PRWA will be their speaker at the Annual Meeting in July.

Fifty Lakes: Ken Neihart reported they had their first meeting April 8th. They are sending an AIS letters to all property owners in the city to increase donations. Fred Strohmeier reports that they will be increasing their donation to WAPOA.

Land and Water Preservation Trust – Dave Fischer:

A written report was provided. John Forney has resigned from the Board and they need someone to be appointed to serve the remaining one year of his term. Tom Watson's position as an officer has expired and an appointment is needed.

MSC: Topinka/Vaughan to approve the appointment of Pam Vaughan to serve the remaining one year of John Forney's term.

MSC: Watson/Strohmeier to appoint a WAPOA Officer to 3 year term.

Pine River Watershed – Ron Meyer:

A written report was provided. Ron reported on their spring membership mailings, the "Cows for Clean Water" project and the CW Forage Basin events. The Harvest Dinner will be on August 26th.

WRAP: The Arvig project will be updated this summer. Lower/Upper Hay and Bertha/Clamshell will be addressed as residents return. Willow Creek has the most recent activity. PRWA and CW SWCD have received another \$20,000 grant and additional funding has been applied for.

MSC: Topinka/Eide to approve \$100 donation for survey and gift of beef with the contribution going to the University of Minnesota.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT: President's written report provided

Dr. Nick Phelps will speak addressing urgent matters such as starry stonewort. The AIS Research Center is receiving a first time appropriation from the State. The agenda for the Annual Meeting was provided.

Update Crow Wing County 2017 AIS Plan:

The County Board approved a plan in February without any communication with the Lake Associations/Organizations. They were able to get the County to reallocate \$25,000 from administration to inspections which gives an additional 50 hours of inspections for WAPOA and Lower Hay. CW County retained \$35,000 for “multi-county regional initiatives”; in violation of State law. The approved 2017 County AIS Plan was provided.

Land and Waters Preservation Trust Grant Application – expanded water quality

MSC: Laurel/Brodil to ratify electronic vote to approve Land and Waters Preservation Trust grant application for expanded water quality testing.

Enbridge Pipeline update:

The Garofalo bill (SF 1937/HF 2209) would seriously modify environmental review for oil pipelines, eliminate the Certificate of Need, eliminate the Environmental Quality Board and provide for Enbridge Line 3 construction to begin July 1, 2017 without the EIS which is in progress. Tom does not feel that the bill will pass in the Senate and that Gov. Dayton will veto the bill. He has invited Garofalo to visit the area but has not received a response. He also presented House file HF888, the Natural Resources Bill, which would result in severe funding reductions to MPCA and DNR programs. Senator Carrie Ruud and Rep Josh Heintzman are on the 10 member Conference Committee. Carrie Ruud is supportive of the lake groups and is on board with the Governor especially on buffer provisions.

Request for Donations:

BAELN has requested support to pay for the BAELN Awards. Money would be used for the framing of the awards.

MSC: Strohmeier/Laurel to approve \$100 donation to BAELN for the use of framing.

Jenny Max will give a presentation for the Crosslake Community School at the May Board Meeting.

Nomination Committee:

They are looking for one or two more members to serve two year terms. WAPOA bylaws provide for up to 14 directors and is currently functioning with 11. The search process has just begun and there are no director positions expiring. The treasurer’s position expires in one year and they are looking for someone to shadow Gary Olson. The committee will consider approaching local accounting firms for possible candidates.

Run for the Walleye:

Judy Wallschlaeger reports that the brochure will go out tomorrow. MJ Schneider has confirmed that the Pequot Lakes track team will participate in running the race with 10-12 students requested. She confirmed that they will receive a donation for their time. Jeff Brevier, the Head Coach, has been approached to be the race coordinator next year and will be speaking with Jenny Max. An additional planning meeting is set for April 29th. Volunteer names were taken.

PROGRAM REVIEWS:

Membership – Dave Topinka: The April 2017 Membership Report was provided. 48 business members have renewed compared to 59 in 2016. 828 regular members have renewed compared to 1097 in 2016. A business mailing went in November 15, 2016 and regular membership December 12, 2016. No action items.

AIS –Joe Brodil: A written report was provided. Joe reports there will be expanded coverage area with PLM with six additional locations. WAPOA and FOLH submitted for 1500 ½ price inspection hours which is 20% of the total available in the state. A request for inspection volunteers has been sent via e-blast without response. There are 2,000 hours of State Aid for WAPOA and FOLH and we plan the same coverage as in 2016. There is \$3,000 available again this year for education/awareness. In 2016 there were 13,000 inspections with 127 boats arriving with drain plugs in and 48 with water, mud or plants on the boat or trailer. The training and use of Detectors was discussed. Discussion was held on the scope of

PLM monitoring, the fee to non-members and the need postpone the contract until participants are determined. Tom Watson and Gary Olson will review the contract prior to Marv Erdman signing.

MSC: Topika/Brodil to approve the 2017 PLM contract in advance and allow Marv Erdman to sign the contract.

MSC: Laurel/Vaughan to approve sponsorship of the Detectors Program and pay for the training of six trainees upon completion of their training.

Water Quality – Fred Strohmeier reports that he will be going to Detroit Lakes with Tom Watson and Ken Neihart to tour the RMB Labs facility and to discuss the transition. They are talking to non-members regarding their costs for testing and also discussing road salt and calcium testing. No action items.

Shoreland Restoration – Brian Olson: A written report was provided. WAPOA was awarded a \$20,000 grant for the Shoreland Restoration Contest plus additional projects determined by the Board to be high priority items for water quality purposes. Coverage of the contest has been expanded on the WAPOA website. Important contest dates were provided in the written report. No action items.

Natural Resources – Jeff Laurel: A written report was provided. Jeff reports that the total cost of the 2017 Tree Planting Campaign will be \$775 plus any ad costs. He will be increasing the quantity of trees offered by 70% and lowering the minimum quantity offered. Manhattan Beach has agreed to the 25/75 cost sharing of cleanup costs with WAPOA. There is a 25 year commitment with hopes that other resources will be found in the future. Some language revisions on the Memorandum of Understanding are being worked out between Manhattan Beach and CW SWCA attorneys. The next step is for CWC to approve the bids for the project.

Communications Newsletter – Tom Watson: The newsletter is ready to go to press. It includes an article on the Crosslake Community School student's science projects and a written and photographic history of the Wooden Boat Show. No action items

Communications-Publicity – Pam Vaughan: A written report was provided which where ads and articles are being placed. Pam asks for Board members help with the content of radio ads and provides the dates. The contract has been renewed with Discovered Racks and brochures will be in 15 locations May 1st through November 1st. Vertical response emails have gone out regarding tree sales, AIS training sessions and Clean Water for Cows. Pam is working with Alli Faricy on social media. Please send information for posting such as events and photos. No action items.

Business Relations – Tom discussed follow-up grants with the Crosslake Community Schools as well as donating some of WAPOA's used water testing equipment. The Boat Show will be June 17th. No action items.

Outreach – Tony Coffey: A written report was provided. Emails sent to contacts for Upper Hay and Clear Lakes to verify their involvement with AIS monitoring for 2017. An email also went out to Goodrich and O'Brien Lakes in response to a letter sent by Mike Rancour requesting information of AIS testing. A group email went out to the full Outreach group noting the AIS monitoring for 2017 and asking them if they want to participate. A May 5th deadline was set for their decision on participation. No action item.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15PM

Respectfully Submitted: Pat Loban, Secretary

Next Executive Meeting: May 18, 2017

Next Board Meeting: Thursday May 25, 2017 at 2:30PM Ideal Town Hall