

Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2013



Officers –

Chairperson: Anna Jahns
Vice Chairman: Mick Mlinar
Secretary: Margie Yadro
Treasurer: Ann Hruska

Board of Directors attending: Corrin Seaman, Dick Peterson, Mick Mlinar, Anna Jahns, Ann Hruska, and Margie Yadro. Also in attendance: Robert Richard, Charlene Peterson, WRISC Coordinator Mari Dallapiazza, Haley Winchell, and Allison Shaw.

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Jahns at the Dickinson Conservation District Office in Kingsford, MI.

Approval of agenda: Seaman makes a motion to add a topic under “Other,” supported by Hruska. All are in favor.

Approval of June 4 Meeting Minutes: After a brief discussion, Chairwoman Jahns moves to refer to Organizational Team to clarify role in Annual Meeting business procedures, then accepts the Minutes as provided, supported by Peterson. All are in favor.

Chairwoman update: Jahns distributes contact information for WRISC formal partners and asks for clarification on representation at Board of Director meetings. Item referred to Organizational Team. Jahns states that several annual meeting participants commented on the enjoyable annual meeting.

Summary of currently funded projects: WRISC Coordinator Dallapiazza presents handout of invasive species management grants. Great reviews have been heard this summer about the boat wash at Lake Antoine in Dickinson County. Dallapiazza explained some volunteer recruiting ideas and suggestions and pursues centralized training efforts. Jahns is interested in instructing students and volunteers as roadside survey apprentices. Seaman asks about cell phone coverage piggy backing roadside projects. Yadro adds an update on the FCLARA sponsored WRISC watercraft inspection grant. Dallapiazza reports that the Phragmites project is going on basically across the whole Upper Peninsula. The mapping portion is completed on nearly 1800 acres in 2 counties alone. Treatment spraying quotes are now being requested. She also requested “time sheets” for WRISC partners to use to track their WRISC/invasives involvement. A form is available from the website. Yadro requests that boat wash unit plans be developed during the off season. Logistical difficulties that have occurred include liability insurance, fuel, water tank filling, maintenance, and assistance for transporting and storing these portable units. Resources may be available from partner agencies. Yadro asks that the boatwashes be deferred to the Grant Action Team.

Strategic Plan: Dallapiazza touches on developing a 3-year plan for invasive species management in work areas. Please submit ideas in October.

Former Chairwoman Melissa Simpson sent correspondence regarding WRISC awards of 2 more grants through GLRI dollars.

Action Teams:

- ◆ Aquatic Invasive Species: AIS Coordinator (Forest County) John Preuss has been working with Japanese Knotweed management. Florence County boat landing kiosks are updated and local bass tournament attended. Yadro is designing North Lake AIS Signage as a zebra mussel/EWM source waters. Fisheries problems at Lake Ellwood will be studied for habitat loss. Mlinar volunteered to bring the DNR fisheries biologist to explain AIS chemical treatment assessments. Zebra mussel monitoring plates do not seem affective.
- ◆ Terrestrial invasives: Dallapiazza has been developing an invasive species site list. Small patches are noted in most counties. More data needs to be shared for better mapping. Two more invasives were just found in the WRISC region. Hruska reminds the group to check for any that would be eligible for rapid response grants. Kelly Kearns is searching grant funds for roadside mapping.
- ◆ Outreach/Education: it is noted that Ashley Fehrenbach of Forest County Potawatomi Community will not be able to attend meetings frequently and asks to resign from this Action Team. Jahns requests that this be handled through the Organizational Team.

At the point of 1:00, Jahns asks for any critical needs or handouts shared.

- ◆ Organization/Collatoration: Seaman asks about Action Team appointments. Please return Action Team organizational sheet to Dallapiazza for posting on website. More information will also be needed to address the tribal influence on language of the MOU.

Additional Items: Seaman asks for WRISC to look into utilizing invasive plants, specifically Japanese Knotweed. She was referred to work with specific related Action Teams to develop a proposal.

The meeting adjourned until October 1st, 2013 in Stephenson, MI, 10 am to noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Yadro
WRISC Secretary