

Board of Directors - Minutes



April 6, 2016 10:00am Marinette Co Courthouse, 1926 Hall Ave, Marinette, WI (Annex Building – Jury Assembly Room)

Members Present: Bill Rice-DCD, Dick Peterson-Lake Township, Greg Cleereman-Marinette County, Ron Yadro*-Florence School District, Steve Janke-USFS, Aaron McCullough-WI DNR, Tracy Beckman*-Lumberjack RC&D, Jennifer Johnson, MI DNR

Members Absent: Cary Anderson – FCLARA

Partners: Charlene Peterson-Shakey Lakes Association, John Preuss*-AIS Coordinator, Ann Hruska-DCD & WRISC Treasurer, Justin Bournoville-USFS, Darcy Rutkowski*-UP RC&D, Jason Schnorr*-UP RC&D

Staff: Emily Anderson-Coordinator, Lindsay Peterson – MI Project Manager

Other: Jason Granberg*-WDNR (guest speaker)

**Indicates this individual participated in meeting remotely via conference call.*

1. **CALL TO ORDER/Introductions** - by Chairperson Bill Rice at 10:03am. Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was circulated. Six of the attendees participated by conference call.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Dick Peterson/Ron Yadro moved to accept the agenda as is. No Discussion. Motion Approved.
3. **APPROVAL 2/3/16 MINUTES** – Greg Cleereman/Dick Peterson moved to approve the minutes from the 2/3/16 meeting. No Discussion. Motion Carried.
4. **GRANTS/TREASURER’S REPORT** – Ann Hruska reported from the Grant Spreadsheet dated 3/31/2016. The total estimate for 2016 is \$141,455 compared to last year’s expenditures of approximately \$145K. The Petty Cash or undesignated fund balance is \$245.35 and since the last report \$53.96 was used for postage and awards. A suggestion was made to research grants that would allow invasive species mapping following a state timber harvest. It was noted there may be funds from other sources but the State of MI funds cannot be used on their lands. It would have to be work done on private, town or county lands. Motion by Aaron McCullough/Dick Peterson to accept the Grant/Treasurer’s Report. No further Discussion. Motion Carried.
5. **ACTION TEAMS** – Emily distributed minutes of the Action Teams (AIS, Terrestrial, Organizational Development, Monitoring, Education and Outreach), all of which conducted work during March. The minutes are available online. Tracy highlighted the Org/Dev action team’s Partner Roles/Benefits document and called for additional benefits to add to the document. Charlene offered a suggestion for WRISC to support the inclusion of invasive species management as part of county/local forestry plans. As an educational component WRISC can help connect property managers with resources like Wisconsin’s BMPs. Steve Janke/Aaron McCullough moved to approve Action Team minutes. No further Discussion. Motion Carried.
6. **PROJECT UPDATES/REPORTS** – Emily distributed the 4/6/16 Coordinators Report (available online.) Emily has been busy attending conferences and meetings such as the WI Lakes Conference, and Phragmites meetings with the UP RC&D in Menominee County. She will attend an upcoming WI CISMA Coordinators meeting. She is also finishing up deliverables and reports for grants and submitting proposals for new grants. Greg Cleereman asked about the possibility of paying for WRISC staff to help with a Phragmites treatment project in Marinette, Emily and Ann agreed to look into it. Members are encouraged to read the comprehensive Coordinator’s Report report online.
7. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. WDNR Presentation – Jason Granberg gave two presentations ‘Priority Areas for an Invasive Species (PAISM)’ & ‘Invasive Archive’. Both presentations are available on the WRISC website. The first outlines how the WI DNR is prioritizing areas for invasive management by layer mapping in GIS. The second explains how the WI DNR is combining all the invasive species data that has been collected over the

years into a comprehensive database. This database has huge benefits to those who want to create an invasive species management plan and/or better prioritize management decisions. They plan to combine the Archive with the PAISM to ultimately create a 'threat score' and to create custom invasive species lists by county.

- b. WRISC Hiring – Ann Hruska reported that 19 applications were received for WRISC's summer jobs, with 6 individuals interviewed and 3 hired for full time seasonal positions. Hiring was done by Ann, Bill Rice, and another member of the DCD board. She explained the prioritizing that went into choosing the selected individuals and the potential for some part time work for other applicants depending on final work load.
- c. The MOU is complete with the addition of the USFS Signature and can be found on the WRISC website. It was emailed to all MOU Partners by the USFS and WRISC also sent out hard copies.
- d. New Partner Invitations netted two new Partners so far: the Felch Twp Parks & Rec Committee and MSU-Extension. Emily noted that the application deadline in April 15 but she will likely accept applications through April. A full list of Partners is on the website.
- e. Online Partner Poll – Emily explained the poll and how it follows along with the Strategic Management Plan. Emily requested that everyone review the poll and give her suggestions within a week. After any changes are made the final version will be sent to the board before it is emailed to Partners. Motion to Approve the Online Partner Poll by Greg Cleereman/Dick Peterson. Motion Carried.
- f. The 2016 Annual Meeting will be held on 6/1/2016. The Flyer and Agenda have been finalized and will be emailed to the full mailing list shortly. New this year will be a mini "fundraising campaign" to solicit donations in return for WRISC magnets, field guide, t-shirts, etc.
- g. Boatwash Partner Use Agreement – Drafted by the AIS action team an edited version reviewed by a lawyer was presented. The agreement will be reviewed by several action teams as well as the DCD board and brought to the next board meeting for further review.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Proposed Bylaw changes were presented for review and included: designating alternates, lengthening terms to 2 years, and creating alternating terms. Members are directed to give any other input to Emily who will work on a final draft with the Org/Dev action team. Since by-laws require a 30 day review members should expect to see a final draft via email and may choose to vote on it prior to the 6/1/16 Annual Meeting if they wish to enact changes before the next election.
- b. Partner Roles & Responsibilities Document was reviewed by the board. The document was tabled for the 6/1/16 meeting.
- c. EAB find and new MI Quarantines - EAB was found in Dickinson County prompting quarantines in Dickinson and Menominee counties but not Marinette. Emily explained how several organizations are already working together to help inform the public and that she hopes to train the summer staff to help detect it. WRISC is able to help organize workshops for municipalities and/or landowners in Wisconsin or Michigan and anyone interested should contact Emily.
- d. New/Upcoming grants
 - i. Emily presented proposals submitted for a WE Energies MEF grant, a WI DNR WMA grant, a GLRI Boatwash fiscal year 2016 grant, and a WI DNR EDRR grant for Bohemian Knotweed in Forest County (submitted through Lumberjack RC&D). Both the GLRI and WI DNR EDRR grants have been approved and Emily is waiting for further paperwork. Grant amounts requested are in the grants/treasurers report.
 - ii. Emily also presented another GLRI FY2016 proposal from TIP/Lumberjack applied for the pathways educational category. The grant is approved and involves paid consults from area CISMAs including WRISC. Details on the amount WRISC will receive need to be confirmed, but early budgeting allocated \$5,000 each for WRISC and WHIP.
 - iii. Upcoming Grant Opportunities – Emily talked about some other grant opportunities that WRISC may apply for this summer including the next round of MISGP funding and the federal Pulling Together Initiative. These applications will have to be prioritized because field season is almost here and time will be limited.

- iv. Need for Partner and/or WRISC match – Emily explained she is keeping a spreadsheet for match and will email it to people. The spreadsheet will have a place for WRISC regular meetings and Emily will fill those in for members, however there will also be a place where people can add their travel time and other hours working for WRISC. Everyone is urged to put their information and time in the spreadsheet. She also encouraged Partners to consider WRISC in any grant projects they are working on, whether they can provide match to WRISC or if they are in need of match. An example is WRISC’s match for and from the Florence CBCW project.
 - v. Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference and MIPN membership request– Emily presented a request from the Midwest Invasive Plant Network to join as a member at a fee of \$50. According to the letter membership could provide a discount at the UMISC conference in October among other benefits. Darcy will look into whether a UMISC discount can still be used on top of a discount for a nonprofit booth at the conference, but supported joining MIPN. A final decision as tabled until June.
 - vi. Action Team Meetings - Some teams will take the summer off due to field season. Emily will email the teams.
9. **ROUND ROBIN** – Dick Peterson brought to the board’s attention there may be an opportunity from American Transmission Corporation (who puts in utility lines) to help fund invasive species work. Ann reported that ATC has already asked for a presentation from WRISC/DCD for Earth Day. Emily shared new WorkCleanGo posters, PlayCleanGo signage, and thistle brochures (pdf available on website). Jen Johnson from MI DNR Fisheries reported that AIS monitoring will become a part of the DNR fisheries long term monitoring program.
10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – The Annual Meeting is on 6/1/16 at the Florence Natural Resource Center. Agenda and Flyer available on the website.
11. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** – Nothing new but note to include any tabled items from today’s meeting.
12. **ADJOURN** – Motion to adjourn by Dick Peterson/Greg Cleereman at 12:45pm. Motion Carried.

Submitted by Tracy Beckman on 4/6/2016