

Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes



June 6, 2018 12:45pm Florence Natural Resource Center
5638 Forestry Drive – Florence, WI

Partners Present: Greg Cleereman (Marinette Co), Amanda Nelson (Dickinson CD), Dick Peterson (Lake Twp), Pam Schroeder (FCAL), Scott Goodwin (Florence Co), Steve Janke (USFS, designated alternate for Justin Bournoville)

Partners Present via Teleconference: None

Staff Present: Lindsay Peterson (WRISC Coordinator), Amber Butterfield (WRISC Project Manager)

Partners Absent: Bill Rice (Dickinson CD), Justin Bournoville (USFS), Tracy Beckman (Lumberjack RC&D), Aaron McCullough (WI DNR), Jennifer Johnson (MI DNR)

Guests: Ed Patrick (SECOLA), Cary Anderson (FCLARA), Bryan Reitter (FAP Forester)

NOTE: Pam Schroeder, as Secretary, oversaw the board meeting in the absence of both Chair, Bill Rice, and Vice Chair, Aaron McCullough.

Call to order at 12:40 pm for the New Board Member Election

1. Introductions

2. Nominations open:

- There are four board seats up for nomination this year, including Tracy Beckman, Justin Bournoville, Greg Cleereman, and Bill Rice. L.Peterson presented "letters of intent" from current members who expressed interest in continuing as board members via email.
- The following Partners were nominated for Board positions: Tracy Beckman, Justin Bournoville, Greg Cleereman, and Bill Rice.
- S.Goodwin/D.Peterson moved to accept the nominations and to reelect the Board Members. Motion carried.

Called to order at 1:00pm Board of Directors Meeting

1. **Election of Officers** – Due to the many absences of current officers, the motion was made to postpone the election and assignment of officers until the August Board Meeting. S. Goodwin/G. Cleereman moved to accept. Motion carried.
2. **Approval of the Agenda** – There were no corrections or additions to the agenda. G. Cleereman/S.Goodwin moved to accept the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.
3. **Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes** – No corrections were noted. D. Peterson/G. Cleereman moved to accept the previous meeting minutes from 4/4/18 as presented. Motion carried.

4. **Presentation of Signatory Pages and Signing of New Partners:** L.Peterson introduced WRISC's 20 new Partners for 2018! Representative for SECOLA, Ed Patrick, signed the signatory page for their organization. Remaining signatory pages will be mailed to new Partners for official signature. Motion was made to accept and formalize new Partners upon receipt of their official signatory pages. D.Peterson / G.Cleereman moved. Motion Carried.
5. **Grants/Treasurer's Report** A. Nelson presented a report updating 2018 grant funding as of June 6, 2018. The format was changed to display all remaining funds for each project as opposed to yearly allotted amounts and remaining funds in an effort to streamline the report for the District reporting. Format can be reverted back if desired, although no input was given on this at the time. Overall, grant expenditures are on track. Much of the equipment has been purchased from the GLRI EPA Grant fund and the rest should be secured by the end of June. The WMA grant total however is inaccurate and there appears to be an accounting error. A.Nelson will look into this. A motion was made by S.Goodwin/S. Janke to accept the treasurer's report with the understanding that A.Nelson will email an update on the remaining fund for the WMA-2 Project by the end of June 2018. Motion Carried.
6. **Action Teams** – L. Peterson reported that all information regarding the action teams is available online via SLACK. S.Goodwin and P.Schroeder expressed that they were not able to connect to SLACK so L. Peterson will contact these members and help them to connect before the August meeting. L.Peterson will also address G.Cleereman's FOIA concerns regarding the program after reviewing SLACK's policies.
7. **Project Update** – L.Peterson provided a written report to all Board Members regarding WRISC project activity since April. Project deliverables are on track at this point and a lot more work is ramping up now that seasonal staff has started for the season. The crew is being certified today to receive their pesticide applicator certification. Many more events and workdays have been scheduled with several more in the planning process. Education and outreach activities have been going strong with good reach happening on Facebook, an Instagram page has been created, and for the Play Clean Go Project, 5 billboards have been purchased to advertise "Play.Clean.Go" campaign messages, focusing on recreation (boating, camping). The first one is scheduled to go up in Forest County on June 18th. Radio spots and TV efforts will also be purchased to spread this message over the summer months.
8. **OLD BUSINESS** –
 - a. **Strategic Management Plan – Approval** – Copies of the revised Strategic Management Plan were handed out to all present. A motion to accept this new document was made by S. Goodwin/G. Cleereman. Motion Carried.
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **UMISC Attendance** – As requested L.Peterson submitted a proposed budget of approximately \$1,500 for her and A. Butterfield to attend the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference (UMISC) on October 18th. Money was budgeted in both the GLRI EPA and MISGP projects and there should be more than enough to cover the trip. A motion was made by S. Goodwin/G.Cleereman to accept this budget and to approve attendance of UMISC for L.Peterson and A.Butterfield. Motion Carried.
 - b. **Florence County Boatwash Use Agreement Amendment:** L.Peterson asked for the Board's approval to modify the WRISC Boatwash Agreement for Florence County so that the age of staff permitted to use the boatwash unit be lowered to 16 years of age, to allow S.Goodwin's staff to utilize the equipment. A motion was made by G.Cleereman/S. Janke to

approve this amendment. Motion carried.

- c. **Boatwash Storage Agreement with WI DNR:** L.Peterson led a discussion regarding the Boatwash Service Agreement in place with the WI DNR. It may be necessary for WRISC to work on finding new storage for the 4 boatwash units or to inquire the WI DNR about rewriting the agreement to only be for the storage. Currently, the agreement states that storage and maintenance up to \$200 per unit will be handled by the DNR in exchange for being able to use a unit as they need. Since they recently purchased a Steam Cleaner of their own, they no longer have need of the power washer and will not be renewing the current agreement. L.Peterson asked the Board's opinion on developing a new agreement to include: housing the boatwash units through April of 2019, with WRISC performing winterization and repairs on their own. The Board felt this was a reasonable approach and should be attempted. L.Peterson will communicate with WI DNR Staff. The present members also agreed to be on the lookout for alternative spaces for storage.
- d. **Fair Schedules/Sign-ups:** L. Peterson discussed schedules for the five county Fairs this year. G. Cleereman led a discussion on whether the county fairs would still be beneficial for WRISC to attend. L. Peterson acknowledge this, but the fair attendance is a grant deliverable for this year and WRISC will need to attend, however let the board know they were looking for other outdoor events to attend, such as, Waterfront Festival in Menominee County. The board agreed to revisit this topic at the August board meeting. L.Peterson agreed to set up the Marinette Co fair booth if Partners are willing to volunteer some time to at least check in on the station. L.Peterson and summer staff will handle the Menominee Co fair since it is earlier in the season and can be paired with boatwash activities. The Dickinson Co fair is set up in conjunction with the Dickinson Conservation District and will not need many WRISC volunteers. Florence Co's fair will receive assistance from Florence Co staff. P.Schroeder agreed to assist with Forest Co fair booth.

10. Round Robin Updates:

- P. Schroeder, FCAL: The annual FCAL newsletter, which is sent to all riparian land owners in Forest County, will be mailed this month and all board members that wish to have a copy are to let P. Schroeder know. April elections have caused quite a shake up on the Forest County Board. There is concern that a county ordinance regulating mining activity within the county may not get drafted by the deadline of July 1st. County zoning officer Pam LaBine has retired and is being replaced by her assistant. Al Murray is Forest County's new Land & Water Conservation Technician. He will hopefully be at WRISC's August meeting in Crandon.
- D. Peterson, Lake Township: The Shakey Lakes dam, which is 65 years old, is being repaired and new culverts installed August – September this year. The lake water level is being lowered by 4 ft. during this project and boat launches will not be open. This year would be a good time for WRISC to do a walk-through of the forest where the select cut was done to check for invasive species. Also of note, Jason Cariveau is the new administrator for Menominee County.
- G.Cleereman, Marinette County LWCD: Two projects are currently underway to control Eurasian Watermilfoil. Marinette County has adopted an amended zoning ordinance which prohibits metallic mining without local agreement. Has also seen decrease in invasive species related activities due to the cutbacks in the county departments and committees.
- S. Goodwin, Florence County LCD: Scott Wolf is the new zoning officer for Florence County. The Pine River Flowage will be drawdown for dam repairs for another 6 weeks. WE Energies is doing rescue operations for fish and mollusks during this drawdown. Florence County has acquired a

drone and the operator is currently working with the FAA for pilot training. It is Scott's hope that they will be able to use the drone to help track the existence and spread of invasive plant species. They have also purchased a \$16,000 ROV. Florence County is in its 2nd year of an AIS monitoring grant. Their CBCW program has a 5 person staff and is seeking to hire 2 more people. The water testing lab is also up and running.

- S. Janke, USFS: Justin Bournoville is a new father, which is why S. Janke is filling in for him today. Justin is overseeing one staff person in Florence this year and Steve is overseeing a two person crew out of Lakewood. They are currently working on Garlic Mustard and will then switch to thistles.
 - C.Anderson, FCLARA: FCLARA and SECOLA are looking to increase the boat landing fee from \$3 to \$5 and use the extra funds raised to go back into lake management throughout the county and were seeking support from WRISC. The WRISC Board discussed this briefly and agreed that this is too political of an issue for WRISC to get involved with and decided against explicitly giving support to or speaking on behalf of this issue.
11. Any other Business: L.Peterson and her team were congratulated on a successful annual meeting this morning, especially on the excellent food and interesting speakers. The Board also extended thanks and congratulations to Scott Goodwin for receiving the WRISC'er of the Year award. No other business was discussed.
 12. The next meeting date & location: August 1st at the Forest County Courthouse
 13. G. Cleereman/D. Peterson moved for adjournment at 2:30pm. Motion Carried.

Meeting minutes drafted by P.Schroeder, A.Butterfield, & L.Peterson.

Meeting minutes approved on August 1, 2018; moved by D.Peterson/S.Goodwin