

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes



June 7, 2019

1:00pm

Florence Natural Resource Center
5638 Forestry Dr.
Florence, WI 54121

Members Present (in person): Dick Peterson (Menominee Co. - Lake Township), Pam Schroeder (Forest Co. Assoc. Lakes), Justin Bournoville (USFS), Scott Goodwin (Florence Co. Land Conservation Dept.), Amanda Nelson (Dickinson Conservation District), Kathy Hahlbech (Butternut Franklin Lakes Association – Partner), Kathy Babcock (Butternut Franklin Lakes Association – Partner), Dave Parben (Butternut Franklin Lakes Foundation – Potential Partner, member of BFLA), Keith Hahlbech (Butternut Franklin Lakes Association – Partner), Al Murray (Forest County)

Members Present (on phone): Bill Rice (Dickinson Conservation District), Tracy Beckman (Lumberjack RC&D, left call early)

Members Absent: Jennifer Johnson (MDNR), Aaron McCullough (WDNR-Marquette), Greg Cleereman (Marquette Co. Land & Water Conservation)

Staff: Lindsay Peterson (Coordinator)

Meeting called to order at 1:01pm by Lindsay Peterson.

1. Introductions – Introductions were made as members that were present, on the phone, were acknowledged.

2-4. Election: Board of Directors – L.Peterson led this portion of the meeting.

- L.Peterson noted which members' terms were expiring this year, which included Dick Peterson, Aaron McCullough, Scott Goodwin, Jennifer Johnson, and Pam Schroeder. Of these members, J.Johnson and P.Schroeder indicated that they did not want to continue on the board of directors.
- D.Peterson, A.McCullough, and S.Goodwin all submitted letters of intent to indicate their interest in continuing on the board of directors.
- L.Peterson called for open nominations from all partners. P.Schroeder nominated Al Murray of the Forest County Land and Water Department. No other nominations were presented.
- L.Peterson asked for approval of S.Goodwin's continuation on the WRISC Board of Directors as intended. All in favor, none opposed. S.Goodwin's position on the board of directors for a 2-year term was approved.
- L.Peterson asked for approval of D.Peterson's continuation on the WRISC Board of Directors as intended. All in favor, none opposed. D.Peterson's position on the board of directors for a 2-year term was approved.
- L.Peterson asked for approval of A.McCullough's continuation on the WRISC Board of Directors as intended. All in favor, none opposed. A.McCullough's position on the board of directors for a 2-year term was approved.
- L.Peterson asked if Al Murray accepted his nomination for a position on the WRISC Board of Directors. A.Murray accepted the nomination. L.Peterson asked for approval of A.Murray's nomination to the WRISC Board of Directors. All in favor, none opposed. A.Murray was elected to the WRISC Board of Directors for a 2-year term.
- J.Johnson and P.Schroeder were thanked for their time and commitment to the WRISC board during their terms. It was also noted that there is now currently one (1) vacant board position.

5-8. Election: Officer Positions – L.Peterson led this portion of the meeting.

- L.Peterson opened the nominations for the Board Chair officer position. Bill Rice was nominated by D.Peterson. No other nominations were made. B.Rice accepted his nomination. L.Peterson asked for approval of B.Rice to occupy the Board Chair position. All in favor, none opposed. B.Rice was approved as Board Chair.
- L.Peterson then opened the nomination for the Vice Chair officer position. Although absent, A.McCullough had indicated he was willing to continue as vice chair if that were the Board's decision. A.McCullough was nominated by J.Bournoville. S.Goodwin was nominated by P.Schroeder, and S.Goodwin accepted his nomination. L.Peterson did a roll call vote for A.McCullough or S.Goodwin as vice chair. D.Peterson voted no for A.McCullough, yes for S.Goodwin. P.Schroeder voted no for A.McCullough and yes for S.Goodwin. J.Bournoville voted yes for A.McCullough, no for S.Goodwin. S.Goodwin voted yes for A.McCullough, no for himself. T.Beckman voted yes for A.McCullough, no for S.Goodwin. B.Rice voted yes for A.McCullough, no for S.Goodwin.

L.Peterson asked partners to also vote on the vice chair position. A.Murray from Forest County voted no for A.McCullough, yes for S.Goodwin. Butternut Franklin Lakes Association abstained from the vote. With 4 yes and 3 no votes, A.McCullough was elected Vice Chair over S.Goodwin (3 yes, 4 no votes).

- L.Peterson then opened the nominations for the Secretary officer position. S.Goodwin was nominated for the Secretary position by D.Peterson. No other nominations were made. S.Goodwin accepted his nomination. L.Peterson asked for approval of S.Goodwin to occupy the Secretary position. All in favor, none opposed. S.Goodwin was approved as Secretary.

*****At this time, all board members and elected officers assumed their positions and duties. B.Rice led the regular board of directors meeting from this point on. The regular meeting began at 1:20pm.**

9. **Approval of Agenda** – Motion to approve the agenda **as presented** was made by J.Bournoville/D.Peterson. Motion carried.
10. **Approval of Minutes** from April 3, 2019 were presented. D.Peterson/S.Goodwin moved to accept the minutes **as presented**. Motion carried.
11. **Presentation of Partner Applications and Signing of New Partners** – L.Peterson announced that 11 new formal Partners were being added to the Memorandum of Understanding this year. Butternut Franklin Lakes Association was present and formally signed on at this time. L.Peterson welcomed and thanked all new partners for joining WRISC! Partners were also encouraged to continue recruiting new partners and that a personal connection goes a long way in this regard. WRISC now has 67 formal Partners.
12. **Grants & Treasurer’s Report** – A. Nelson presented a spreadsheet of updated grant funding as of **6/7/2019**. A motion to place the grant and treasurer’s report on file as presented was made by J.Bournoville/A.Murray. Motion carried.
13. **Action Teams** – L.Peterson requested that the board members consider a discussion regarding the purpose of action teams and the possibility of restructuring the teams to be more effective. Several board members agreed and suggested that the action teams serve as standing ad hoc committees where they can be utilized on an “as needed” basis. S.Goodwin asked if the bylaws would need to be changed, and it was determined they would not need to be unless Action Teams were drastically changed. L.Peterson encouraged the board to consider these options in preparation for future meetings.
14. **Project Updates/Reports** – L.Peterson worked through the Project Updates for the last several months.
 - a. WRISC attended or hosted a number of events over the past two months, including AIS workshop, Citizen Lake Monitoring training, school events, and more. There are more events coming up in the near future and more are likely to come.
 - b. Most grants are continuing as expected and generally expenditures have increased with the onset of field season and increased staffing. The WDNR WMA grant will be closing at the end of the month and the management field guide is nearing completion. The MISGP grant is generally on track with the exception of acreage, which is a bit behind going into this season, however there is some clarification required on whether the number of acres or number of sites is acceptable for this goal. The newest MEF grant has begun and many of these projects are underway, such as the volunteer program development. The GLRI NNIS project is nearly complete, with only a few acres left to treat and a few miles left to survey for this season. Installing signage will be the next focus for this project. The GLRI EPA grant is progressing well in most components, although there have been some delays with the vDASH development. The next big purchase will be the outboard motor and it is hoped the unit can be tested soon. Permitting for work is underway as well. Staff will be completing their diver certifications soon. GLRI Boatwash grants are being utilized, with the FY17 grant on track to close this year. The contract for the FY18 grant was received and proposal for FY 19 grant is pending. Two of the boatwashes are operational at this point. There is some major maintenance that needs to be addressed and storage/winterization issues are still apparent. The GLRI Play Clean Go outreach project is progressing

well and there will be many more billboards, radio ads, and potentially TV advertisements in production this year. Not much work has occurred on the HWA grant, though training opportunities are slated for the late season. The Phragmites Cost Share project is underway with site visits being scheduled for the second week of July. The joint proposal with E&E for the Phase 2 Menominee River Restoration project was not funded. There is not a clear explanation at this time as to why it was not awarded but we are looking into this. There was also a proposal for the Sustain Our Great Lakes fund to continue the Phragmites Cost Share Program and extend it into Wisconsin for WRISC. A full proposal was requested.

- c. Most seasonal staff has started, been trained, and are doing exceptionally well at field work and completing goals. Our final strike team member and part-time CBCW inspector will both be beginning on June 10th.
- d. Summer newsletter was produced with a new format. Have gotten good feedback so far!
- e. Online outreach has been quite good recently, particularly on facebook with lots of updates coming regarding summer work and events.

15. Old Business:

- a. **Citizen Membership and Volunteer Program:** L.Peterson clarified several points of discussion from the previous meeting regarding the volunteer program WRISC is developing, including volunteer waiver forms, online hour tracking and scheduling platform, volunteer activities, and more. The crews are working on surveying and setting up volunteer monitoring sites. In regards to the Citizen Membership discussion, L.Peterson also clarified the idea behind this proposal, mainly entailing a way to recognize individuals that may not be a part of an organization, agency, or association that is a partner but wants to support WRISC. Their support would not be included on grant applications, they would not have the ability to participate as a board member. This is something that could require a membership fee, but L.Peterson would rather stay away from charging people to be involved with the organization. There wasn't much discussion on this topic and it can be brought up at a later date for thorough consideration.
- b. **Landowner Management Guide:** L.Peterson discussed progress being made on the Landowner Management Guide, which is being developed with funding through the WDNR WMA grant. The guide is nearing completion and she is currently seeking recommendations and edits from area/regional partners on the management recommendations included in the guide. L.Peterson is also working with the printer to determine costs of printing and what quantity we'll be able to secure with remaining funds. She will also figure out the best way to distribute a digital copy for review.
- c. **2019 Survey/Treatment Suggestions:** L.Peterson reminded board members and partners that if they have any locations in their areas that they would like WRISC to survey or pursue treatment to simply send an email and crews will work on those priorities.

16. **New Business:** No new business was discussed at this time

17. Round Robin

- a. **Dick Peterson:** Shakey Lakes water level is coming down to a normal level after some minor flooding early in the season. The Menominee County fair will be held July 19-22. The kayak tournament will be held the last weekend in July.
- b. **Al Murray:** Al gave a personal introduction as the newest board member. Forest County is finishing up on a lake management grant for Little Rice Lake. Got some water quality monitoring grants and will be working with lakes to get folks out collecting data. Will be pursuing loon ranger programs. Forest County was able to hire an assistant for the Land Information Department. Will be hosting some stream crossing workshop opportunities later in the season.
- c. **Justin Bournoville:** Was not able to hire a seasonal crew this year so has been busy with field work. Been doing a lot of garlic mustard pulls. Doing a pull with the Neighborhood House group out of Milwaukee and will be participating in the Butternut Franklin Lake Association garlic mustard pull.

- d. **Scott Goodwin:** Florence County did not get awarded the lake monitoring grant. Scott's been doing a lot of drone flying, especially to monitor wild parsnip to develop a way to identify this from the spectral camera. Middle Lake has discovered invasive milfoil. Florence has six CBCW staff this year. Ashley Reitter has returned as CBCW coordinator. APHIS provided some genetic updates from the feral swine but there is not a lot of analysis on this yet. Although there have not been any more sightings.
- e. **Amanda Nelson:** The Wildflower Sale is wrapping up and prep for the fall tree sale fundraiser is underway. Work on the District's MEF Stream Temperature Monitoring grant has started and is going well. Also welcomed a new board member to the District board.

18. Other Business: The next WRISC Board Meeting will be held August 7th in Forest County.

19. Future Agenda Items: The discussion of action teams will be included on the next agenda. No additional future agenda items were discussed at this time.

20. Adjourn. Motion by S.Goodwin/D.Peterson to adjourn at 2:51pm. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by L.Peterson

Approved August 7, 2019 (D.Peterson/S.Goodwin)