

Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting

Monday, May 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chris Webb at 9:00 am. Roll call of committee members verified quorum was present. We met at the Town Hall and on Zoom.

Roll call: Members Present: Sally Pease, Ingemar Ekstrom, Marcia Wellnitz, Diane Menard, Chris Webb, and Gerald Gustafson and Eric Neff (Liaison for the Town of Barnes).

Other Attendees: Doug Stearly (Boat Landing Monitor), Donna Porter and Cris Neff (Boat Landing Volunteers).

Members Absent: Andy Teal (Bayfield County AIS Coordinator) and Tyler Mesalk (DNR Water Resource Management Specialist)

Verification of Public Notice: Public notice of meeting was posted on May 4, 2021 at 10:04 am by Judy Bourassa, Clerk/Treasurer.

2. Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Marcia Wellnitz and seconded by Sally Pease to approve the agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

3. Approval of last month's minutes: A motion was made by Ingemar Ekstrom and seconded by Marcia Wellnitz to approve the minutes of previous meeting, held April 12, 2021. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. (Two misspelled names were corrected in the April 12th minutes.)

4. Bayfield County A.I.S. coordinator report – Andy Teal: No report, Andy was absent.

5. Citizen Monitoring Network update – Ingemar Ekstrom:

- * 20-30 new email addresses were added to our list.
- * Very few residents have volunteered in the Potawatomi area of Barnes. We need more folks to volunteer to monitor some of the small lakes. Contact the Potawatomi group to secure more volunteers.
- * A mailing went out to the addresses on our list, about 40-50 packets. The packets have a shoreline record form, volunteer hour record form, and several pages of AIS information.
- * Change the name to "Shoreline Monitoring," not Citizen Monitoring Network because that phrase has different meanings.

6. BAISS Boat – Operational plans, building herbicide barrier, divers – Gus Gustafson:

- * Send all information to Julia Lyons, who is doing our computer data work.
- * Gus sent out an outline of activities needed for the barrier construction. It is not complete yet, nor detailed enough. The sub-committee will continue to work on this list to refine it into a sequence of details. Fred Kawell and Rick Mattila's names were mentioned as possible helpers.
- * Gus has marked some GPS points on the shoreline to determine the number of feet of sheeting that will be needed. It is still a work in progress. Boundaries will be refined during the 2021 season. Two lengths of sheeting may be constructed instead of one. Preliminary estimates are 1,000 feet or more.
- * It was suggested for the BAISS boat to work on the area straight out from the boat landing on Tomahawk Lake this year to clear a path out free from milfoil there.
- * We may build the sheeting barrier in the Town Garage and store it all in the Conservation Club Shed.

- * We discussed the necessary water samples mentioned by Tyler Mesalk (DNR) –6 samples inside and outside the barrier at various time increments. \$40 per sample.
- * BAISS start date: June 1 (Tuesday) on Upper Eau Claire Lake. The boat will be docked at the Lanharts.
- * Divers: Terry Bauer – 3 days per week, 8 hours days; Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Cris Neff will also work the same full-time hours. She suggested that Thursdays be an “extra” day for making up time for bad weather. Letters of interest were sent out to these other potential divers: Phil Marti, Jim Warn, and Jon Hammond. Other possible divers are Alexis Kabasa and Fritz.
- * Volunteers would be signed up for 4 hour shifts: 9:00-1:00 and 1:00 -5:00.
- * The annual mechanical harvesting permit is in the mail.
- * Matt Berg will be diving in June. Dale Dressel will be contacted about chemical treatment issues.

7. Clean Boats Clean Water – volunteer and schedule update – Sally Pease:

- * One new volunteer for Robinson Lake. Sally has links to several other possible volunteers.
- * Sally will have a training for CBCW volunteers during the first week in June.
- * Sally is producing business cards and AIS information cards for the boat landing monitors.
- * Monthly schedule is prepared, but not sent on email yet.
- * Sally is still having issues with John at Middle Eau Claire landing, not totaling his sheets correctly before handing them in. Donna Porter will talk with him privately.

8. AIS Budget/Grant Balances:

CBCW Grant: \$5,000 received

\$1,284.00 Paid-out for Boat Landing Monitors wages (\$864); Coordinator wages (\$420)

\$175.00 Paid-out for mechanical harvesting permit and stamps

\$1,459.00: Total paid-out

Surface Water Grant: \$11,667.25 received

Total Grant Money: \$16,667.25 (\$5,000 + \$11,667.25)

\$15,208.25 Remaining

9. Consider Judith Schmidt’s application for committee membership:

Judith’s application will be presented at the next Town Board meeting for approval.

10. Next meeting Date for Town of Barnes AIS Committee is Monday, June 14, 2021 at 9:00 am. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

11. Adjourn: A motion was made by Marcia Wellnitz and seconded by Diane Menard to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard
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