

## **Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting**

**Monday, April 11, 2022**

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 Barnes Town Hall and via Zoom Video Conferencing.

### **1. Roll call:**

**Members Present:** Sally Pease, Ingemar Ekstrom, Marcia Wellnitz, Diane Menard, Chris Webb, Doug Stearly, Barb Clements, Cris Neff (Liaison for FOECLA), Eric Neff (Liaison for the Town of Barnes), Andy Teal (Bayfield County AIS Coordinator). Also Megan Mader and David Blumer from LEAPS LLC attended by Zoom.

**Members Absent:** Gerald Gustafson, Julia Lyons, and Fred Kawell.

**Verification of Public Notice:** Public notice of meeting was posted on April 8, 2022 at 9:05 am by Judy Bourassa, Clerk/Treasurer.

**2. Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Barb Clements and seconded by Marcia Wellnitz 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 Barb Clements to amend the minutes with two minor corrections. In #7, Doug had not yet agreed to collect the bags of collected weeds, and the statement "8 days per day" should have been written "8 hours per day." After Barb amended the motion, it was seconded by Marcia Wellnitz to approve the minutes of previous meeting, held on March 14, 2022. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

### **4. Aquatic Plant Management Plans – LEAPS LLC (Megan Mader and David Blumer)**

#### **a. Public Review and Input Schedule**

LEAPS LLC personnel are in the final stages of review of the Aquatic Plant Management Plan (APM), then they will send it out. There is a "Public Input and Review" meeting set for Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the Barnes Town Hall. Dave Blumer will present the APM in person, discuss, then will make any changes. There is a 21 day period for public review, editing, and sending to the DNR for approval. This plan involves Tomahawk and Sandbar Lakes, but he will also talk about the mechanical harvesting permits for our other lakes. AIS members are encouraged to attend the Public Input meeting.

### **5. AIS Population Control**

#### **a. Mechanical Permit Applications – 3 or 4 Lakes**

LEAPS LLC is preparing the permits needed for Upper and Middle Eau Claire, Tomahawk, and Sandbar Lakes. It is unknown if we need a separate permit for Tomahawk and Sandbar. Chris will consult for Pamela Toshner or Tyler Mesalk about this matter.

#### **b. Chemical Treatment Application – Tomahawk Lake**

After the review process, Dave Blumer will get the permit for chemical treatment for Tomahawk.

## **6. CBCW Operations**

### **a. Update on meetings/trainings attended – Sally Pease**

Sally attended the NW WI Lakes and Rivers Conference in Stevens Point. She described several sessions that she attended. No sessions directly involved CBCW issues. The committee discussed boat decontamination stations. An email was sent to the committee members on March 13<sup>th</sup> regarding documents to review and Andy stated the language about the Bayfield County ordinance concerning boat washing stations. There is lots of information online, but no decisions were made. The Lower Eau Claire landing may try a boat wash method later in the summer.

### **b. Training Scheduled (April 22 and May 20) – notices and materials needed**

The training meetings are set for 12:00-3:00 with Andy Teal presenting. Andy will bring pamphlets, and other supplies will be organized by Chris and Sally. Andy and Zach Stewart will also talk about a new invasive species, the Spiny Waterflea, and the “Stop Spiny” campaign. A notice will appear in the Bottom Line newspaper in this month’s issue and in May’s paper. Also, a mailing went out to the Barnes area property owners.

### **c. Bayfield County A.I.S. coordinator report -- Andy Teal**

Andy talked about a few items on his calendar. There is a Zoom meeting about the “Stop Spiny” campaign on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Andy will be at the LEEP program field trips with the Drummond 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **d. Review Applications for Boat Landing Monitors – accept and assign**

Sally Pease – Robinson Lake, 20 hours

John Loughren – Middle Eau Claire, 20 hours

Kim Jones – Lower Eau Claire, 20 hours

Judith Schmidt – Tomahawk Lake, 20 hours

Rocky and Barb Clements – Upper Eau Claire, 20 hours

John Weiderman – alternate (Upper Eau Claire)

James Basacker – alternate (work at Middle Eau Claire on busy weekends)

Doug Stearly and Therene Stearly – alternates

Barb Clements made a motion to accept the monitors listed above, Marcia Wellnitz seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

### **e. Review Applications for Town AIS Coordinator – hire and review duties**

We reviewed the job description written last fall for the Town of Barnes AIS Coordinator position. Two people applied for the position: Sally Pease and Barb Clements. Both applicants were asked to speak about their qualifications, experience, and their desire to serve in this capacity. A secret ballot vote was taken and Barb Clements received more votes. She will be the coordinator with Sally as an alternate with some job sharing possibilities.

## **7. BAISS Operations**

The BAISS boat is still in winter storage. Gus will arrange boat repairs. Ingemar mentioned the sun umbrellas - a plan is in the works (discussed last meeting). Julia wants to meet about volunteer scheduling.

### **a. Accept Applications for Paid Divers**

Christine Neff – 4 days per week (Cris can’t work some days and has requested them off)

Bruce Piburn – 2 days per week

Jim Ware – 2 days per week

Terry Bauer – assigned the title of “lead diver”– 1 day per week, or as needed

The BAISS boat will operate 3 days per week, but 4 days per week is a good possibility. The pay is \$27/hour. After some discussion, Diane Menard made a motion to adjust Terry Bauer's pay to \$30/hour to help compensate for his diving expertise, leadership, experience, and his long travel time. Barb Clements seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

**b. Approval from Landowners to Use Their Personal Docks – Upper, Middle, Tomahawk**

The private dock usage on each lake has not been confirmed yet. Some property owners have not returned to the Barnes area at this time.

**c. Schedule Date to Meet with Divers – start date, record keeping**

A meeting with the divers will be April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00am. Zoom will be offered for any diver who can't attend at the Barnes Town Office. Cris asked if our summer AIS committee meetings (June, July, and August) be moved from 9:00 to 8:30, so she can attend for a bit before heading to the BAISS boat for her diving work. All agreed to this temporary change.

**d. Update Current Volunteer List and Scheduling**

No scheduling has taken place at this time.

**8. Year-To-Date Budget**

**a. Appreciation Luncheon on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**

Volunteers who were invited to the luncheon received a postcard in the mail. The luncheon is for BAISS boat, CBCW boat landing, and Shoreline Monitoring volunteers from this past year. It is RSVP, so we will know an approximate number of attendees. There will be a short presentation and a CBCW boat inspection demonstration. Marcia Wellnitz is working on securing donations for food and prizes.

**b. YTD Expenses**

Lake Surveys (Matt Berg) = \$4,362.00

BAISS Harvester Maintenance = \$236.02

CBCW Administrative Wages = \$94.26

Lake Surveys Administrative Wages = \$94.29

APM (past payments) = \$980.70

APM Upper/Middle (LEAP LLC monthly) = \$225.00

APM Lower/Cranberry (LEAP LLC monthly) = \$225.00

**Total expenses YTD = \$6,217.27**

**9. Next meeting Date** for Town of Barnes AIS Committee is Monday, **May 16, 2022 at 9:00 am**. All interested parties are welcome to attend. (Note: AIS meeting was changed to the third Monday of May due to the LEEP field trip which is on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendar!)

**Adjourn:** A motion was made by Marcia Wellnitz and seconded by Ingemar Ekstrom to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard  
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