

## Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting

Monday, June 13, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Chris Webb at 8:30 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, Gerald Gustafson, Doug Stearly, Barb Clements, Julia Lyons, Cris Neff (Liaison for FOECLA), Eric Neff (Liaison for the Town of Barnes), and guest Dave Blumer, LEAPS LLC on Zoom.

**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 June 10, 2022 at 10:55 am by Judy Bourassa, Clerk/Treasurer.

**2. Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Barb and seconded by Marcia 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 Marcia and seconded by Sally to approve the minutes of previous meeting, held May 16, 2022. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

### 4. Tomahawk Lake Treatment Update: (Julia Lyons and Dave Blumer reported)

The first chemical treatment was completed on Sunday, June 12 and the barrier was moved to the second treatment location for treatment on Monday, June 13. The barrier was moved to the third location on Wednesday, June 13 for treatment on Thursday morning, June 16. The barrier will be removed from the lake on Sunday, June 19, then it will be cleaned and stored. Water quality testing is taking place by volunteers on the lake. Volunteers are still needed to complete the project.

Comments: The barrier curtain is working well. It is harder to move it from one spot to the next than it was to initially place it in the lake. All the milfoil has not been encircled within the barrier, so some will remain growing outside the barrier. The acreage included in the three spots are 3 acres, 2.8 acres, and 3 acres. Cris Neff recommended that we do not work on pulling this milfoil in Tomahawk Lake this year because it is too thick and would be useless. There was a discussion about treating a bigger section next year. Dave Blumer suggested that he write a proposal for chemically treating the far corner this year. He will write the DNR proposal now. Dave requested being paid mileage for his trips to Barnes to work with the barrier and check on the progress. Barb made a motion to pay Dave mileage and seconded by Diane. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

### 5. Aquatic Plant Management Plans – LEAPS LLC update:

#### a. Plan Distribution:

The APM plan was distributed by email. There have been no public comments made that we know of.

#### b. Notice to Public:

Dave needs to modify the APM now that he knows more about Tomahawk Lake. He is considering a more "whole lake" plan.

**6. BAISS Operations and Documentation:** (Chris Neff reported)

In the first week of BAISS boat weed pulling, Chris said the curly leaf pond weed looked different –red stems, long stringy leaves; the winter/spring growth. The new growth was small and green. Turions were growing. Andy Teal dove with Chris last week. He was able to see the operation first-hand. The BAISS is working in the same area for the past 2 weeks and will continue working there for the third week. During the fourth week, they may check out several smaller known areas, such as Pease Bay, Lyndale Bay, and Devil Lake.

Maintenance: Gus replaced the gas ball for the motor; a new rope for the back anchor was replaced, and an additional piece of extra rope was purchased; the umbrella was purchased, but has not been installed yet; a barrier is being built for around the suction motor; the “pop-up” tent is working out well; enough contractor’s size bags are available at this time; Doug is collecting the full bags daily along with buying gas as needed. The underwater camera has leaked. Eric Neff will research new cameras and suggest the one that should be ordered. A motion was made by Marcia to buy a new underwater camera for approximately \$329 and was seconded by Sally. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.

**7. Clean Boats and Clean Water Program and Documentation: Update from AIS Coordinator, Barb Clements**

Barb reported that the website, SWIMS, has changed, and she is working through the process. She had some data from May, but will email a complete report. Barb will send out a request for volunteers.

**8. AIS Year-to-Date (Jan.-May) Expense Report:**

**2022 State Grants:** \$36,265.19 (same)

**AIS Expenses:**

Lake Surveys: \$4,362.00 (same)

LEAPS Chemical permit: \$95.00

**BAISS-AIS Harvester Maintenance:** \$389.27

**CBCW Expenses:**

Project Training and Education: \$1,067.31

Administration Wages: \$186.36

Boat Ramp Monitor Wages and Taxes: \$2783.32

**Population Control Operations:**

Project Training and Education: \$457.46

Administration Wages and Taxes: \$301.39

APM Planning: \$1,634.50

Upper/Middle EC APM Grant: \$1,009.10

Lower EC/Cranberry APM Grant: \$562.46

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$12,848.17 Total Grant Money Remaining: \$23,417.02**

**9. Next meeting Date** for Town of Barnes AIS Committee is Monday, July 11, 2022 at 8:30 am. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

**Adjourn:** A motion was made by Ingemar and seconded by Sally to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard

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