

“Team Up for Clean Waters”
Itasca Water Legacy Partnership
Quarterly Meeting
Friday, January 16th, 2015 – 1:00 p.m.
Itasca County Courthouse, ITV Room

MINUTES

Present: Dave Lick, Pat Leistikow, Brian Rusch, John Zimmerman, Bill Grantges, John Downing, Patty Gould-St. Aubin, Jan Sandberg, Shirley Loegering, Davin Tinquist, Sarah Verke, Andy Arens, guest from Soil and Water Conservation District

1. Administration Items

- a. Patty Gould-St. Aubin moved, 2nd by Pat Leistikow, to appoint Sarah Verke as board secretary – motion passed.
- b. Jan Sandberg moved, 2nd by Davin Tinquist to approve the Minutes from November 3rd, 2014 quarterly board meeting – motion passed. John Downing and John Zimmerman abstained.
- c. Patty Gould-St. Aubin moved, 2nd by Jan Sandberg to approve the treasurers report as filed by Pat Leistikow – motion passed.
- d. Dave Lick reported that Byron Snowden has asked to be replaced as board vice president if someone else is willing to serve in that capacity.
- e. Shirley Loegering moved, 2nd by Pat Leistikow to approve the 2015 proposed executive members and committee chairs as listed below – motion passed.

Dave Lick, President
Byron Snowden, V.P.
Brian Rusch, Treasurer
Sarah Verke, Secretary
Pat Leistikow, Finance Chair
Kathy Loucks, Education Chair
John Zimmerman, Planning
Patty Gould-St.Aubin, Membership
Jan Sandberg, Operations
Open - Grants Chair
Open - PR Chair

- f. Call for Annual Reports: Jan Sandberg went over the outline for the assignments for each section of the annual report. Once the sections are received, **Jan will compile the report.** The revised outline is attached to the minutes.
- g. Dave Lick thanked Shirley Loegering for her service as board secretary, and for her continued work with IWLP. He read Harold Dziuk’s resignation letter to the board. John Zimmerman asked if it was appropriate to do anything for retired board members. The consensus of the group was that it would be a nice honor. **John Zimmerman agreed to**

purchase the gift certificate. IWLP letterhead will be changed to reflect Harold's Emeritus status.

- h. John Zimmerman moved, and 2nd by Patty Gould-St. Aubin to appoint Harold Dziuk as an Emeritus member on the board, as well as purchase a \$200 gift certificate to Blick's – motion passed.
- i. Dave thanked Jan Sandberg and John Downing for their willingness to serve another three year term on the board.
- j. Employee Protection (Whistleblower) and Conflict of Interest Policies should be signed and returned for 2015.
- k. Jan Sandberg went to Bloomington to receive an award issued to IWLP by the Soil and Water Conservation District. The award is a Certificate of Merit to IWLP as Conservation Cooperators for leadership in the science and practice of sound use, management and conservation of resources. Jan will summarize this award experience for an article in the three local newspapers and in conjunction with this, she will also include a call to the public that IWLP is looking for people to join the board in positions of public relations, nonprofit law, and grant writing.
- l. Dave discussed the issue of attendance at our quarterly board meetings. There was discussion concerning how to address this issue. Shirley Loegering suggested a written agreement upon joining the board so members know the expectations. Although this conversation is still ongoing, two points were highlighted:
 - a. If a member can't attend a board meeting, let the secretary know that you cannot attend.
 - b. Members who are routinely absent from meetings may receive communication from another board member to inquire on their interest in remaining on the board.

In addition to board attendance, the board also discussed the need for additional board members with specific expertise. The board is looking for members who have expertise in nonprofit law, public relations, and grant writing. John Downing proposed utilizing the expertise of seasonal residents. Jan Sandberg suggested using the GPLA newsletter, as well as asking lake associations to include this opportunity in their newsletters.

Public Relations - John Downing suggested John Labalestra and has agreed to contact him. Patty Gould-St. Aubin suggested Roberta Baker; Patty will contact her.

Grant Writing - Dave Lick will call Art Norton to check his interest. Jan Sandberg will call Bob Conzemius.

John Downing asked if there would be any opposition to his brother-in-law Richard Brasch coming on board. He is a Limnologist and is very knowledgeable on invasive species. No opposition was raised. John will contact him to see if he is interested.

Dave Lick suggested Tanis Henderson as a possible board member. Davin Tinquist will contact Tanis.

2. President's Report

- a. Dave reported that the insurance package for IWLP has been moved to Western Mutual, due to Acquity having a problem with the new lease agreement on the water lab with RMB Labs. Diane Dick from Itasca Reliable can be contacted if anyone needs a Certificate of Insurance. The annual premium is \$1449.00.
- b. Dave reported that he has been communicating with The Jefferson Center since August, 2014. The Jefferson Center is a public policy nonprofit organization geared towards global warming. They are currently canvassing the Itasca County area and have met with businesses and organizations on the issues of water, agriculture, and climate change. They are planning a 3 day event around the water summit. Dave has met with them four times and they are looking for information on the community.
- c. Dave reported that he attended the last Minnesota Power Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting. It was reported that MPL will need to expend 1-1.5 million dollars to environmental organizations due to haze in the boundary waters area. He has talked to Paul Radomski from DNR Sensitive Shoreline in Brainerd, and Dan Steward from BWSR for potential projects to apply for some of these funds. John Downing suggested talking to Bob Sterner from Large Lakes Observatory. John will contact him.

3. Committee/Project Reports

- a. **ICC Lab** – Pat Leistikow reported that the contract with MNSCU at ICC for the lab space under the lease costs nothing. There is a professional service agreement with RMB Labs. The lab will be run as a professional quality water lab. ICC will give RMB Labs full access to the lab, with the agreement being that students will be working in the lab as part of their education. John Downing mentioned that he has a water pump that is still in the lab that he still needs to get back.
- b. **AIS Watercraft Inspection** – Bill Grantges reported that the AIS plan has been completed and sent to the Itasca County Commissioners. It is supposed to come up on the agenda at the January 27, 2015 meeting. If approved, the plan would extend the cooperative agreement through June 2016.

There are 6 priority groups laid out in the plan:

1. Early Detection: lead agency – U of MN Extension – Itasca County
2. Control, Monitoring and Research: lead agency – Itasca SWCD
3. Community Action Projects: lead organization - ICOLA
4. Communication/Awareness: lead organization – IWLP
5. Database, Website and County Reserve: lead agency – Itasca County

Bill reported that Sheriff Vic Williams has shown interested in having the Itasca County deputies take invasive species training. He is currently working on 3 grant requests. The priority lakes are: Pokegama, Bowstring, Wabana, Trout (Coleraine), Splithand, Swan and Deer lakes.

Bill acknowledged Pat Leistikow and John Zimmerman for their efforts in moving the AIS program forward.

The new address and contact information for the Itasca AIS Program is:

PO Box 189

Grand Rapids, MN 55744

218-256-9100

Itasca.ais.coordinator@gmail.com

#IC_AIS – Twitterfeed

- c. **Grants Committee** – Harold Dziuk absent.
- d. **Education Committee** – Dave reported that the Youth Summit is scheduled for May 21st at the Itasca County Fairgrounds. The funds are in place. Shirley reported the Adult Summit is set for July 31st at Sugar Lake Lodge. Healthy Watersheds and Forest Education is the theme for the summit. The funding is not in place yet, but it is moving along. There is a cap at 200 people for the space.
- e. **Planning Committee** – John Zimmerman will send reminders to those responsible for submitting their sections for the strategic plan.
- f. **Membership Committee** - Shirley Loegering reported that membership is down about \$2000 from this time last year. Shirley and Patty Gould-St. Aubin met to discuss how to reach out the business community. Sarah Verke noted the observation that there isn't a contact number on the website. The possibility of a phone number posted on the website will be discussed at the February board meeting.
- g. **PR Committee** – No report, still looking for chair member to head this committee.

4. 2015 Quarterly meeting dates as follows:

Monday, April 20th, 3:00 p.m.

Friday, July 17th, 1:00 p.m.

Monday, October 19th, 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Verke
Board Secretary

Annual Report Section	Person Responsible	Comments
A. MISSION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES	Jan S	Any changes?
B. IMPORTANT SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS	Jan S	Additions from 2014?
C. ORGANIZATION HISTORY	Dave L	Update from 2013 or re-write?
D. EVENTS AND SUCCESSES		Possibly delete-repeats following reports or change to a short summary with vision for future
E. COMMITTEES		
1. Communications and Public Relations	Shirley Loegering	
a. Itasca County Fair Booth	Bill G	
b. ICTV	Bill G	
2. Education	Kathy Loucks	
a. Children First	Shirley L	
b. Youth Water Summit	Jan S	District 318 Endowment Grant evaluation report received from Dale Christy
3. Strategic Planning	John Zimmerman	
4. Membership	Shirley Loegering	
5. Grants	Harold Dzuik	
a. ICC Community College Water Lab	Dave L	
b. Economic Study	Harold D	
c. Aquatic Invasive Species		
1) State of Minnesota Grant	Bill G	
2) Itasca County ETF for Boat Inspections	Bill G	
3) MN DNR AIS Education (PSA Grant)	Bill G	
4) Purple Loosestrife Eradication		2014 report received from Chris Evans
5) Itasca County Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (IC CISMA)	Mary B?	
F. 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT	Pat Leistikow	
G. 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS	Jan Sandberg	

County AIS, SWCD award, Lab change--shorten to quick and dirty with bullets