

Itasca Waters Board Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2022 4:30 pm online via Zoom

Attendance (quorum 6 of voting Board): Present (P), Absent (A), Excused(E), Left (L). Non-voting Technical Advisory Board

Board of Directors				Technical Advisory Board	
Sandy Anderson	P	Pat Leistikow	E	Andy Arens	A
Jan Best	E	David Lick	P	Benjamin Benoit	A
Kathy Cone	P	Shirley Loegering	P	Megan Christianson	A
Jesse Davis	P	Jan Sandberg	P	Stephanie Kessler	A
John Downing	P	Davin Tinquist	P	Eric Raitanen	A
Bill Grantges	P			Chad Severts	A
				Dan Swenson	A

Guests: Perry Loegering, Bethann Perendy

Agenda Items/ Attachments A#--	Key Discussion/ Outcomes	Follow-up Needed Who/When
Call to order	Meeting called to order by Jesse Davis at about 4:35 pm	
1. Agenda	The agenda was circulated in advance of the meeting. <i>Motion to approve the agenda. (Shirley Loegering, Kathy Cone)</i> M/S/U	
2. Financial Report 2.1 , 2.2 , 2.3 , 2.4 , 2.5	Pat was unable to attend. Bring your questions to her. <i>Motion to approve financial report. (Dave Lick, Shirley Loegering)</i> M/S/U	
3. Unfinished Business		
3.a 1W1P Update	Perry Loegering is a member of the Itasca County Watershed Plan Implementation Committee, WPIC. He has attended two meetings although the latest meeting was cancelled. Two issues: (1) work completed on the Upper Mississippi Watershed plan last summer. Next work (starting end of the summer) focuses on Upper Mississippi to Aitkin with many lakes in the Grand Rapids area. He hopes to represent IW in that work. (2) The other issue is that the existing plan has \$860,000 in projects for the five counties (30% for Itasca County). He has concerns that the SWCD won't have extra staff for this work. Dave asked if WPIC goes away if the 1W1P is in place—Kathy thought that it will not go away for now. Davin noted that it is pretty new.	
3.b Geologic Atlas	Discussion: if using memorial funds, trace back to memorial fund contributors, check with Pat if this is appropriate, consider applying for a Blandin grant. Can it be tied to shoreland?—probably not. <i>Motion to make a commitment of \$5,000 to the Geologic Atlas project, possibly using memorial funds with the balance from IW operating, pending a formal agreement with the Itasca SWCD.</i> (Shirley Loegering, John Downing) M/S/U	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shirley—check with Pat on use of Memorial funds • Shirley—communicate with memorial fund contributors • ??—consider applying for Blandin grant to incorporate this work
3.c Used Fishing Line Collection Tubes	Shirley updated members on the project's status. Bill G offered to have inspectors help empty tubes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shirley--followed up with Bill on emptying needs.

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3.d Clean Water Initiative Update	Question if we have any responsibility for follow up on this work—seems not. Some disappointment in lake association participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesse—contact Laura and Ed for September meeting to discuss further feedback and possible grant ideas
4. New Business		
4.a 2022 Modify Blandin Grant Use for Septic Systems	<p><i>Motion to approve modifying the Itasca Waters \$5,000 contribution to Itasca County Lake Associations and remaining \$5,155 for Deer Lake Association using funds 2018 Blandin grant funds for septic inspections from (1) payment of \$350 inspector's fees for 14 inspections to (2) payment of the up to \$550 for inspection and pumping for 18 inspections. (Dave Lick, Bill Grantges) M/S/U</i></p> <p>John Downing commented on the state requirement that septic systems must be inspected every three years. Who is responsible for enforcement? Is this something we can work with Environmental Services on? Sandy said that Aitkin and St. Louis do enforce the inspection at time of sale or setting up escrow and have information online. For Itasca County, it may be difficult to determine how many properties are compliant or had inspections.</p> <p>The new loan program may be more restrictive than originally envisioned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ??--Consider Blandin grant for some of these septic issues • John D--ask the SeaGrant Law Institute to figure out who is responsible for enforcing the three-year requirement. • Sandy & Jesse--Put out notice to realtors about inspection requirements
4.b Grantges Funding for County Fair AIS Booth	<p>Bill would like to work ICOLA and IW into the AIS booth. He is looking for partners for content and content and volunteers? Perhaps tap the new AIS Detectors.</p> <p><i>Motion to allocate \$250 from operating funds for the County Fair AIS Booth (Dave, John)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill--contact John D about SeaGrant information for the County Fair booth.
4.c Board Member Recruitment Committee	<p>Jesse asked for a chair volunteer. Several members volunteered to be on the committee—Jesse, John D, Bill G, Shirley</p> <p>Jesse asked members to send him their best elevator speech (why Itasca Waters).</p> <p>Kathy reported on Paddle & Pint—many challenges although the concept was fun.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan S—pull together info from the Deep Dive into one page • Jan S--resend meeting Deep Dive meeting notes.
5. Consent Agenda	<i>Motion to approve the consent agenda (John Downing, Dave Lick) M/S/U</i>	
5.a Minutes from Board meeting May 9, 2022		
5.b Follow Up List		
5.c Around the Horn Report for June 20, 2022		
6. Reports		
6.a President's Report		
6.b Coordinator/Office Report	<p>Bethann updated the Board on activities since the last meeting, including: (1)11 requests for SA visits (task list will be on the shared drive); (2) a bulletin goes out monthly to 530 emails (53% open rate), mailed to a few others; (3) some paid promotions including the Water Wisdom series. Her next big project is NCROC Visitors Day.</p> <p>Discussed hours—she is exceeding 20 hours per week in some pay periods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethann--send full report to Board members • Pat & Jesse—figure out strategy coordinator for hours

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6.c Education—Water Wisdom discussion	Shirley discussed her report, seeking topics for next year. Post event survey has had a change in format—need to work on improving responses. Quite a few are looking at the YouTube recordings which will now link directly to the website. Dave—working with Sam Friesen (builder) who wants to put together an education program next year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board—suggest topics for Water Wisdom series • Shirley--send the Water Wisdom info to Sam Friesen.
6.d Executive/ Governance Committee		
6.e Finance		
6.f Grants		
6.g Marketing—recent bulletin		
6.h Membership & Fundraising		
6.i Personnel		
6.j Planning		
6.k Shoreland Advisors		
6.l Vision/New Projects		
6.m Youth Water Summit	Dave—we spent \$8,200 of the \$9,300 budget, more than spent in previous years in part due to having to pay for some of Melanie's work.	
7. Other		
Adjournment	<i>Hearing no objection, Jesse adjourned the meeting at 6:00 pm</i>	

Upcoming Events

Dates will be added as approved

September 12, 2022 at 4:30 pm via Zoom

November 14, 2022 at 4:30 pm via Zoom

January 9, 2023 at 4:30 pm via Zoom

Executive Committee meetings are held as needed and communicated in advance to the Board and Technical Advisory Board.

As we have several members without Gmail addresses and to save me some time, I will continue to modify links in the future to allow anyone with a link to view. Last month I had restricted it to those linked to the Google Drive account but then had to give permission when someone without Gmail to access.

Follow Up Needed

Shirley—check with Pat on use of Memorial funds

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Jesse—contact Laura and Ed for September meeting to discuss further feedback and possible grant ideas

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John D--ask the SeaGrant Law Institute to figure out who is responsible for enforcing the three-year requirement.

Sandy & Jesse--Put out notice to realtors about inspection requirements

Bill--contact John D about SeaGrant information for the County Fair booth.

Jan S—pull together info from the Deep Dive into one page

Jan S--resend meeting Deep Dive meeting notes.

Bethann--send full report to Board members (sent 7-13-2022)

Pat & Jesse—figure out strategy for coordinator hours

Board—suggest topics for Water Wisdom series

Shirley--send the Water Wisdom info to Sam Friesen.