

Itasca Waters Board Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2023 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	Jessica Loes	P	Andy Arens	A	Chad Severts	A
Kathy Cone	P	McKeon Roberts	A	Benjamin Benoit	A	Dan Swenson	A
Jesse Davis	P	Jan Sandberg	P	Megan Christianson	A		
John Downing	E	Wes Sisson	E	Stephanie Kessler	E		
Bill Grantges	E	Cory Smith	A	Shirley Loegering	E		
David Lick	P			Eric Raitanen	A		

Coordinator: Bethann Perendy

Guests:

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	An agenda was circulated in advance of the meeting. <i>Motion to approve the agenda. (Sandy Anderson, Dave Lick)</i> M/S/U	
2. Financial Report	Sandy reported that financials just came in today. We are spending down the checking account (balance ~\$6,200) and money will need to be moved from savings (~\$75,000) by the end of the year. Currently most expenses other than the Coordinator are for the Youth Water Summit. Year to date expenses are \$28,000. We anticipate additional YWS expenditures—some presenters don't send an invoice. Also, some corrections are needed for the YWS and Sandy will meet with Bethann to clarify. <i>Motion to approve the Treasurer's report. (Dave Lick, Jessica Loes).</i> M/S/U	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandy & Bethann—review accountant's report and make corrections
3. Unfinished Business		
3.a. Itasca-SWCD WPIC Update A#3.a	Perry Loegering submitted a brief written report. All of the WPIC meetings are ongoing. Jesse suggested setting up meetings for this topic that would alternate with Board meetings to allow for more discussion.	
4. New Business		
4.a. Domain Name Issue	Background: IWLP rather than IW is linked to various reviewing organizations such as Charity Navigator and Propublica and is the name on the Articles of Incorporation A#4.a-1 . Are there any legal issues with keeping the DBA website name and dropping the official website name? Also see A#4.e-2 from Bethann. We are currently paying around \$100 to keep the IWLP domain name. <i>Consensus that we continue paying for both for now.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bethann—continue paying for IWLP domain name

Agenda Items/ Attachments A#--	Key Discussion/ Outcomes	Follow-up Needed Who/When
4.b. Indigenous People's Day Celebration	<p>Bethann reported on her text discussions with the organizer. The event is hosted by the Human Rights Commission, a day of family-oriented activities. Events will include a welcome from the Mayor and LLBO officials, the LLBO Drum Group, a community meal, DJ, street dancing, vendors, a film showing and Annie Humphrey's CD release party. The theme is Thriving Together.</p> <p>They are looking for an IW outdoor exhibit, Monday October 9, ~noon to 5 pm., between 4th and 5th street. There will be a talk about Water Walkers 4-4:45 pm. Jan, Jess, Jesse, and Dave offered to help. Suggestion to include the rain barrel.</p> <p><i>Consensus to move forward as discussed.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethann—coordinate logistics including volunteers for the Indigenous People's Day event.
4.c. 2024 Budget Considerations	<p>From Dave Lick: (1) funding the YWS in 2024 will take about \$6,000. (2) Shoreland will also need to be funded to buy seeds, soil and lunches for students. 2024 may also necessitate a community get together for volunteers. He suggests appropriating \$4,000.</p> <p><i>Consensus to roll these two requests into the 2024 budget to be presented in November with the understanding that YWS will be supported for next year.</i></p> <p>Dave—we need some younger folks to help on the YWS committee. Jessica is interested and Dave asked that she help find a few other folks and then generally described committee logistics.</p> <p>Dave believes we will need to write a grant for this and similar projects soon – we could approach past funders such as the Environmental Trust Fund, MN P&L, and perhaps individuals. Blandin funding—Dave said that they tasked for a proposal many months ago (see past minutes) and we decided to wait. Consider a five-year project. And what innovative things could we consider? Jesse—getting nowhere with Northland Foundation, Bush wants change affected at the local level (this is why Dave and Perry are working on WPIC and MS Headwaters)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandy—draft budget for November Board meeting to include Dave's requests • Jessica—explore additional folks to work on YWS
5. Consent Agenda	<i>Motion to approve the consent agenda (Dave Lick, Jessica Loes) M/S/U</i>	
5.a. Minutes from Board meeting July 10, 2023 A#5.a		
5.b. ICOLA minutes June A#5.b-1 and July A#5.b-2		
5.c. Jan/Secretary Duties A#5.c	Jessica is interested in serving as secretary starting in 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan S and Jessica—discuss Google Drive and other Secretary responsibilities
5.d. PCI Update A#5.d	Sandy reported that this has been completed	
6. Reports		

Agenda Items/ Attachments A#--	Key Discussion/ Outcomes	Follow-up Needed Who/When
6.a President's Report		
6.b Coordinator/Office Report		
6.c Education Water Wisdom Series A#6.c	Shirley's report notes that she will not be coordinating Water Wisdom next year and that if it is to continue, someone needs to step forward. Ideas for the future included focusing on a few events a year in person (RBC, Smoke on the Water), continue recordings, continue Zoom option (time of day?), take a year off to discuss strategy.	• Jan S—put Water Wisdom on agenda for November.
6.d Executive/ Governance Committee		
6.e Finance		
6.f Grants		
6.g Marketing		
6.h Membership & Fundraising		
6.i Personnel		
6.j Planning		
6.k Shoreland Advisors	Bethann reported that the Blue Thumb people are interested in a shoreland focused, intensely informational workshop, working with Jessica. Discussion about live event this fall and/or planning for next spring. Dave reported that Rachel from the school district wants to get started thinking about plants for next year. One thought--a spring shoreland event including students, focus on pollinators, buffers. May be too much for October although we should meet with the organizer. Those folks who have already buffered their shoreline should be brought in, including those who have done buffer plantings through SWCD.	• Bethann, ?—meet with Blue Thumb to discuss event options
6.l Vision/New Projects		
6.m Youth Water Summit		
7. Other		
Adjournment	<i>Hearing no objection, Jesse adjourned the meeting at 5:40 pm</i>	

Upcoming Meetings & Events

November 13 2023, January 8, 2024

All 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.

Follow Up Needed ✓ completed before minutes distributed

Bethann--Send Shoreland summary to Jan for the annual report

Bethann—continue paying for IWLP domain name

Bethann—coordinate logistics including volunteers for the indigenous People's Day event.

Bethann, ?—meet with Blue Thumb to discuss event options

Sandy & Bethann—review accountant's report and make corrections

Jan S—put Water Wisdom on agenda for November.

Jan S and Jessica—discuss Google Drive and other Secretary responsibilities

Jessica, McKeon--send bios to Jan S

Jessica—explore additional folks to work on YWS

McKeon--return signed policy forms to Jan S

Sandy—draft budget for November Board meeting to include Dave's requests