



ITASCA WATERS

Team Up for Clean Waters

Itasca Waters Board Meeting

Monday, 12 May 2025, 4:30 pm

Attendance (quorum 5 of voting Board): Present (P), Absent (A), Excused(E), Left (L). Non-voting Technical Advisory Board

Board of Directors				Technical Advisory Board	
Sandy Anderson	A	Jessica Loes	P	Andy Arens	A
Kathy Cone	P	Grace/Tom? McCullough	P/-	Benjamin Benoit	A
John Downing	P	Wes Sisson	P	Stephanie Kessler	A
Bill Grantges	P	Cory Smith	A	Eric Raitanen	P
Jack Jones	P	Christina VanDeventer	P	Chad Severts	A

Education Chair: Jan Sandberg

Coordinator: Bethann Perendy

The President may wish to suggest reorganizing the agenda for convenience.

-Please note that the meeting will be recorded and retained until approval of the meeting minutes.

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

Agenda Items/ Attachments	Key Discussion	Outcomes	Follow-up Needed Who/When
1. Opening Items			
1.a Call to order	Itasca Waters Board meeting is called to order at 4:30 pm		
1.b Confirm Quorum	Quorum = 50 percent of the voting members of the whole board, currently five		
1.c Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda. (Jack Jones, Wes Sisson) M/S/U	Motion	

2. Financial Report

2.a Financial Update	<u>2025 Budget-Expenditures</u> Summary: Spent \$6854 of budgeted of \$39,750 Checking Balance is \$5364.21 Recently paid \$600 for the Septic Test charged to PWW budget Savings Balance is: \$40,520 <i>Motion to approve the financial report. (John Downing, Jack Jones) M/S/U</i>	Motion	
3. Unfinished Business			
3.a Appointment	Kathy spoke with Dave and provided more information about the position. Kathy would like a report following their regular meetings. <i>Motion to formally appoint Dave Lick as the Itasca Waters representative to the Itasca Community Advisory Panel (ItascaCAP). (John Downing, Wes Sisson) M/S/U</i>	Motion	Kathy: contact Dave for report following ItascaCAP meetings.
3.b Tax Forfeited Land Sale	Through the Izaak Walton League, Perry Loegering learned about several bills to authorize the County to sell tax forfeited lakeshore land through private sales (no public discussion). Although the bills were eventually withdrawn, they could appear next session. Issues raised include DNR involvement, and the private sale process. Questions: is bill only for Itasca County (yes); who introduced this in the House (Igoe); unsure which commissioner was pushing it. Discussion about IW's limited ability to lobby (nonprofit status) vs. ability to educate.		Kathy?: gather additional information for discussion at future Board meetings. John: pull together a list of all tax forfeited land in Itasca County.
3.c Annual Report	<i>Motion to approve delaying completion of the 2024 annual report. (Christina VanDeventer, John Downing) M/S/U</i> Bethann reviewed possible sources such as the bulletins.	Motion	Jess will prepare the 2024 Annual Report

4. New Business

4.a Ratify Submission of Grant Application	A decision is likely in the summer although there is an initial step where we would need to argue our case. <i>Motion to approve the submission of a grant application to the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund by John Downing for the project titled: "Protecting 1000 Northern Lakes from Septic System Effluent". (Wes Sisson, Bill Grantges) M/S/U</i>	Motion	
4.b Ratify Use of Shoreland Guide	<i>Motion to allow Koochiching County to reproduce our Shoreland Guide, requiring acknowledgement of Itasca Waters and use of our logo. (John Downing, Wes Sisson) M/S/U</i>	Motion	
4.c Board List for Website	Review updated IW Board bios and photos for website solicited earlier from Board members		Sandy has already uploaded this to the website
4.d Members for Google Drive	Confirm List with Access to Google Drive for Shoreland Advisors Kathy worked with Austin Steere to update the list, had responses from all but one person. Mark Conover is also interested.		Jan: implement actions in document
4.e Thank you letters for Practical Water Wisdom	Consider letter jointly from IW and SeaGrant thanking PWW presenters to the presenter's supervisor.		Bethann develop letterhead/content that is easily modifiable with Sea Grant logo. John: determine if we need SeaGrant approval. Wes: adapt for previous season presenters.
4.f Technical Advisory Board Appointment	Eric–Ben was with Forest Service for a few years, now back to Leech Lake. Is he interested in continuing?		Kathy: contact Ben about continuing Put on agenda for July meeting

5. On-going Business

5.a Approval of Meeting Minutes from previous	March 10 2025 Board Minutes <i>Motion to approve the March 10, 2025 Itasca Waters Board meeting minutes. (Wesley Sisson, Christina VanDeventer) M/S/U</i>	Motion	
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Itasca Waters meeting			
5.b ICOLA Meeting Minutes	Website for published minutes: Itasca COLA Last meeting was April 16. Next meeting is June 18, 6 pm at the Courthouse ICOLA is using the IW Zoom option while they test workability, first using Bill's camera and then county equipment. Discussion to put time limit on ICOLA's use of the IW Zoom. Motion that IW will allow ICOLA to use IW Zoom for their remote meetings for one year, to be reviewed annually. (John Downing, Wes Sisson) M/S/U		Kathy: reach out to ICOLA about time limit.
5.c McCullough schedule	Grace will attend: May 12th 2025, July 14th 2025, January 12 2026 Tom will attend; September 8th 2025, November 17th 2025		
5.d Conflict of Interest Forms	We only have forms for Jess, Grace and Wes. Email request sent March 10. Discussion if forms are required yearly or carries over. Jack Jones noted that they must be done yearly. It is noted on the 990 tax form, page 6, item 12(a).		Bethann: send out COI form to all Board members.

6. Reports

6.a President's Report, Executive Committee	Kathy: recent work on list of Shoreland advisors, YWS		
6.b. Coordinator/ Office Report	Bethann: reported on recent activities including checking the mail box and finances. Also working on YWS (see below). She thought when she was hired it was as an assistant to the various committees, not the leader and asked if she should resign. General support from members that she continue. She hopes to find folks to take leadership in areas such as bulletins and membership.		
6.c. Education	Presentation Update includes list of topics and status		
6.d Grants	Grants data		

	John reviewed the current list and possible impact on grants given the current political environment.		All: put October mailing event on calendar early John: add link at end of PWW and to individual videos
6.e Membership	Discussion about typical practice: October-November, first emailed, then mail, separated by those current and lapsed. Kathy and others offered to help compile a mailing. possibly using the SWCD Board room or Sandy’s conference room. John asked if there is an easily forwarded membership invite.		
6.f Shoreland Advisors	See discussion above.		
6.g Youth Water Summit	Bethann feels we are on schedule despite late start. Previously thought it would need to be cancelled due to many presenter cancellations but apparently had sufficient presenters two weeks ago, still need a few volunteers. Schedules aren’t sent until the last minute. Sorted t-shirts today for the classrooms, same classroom folks will deliver them. We lost the pontoon boat for secchi disk due to water level. City won’t close the road and it would help to have more volunteers to help students cross the road. Next update to presenters and volunteers goes out May 13. Question about number of updates. If anyone has time or knows of a possible volunteer? Kathy asked those at meeting to come up with one name.		
6.h Other Committee Reports			
7. Other			
7.a Upcoming Board Meetings	Next Meeting: July 14, 2025, September 8, 2025, November 17, 2025 and January 12, 2025. All at 4:30 pm via Zoom Dates will be added as approved		
7.b Upcoming Events		.	

7.c Sandberg absence	I will be out of the country for the September meeting. My last meeting is July 2025 although I will complete those minutes.		
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8. Adjournment

6:40 pm