



ITASCA WATERS

Team Up for Clean Waters

Itasca Waters Board Meeting

Monday, 14 July 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	P	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	E	
Jack Jones	P	Christina VanDeventer	A	Chad Severts	- A	

Education Chair and acting Secretary: 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 4:30pm		
1.b Confirm Quorum	Quorum = 50 percent of the voting members of the whole board, currently five	Quorum established	
1.c Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda. Bill added item for discussion under new business and Jess added forestry survey. Motion to approve the agenda as amended. (Wes Sisson, Jess Loes) M/S/U	Motion	

2. Financial Report

2.a Financial Update	Sandy sent a financial report. She noted: YTD our checking account is slim with \$3862 and savings account has been dwindling to cover expenses. Savings is currently at \$35,536 after transfers to checking. Our YTD expenses have been approximately \$14,000 of the budgeted amount of \$39,750. We are under our budgeted amounts for each of our projects. We don't have all the actual numbers yet for YWS but we should still be under the budget of \$8500. With only \$35,536 in our savings we will deplete a good portion of that by year end. <i>Motion to approve the financial report. (John Downing, Wes Sisson)</i>	Motion	
3. Unfinished Business			
3.a Thank you letters for Practical Water Wisdom	Draft letter jointly from IW and SeaGrant thanking PWW presenters to the presenter's supervisor. Continue discussion in September. <i>Motion to approve next steps for thank you letter for PWW. (Wes Sisson, Sandy Anderson) M/S/U</i>		John will draft content-see- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zopa6al7RMLv076tppKBIYA9pbiJyk0efRABLx3omc0/edit?usp=sharing Jan to send John list of title, speakers, emails. Wes adapt for previous season presenters
3.b Technical Advisory Board Appointment			Kathy to contact Ben Benoit about position on TAB
. New Business			
4.a We are Water Project	The deadline has passed but discuss if the Board has the capacity to take on a project of this size. Discussion that we should focus on doing a few things well, feels like we are at capacity. There might be an option to host storyboards outdoors.		Jess will gather information about the storyboard idea for the next meeting.
4.b Watershed Planning	Separate planning for Bigfork and Littlefork watersheds 1W1P is starting in July. See email from Matt Gutzmann to Perry Loegering.		Members are encouraged to attend.

4.c IW Calendar	I created this calendar years ago. The next Secretary might find an updated version useful.		
4.d Fair	Bill Grantges noted AIS will be in the Natural Resources building with similar agencies. He has 20 feet to fill. We have the static display used for NCROC, ICOLA.. John offered to add AV equipment. Kathy—the annual report could be available.		Those interested in helping should contact Bill: Grace could help Saturday and Sunday. Bill will stop at the office to look at existing materials and will contact Jessica.
4.e Forestry Survey	Jessica reported on survey goals. They want data such as area of impact and location. John—our influence is county wide. Are we qualified to do this? Kathy mentioned SWCD involvement. Jack—can there be a storyboard on impact? Approach needs to be simple.		John will set up a Zoom call with Jessica about the questions.

5. On-going Business

5.a Approval of Meeting Minutes from previous Itasca Waters meeting	May 12 2025 Board Minutes <i>Motion to approve the May 12, 2025 Board minutes. (Wes Sisson, Sandy Anderson) M/S/U</i>	Motion	
5.b ICOLA Meeting Minutes	Website for published minutes: Itasca COLA Minutes from last meeting, June 17. Next meeting is July 16, 4 pm Wabana Town Hall featuring Katie Benes, Itasca County Environmental Services Director, please RSVP Kathy was to reach out to ICOLA about the Zoom time limit: John felt that this is an inexpensive way to support ICOLA.		Jess to ask ICOLA if the Zoom option is useful and report back in September
5.d 2025 Conflict of Interest Forms	We have forms for Christina, Jess, Grace, Wes, Jack, Sandy, Kathy, Grace, Tom and Bill. Still need John and Cory.		.

6. Reports

6.a President's Report, Executive Committee	Kathy noted the need to look ahead, path forward, the need for new Board members, funding, grants, and financial/secretary/president persons. John added that for the recent LCCMR submission, we did not get funded or invited to give a presentation although not at the bottom of the list.		Set up special meeting to discuss organizational issues. John would like to work with others to put together a proposal—Grace, Jack, Jess, Wes, Sandy. John & Bethann work with Jess on the annual report.
6.b. Coordinator/ Office Report	Bethann reported working minimal hours (35 last week). Two requests for shoreland advisor help -- reaching out to Kathy's contacts. Several past events are no longer in process: NCROC was cancelled, and we did not participate in Paddle and Pint. The native planting work with the high school was also a no go, they used last year's seeds.		Bethann – contact shoreland advisor for the two recent requests. Bethann – ask Steph if there is room at the annual meeting for an IW table. Bethann & Bill – meet to discuss County Fair
6.c. Education	Presentation Update includes a list of topics and status. The TEK presentation has been postponed to January 2026, instead there will be a presentation on wildfire and water, details in process. John is working on February and March. Bethann discovered that Michigan State University has a link to PWW programs Link: https://www.canr.msu.edu/michiganlakes/online-learning It was part of a Facebook post: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1PD2w8bz1i/ Bluesky https://bsky.app/profile/msue-lakes-streams.bsky.social/post/3lrb2lze7tc2k		
6.d Grants	Grants data		
6.e Membership	From May meeting: put October mailing event on calendar early		

	John: add link at end of PWW and to individual videos		
6.f Shoreland Advisors			
6.g Youth Water Summit			
6.h Other Committee Reports			
7. Other			
7.a Upcoming Board Meetings	Next Meeting: 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			
8. Adjournment			

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm