ITASCA WATERS

Team Up for Clean Waters

Itasca Waters Board Meeting

Monday, 13 July 2026, 5:00-7:00 pm via Zoom

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*		*Grace McCullough*	*E*	*Andy Arens*	*A*
Cary Bates	*P*		*Tom McCullough*	*P*	*Benjamin Benoit*	*A*
Glen Bergstrand	*P*		*Darla Nelson*	*P*	*Eric Raitanen*	*A*
John Downing	*P*		*Jan Sandberg*	*P*	*Chad Severts*	*A*
Jack Jones	*P*		*Cory Smith (nonvoting)*			
Stephanie Kessler	*P*					

Grace and Tom McCullough share a single position

Coordinator: Bethann Perendy

Guest: Rose Lawler

*-Please **review** the follow up list of tasks sorted by topic at the bottom of this agenda.*

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

Agenda Items/ *Attachments*	**Key Discussion**	**Action**	**Follow-up Needed / Who, When**
1. Opening Items			
1.a Call to order	Itasca Waters Board meeting called to order at 5:02 pm		
1.b Confirm Quorum	Quorum = 50 percent of the voting members of the whole board, currently five	Confirmed	
1.c Agenda	*Motion to approve the agenda as distributed before the meeting with addition of 4.d Well Project (Glen Bergstrand, Darla Nelson) M/S/U*	Motion	

2. Financial Report			
2.a Financial Update	Sandy reported that our expenses so far this year are approximate $18,117; Running Checking account balance: $9831; Savings account $30,603 Contributions through June are $22,170 (large donation plus those from the donor campaign) which have all been put in the checking account for operations. Of that the June contributions were $1,135–some came in after that. *Motion to accept the financial report. (John Downing, Glen Bergstrand) M/S/U*	Motion	
2.b 2026 Budget Detail			
3. Unfinished Business			
3.a YWS	Discussion about MN Power grants and YWS: In the past we used leftover Blandin money but that ran out. Last submitted to MN Power Foundation a few years ago. Update: thank you cards sent out to presenters and volunteers and supply donors, no big thank you ad in Herald Review this year. May have a meeting in the next few months to consider revising signs for stations (to be more consistent within a building or area).		Tom & Steph: Follow up with MN Power Foundation for possible grant
3.b Donor Event	RSVP #s are very small–three couples. *Consensus to push a reminder every few weeks, asking for an RSVP*. Honorarium for John L– maybe not needed. Steph's goal is not to incur costs. Bring food that looks good on a plate–sign up using link to right. Steph link to 12 IW topics for organization going forward – review from link on right John–Hilarie is running a program on algal blooms and chloride wants to have a table that will include a digital microscope to view volunteered samples, test kits.		Board: sign up for food on To do list for event Review Event list with topics: Bethann: coordinate Sandy, Darla and Jan help to find materials Bethann: invite YWS volunteers and presenters regardless of donation
3.c Fundraising Campaign	Bethann reported that donations from the email campaign are less than $2000. EarthCircle disbanded and donated about $600 to IW.		

3.d Committees/ Google Drive	Review **proposed list** Our current set of Google Drive folders is confusing and outdated. As they are driven by committee structure, it would be helpful to reset the committees. Then archive some and reorganize other folders. One complication is that Google Drive sets up membership in the root folder, subfolders have the same membership although they can have more generous rights, not less generous.		Jan: add Committees/Google Drive to agenda for September
3.e Board Member Recruitment	We previously voted in Rose Lawler in but she is still working with her current lake association on starry stonewort		Jan: add Rose Lawler to agenda for September
4. New Business			
4.a Remove Board and TAB members	*Motion to abolish the current TAB, with the objective to reformulate as a task-oriented board. (John Downing, Jack Jones) M/S/U* *Motion to drop Cory Smith from the Board due to attendance requirements, discuss possible replacement at a future meeting (Jan Sandberg, Tom McCullough) M/S/U*	Motion	Jan: add September agenda item to determine desired composition of TAB–amend bylaws if necessary. Include links to past discussion including **Potential Board Members** Bethann: send email to current Tab
4.b. Jess Loes Resignation	*Motion to accept Jess Loes resignation with thanks for her work. (John Downing, Tom McCullough) M/S/U*	Motion	
4.c New laptop and phone	Bethann has not yet found a possible replacement for the laptop but plans to check with Randy at Viacomm. One option is a rehabbed Apple product. She needs to work with Pat Leistikow to add Bethann to the phone account in order to replace the phone.		Bethann: coordinate new equipment with Steph and Sandy
4.d RFP Well Project **Narrative**	John Connelly asked for IW support for a grant to provide free private well testing to residents of Itasca County (arsenic, coliform bacteria, lead, manganese, and nitrate). Public Health will be working with Itasca County Environmental Services. Help is needed to help spread the word,at no cost, with various educational items. *Support the well project grant application recommended by John Connelly (John Downing, Jack Jones) M/S/U*	Motion	
5. On-going Business			
5.a Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes	**May 18, 2026 Minutes** *Motion to approve the May 18, 2026 minutes. (John Downing, Glen Bergstrand) M/S/U*	Motion	

5.b ICOLA	Website for published minutes: Itasca COLA Minutes from last meeting The upcoming 2026 Meetings will be: July 15 (annual potluck), October 21		

6. Committee Reports			
6.a President's Report, Executive Committee	Steph suggested we all wear a Team Up blue t-shirt		
6.b. Coordinator Report	Follow up on To Do list for items from last meeting NCROC report Disappointing turnout but the booth looked great		
6.c. Education	Update on current PWW Discuss use of IW membership list and other strategies to advertise PWW. Notes from recent meeting with 2027 topic ideas		
6.d Grants	Septic grant – John reported that he was not invited to give a presentation and therefore not funded–funding cutbacks significant. What do we need for a more attractive presentation, e.g. letters of support, key players like Katie Benes. Also consider alternative funding agencies. Consensus to continue working on this.		John: Try to schedule a Grants meeting before next Board meeting
6.e Donor/ Membership	See above		
6. f Shoreland Advisors			
6.g Youth Water Summit	See comments above		
6.h Other Committee Reports			

7. Other			
7.a Upcoming Board Meetings	Upcoming: September 21, November 16, January 18 (MLK Day)		
7.b Upcoming Events	August 3 – donor event		.
8. Adjournment			

Adjourned ~6:50 pm

Follow-Up List of Tasks from Previous Meeting by Topic

✔ indicates task completion.

Financial:

Exec Committee: Consider press release about the Dina donation.

Membership Event

Board: sign up for food on To do list for event,
Review Event list with topics
Bethann: coordinate Sandy, Darla and Jan help to find materials
Bethann: invite YWS volunteers and presenters regardless of donation

Board Members/Recruitment

Tom: Approach Waste Management about participation
Steph: Devise application for the Board via social media
Board: With Jess leaving we will need a new annual report coordinator

TAB

John & Steph: determine whether/how to inform current TAB members about continuing?
Board: For September meeting, re-engage TAB, possibly involve in grant writing

Coordinator:

Bethann: coordinate new equipment with Steph and Sandy
Bethann: send email to current Tab

Grants

Tom & Steph: Follow up with MN Power Foundation for possible grant

John: Try to schedule a Grants meeting before next Board meeting

YWS Update

Board: Send Bethann ideas for business support (in-kind and donations) for YWS for 2027

Agenda for September

Jan: add Committees/Google Drive to agenda for September

Jan: add Rose Lawler to agenda for September

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