

The Pine River Watershed Alliance  
Board Meeting Minutes October 15, 2019  
Ideal Community Center  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

**Board Member Attendees:** Ron Meyer, Steve Roe, Jim Chamberlin, Tom Kushel, Clay Shulte, Gordy Reller, John Forney, & Sheila Boldt.

**Via Teleconference:** Jodi Billy

**(1) There was a motion Gordy Reller seconded by Jim Chamberlin , to approve the 10/15/2019 agenda. Motion carried.**

**(2) There was a motion by John Forney seconded by Gordy Reller, to approve the 9/17/2019 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.**

**(3) Committee Reports**

*- Finance*

**A. There was a motion by Jim Chamberlin seconded by Clay Shulte, to approve purchasing the same insurance as previous years for the upcoming year (cost of \$915) for directors and officers of The PRWA. Motion carried.**

- Paid \$75 for membership with The Cass County Farm Bureau.

*- Membership*

A. Fall Newsletter – Address labels from Steve & Ron is writing a letter. Inserts will also be sent

*- Land and Waters*

A. Barb & Jodi are joining on behalf of PRWA, there has not been a meeting recently for updates.

*- Conservation/Enbridge*

*- Newsletter*

A. Sheila is coordinating, please have the following articles to her by Wednesday October 23<sup>rd</sup>

1. 1W1P/Grazing Project: **Ron/Melissa**
2. Ag/Soils: **Jim Chamberlin**
3. Local Project Highlight (photos): **Ron will contact Washburn**
4. L&W Grant, highlight last year project (s)? : **Ron?**
5. Pipeline Update? **Barb?**
6. Crosslakers/Loon Center: **John Forney**
7. New Board Member Highlight: ~~Loyd & Clay~~

## 8. Comments from The Chair: ~~Ron~~

### - Land and Ag

A. Abe Hollister (surveys) came in contact with Jeff Forester and discussion of a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) with meat ordering in the future.

### - Website/Facebook

A. Updates to projects (1W1P) need to be added to the website

B. Sheila continues to post to FB – continue sending her articles or photos.

## (4) Upper Whitefish Project – Consultant?

- We're currently doing short-term projects and solutions. To make a dramatic impact we need to have the watershed 75% protected. Currently the watershed is only 50-60% managed/protected property.

- Dick Osgood is a potential consultant to do a comprehensive plan and view all details about The Whitefish Chain.

*\*is educated as a scientist (MS Aquatic Ecology & Geology; BS Biology), experience as an Environmental Planner and is a Certified Lake Manager (one of only 75 in the world), and has worked for and with public, private and non-profit organizations. Dick specializes in developing lake management plans, invasive species management, diagnostic studies, modeling and alum dosing. Dick has authored numerous scientific journals papers, made hundreds of presentations at professional meetings, is the author of regular columns and has frequently served as an expert witness. Dick is also trained as a mediator and facilitator. Dick has served on the Board of Directors of The North American Lake Management Society (Past President), Minnesota Waters and Minnesota Lakes Association (Officer & Public Policy Committee Chair), Conservation Minnesota, Excelsior Rotary Board and The South Lake-Excelsior Chamber of Commerce Board. Dick has invited delegate to The Symposium on The Ecological Basis and for The Lake and Reservoirs Management at The University of Leicester, England, is a co-instructor of the Alum Workshop at The Annual North American Lake Management Society Workshop, has authored a chapter in the book 'Managing Lakes & Reservoirs' and Dick's consulting business, Osgood Consulting, was named The North American Lake Management Society's Outstanding Corporation in 2005.*

- Clay mentioned that the percentage of protected land also includes potlatch and school trust lands that may change hands and change to unprotected status. We may actually go down in the percentage of protected lands in the watershed. These lands need to be permanently preserved (conservation easements as an option).

- It was mentioned hiring one person full-time to be a spokesperson for The Whitefish Chain. They could attend planning and zoning meetings and speak on behalf for example, lots that are being completely developed and the impervious surface amounts not examined thoroughly.

**(5) RDO**

A. Have not heard back yet.

**(6) 1W1P October 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting**

A. Overall a successful meeting, dialog and roundtable discussion with approximately 50 people.

**(7) Winter Plans**

A. We will meet next month in November at Ideal as normal – Gordy might be in charge of the meeting, Ron will coordinate with him.

**(8) Back to Basics**

A. Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 – Applications being accepted for presenters and Vendors – Watershed Model Educational Workshop?

**(9) Board Comments**

John Forney – Was impressed by The 1W1P Meeting on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

- Update on Highway 66 stormwater project: access to part of a property has been granted.

Jim Chamberlin – Largest pasture at personal farm is about 9 acres, used to be corn repeatedly. When purchased around the year 2000, seeded the area for pasture. In 2003 learned about Keyline installation to maintain water retention/soaking. Whenever there is a 1-3” rain or in the springtime (snow melt) the keylines always have water in them. Installed keylines above other ones where other people thought unnecessary – they ended up holding water and it never made it to the lower keylines. Therefore keeping the soil, nutrients and water intact up higher on the field.

Tom Kuschel - Salt application education workshops are important and should be continued.

Sheila Boldt - Hosted a RIM BWS Tour (ppl from St. Paul that process behind the scenes), Chloride numbers taken as samples from lakes along county roads will be shared with everyone once we understand the results.

Ron Meyer – Will let everyone know a more exact date for going South.

Steve Roe – Thankful for Jim Chamberlin and Sheila Boldt that are close to the action and able to help.

Gordy Reller – Attended Jodi Eberhardt’s solar home tour on Ossi. The entire house was very environmentally conscious. All of these small landowners are doing their part and trying to go forward when other larger operations are going backwards. The City of Emily has gotten out of the recycling business, Crosslake is not accepting plastic to recycle anymore.

Clay – Mexican party was a success, local conservation leaders attended. Preservation of the watershed is Clay’s focus.