

## PRWA Board update January, 2020

These email updates replace normal Board meeting minutes to keep information flowing regarding our efforts.

### Committee Reports

- (1) Finance – Balance sheet reflects a \$91,033.48 balance through December of 2019. We are now receiving larger donations and any at or above \$250 need to have a receipt letter identifying amount and date. Steve is doing this.
- (2) Membership – Membership donations for our fall mailing are \$11,535. This is a great response and primarily driven by long time supporters who have increased their donations. Although this is great we need to increase the number of members. A real challenge.
- (3) Land and Waters – I have received only one grant application so far with the end date being Feb. 1. I have sent this application to the L&W Committee for review.
- (4) Website updates – This time of year I update projects and add new ones. I have asked Melissa to help with the 1W1P update. Other new projects are Upper Whitefish, 319 Small Watershed Grant, and Grazing Management Project.

### Upper Whitefish

Tony Coffey and I have been working with a consultant, Dick Osgood, to address what actions need to be taken to address and hopefully eliminate the situation that happened in 2018. Dick has provided a Management Plan draft that will be completed in a week with the addition of two more pieces of information. I believe the plan will be very useful as we move forward. Two comments from my review are: the algae issue will be difficult to both understand and control; I like that Dick offered a target for TP in all three basins of Whitefish at 15ug/L. The typical range for TP for lakes in our region is from 14 - 27ug/L. Presently Upper is at 24, Middle is 15 and Lower is 14. To bring all three basins to the same level seems like a good idea but I am assuming the challenge to do that won't be easy.

### Crow Wing Forage Basin Winter seminar

The seminar is Feb. 20, 2020. Sheila is handling the arrangements so if you want to attend please contact her.

### 1W1P

We continue to work on the Grazing Management Project. Our initial meeting after the general survey of producers in the area identified 12 who would like to work on improving grazing management practices. The plan is to meet with these people and create specific plans. We have worked with Jon Teune in the past on the Arvig Creek site. The creek bed has been revegetated but we also wanted to use cover crops on the adjacent farm field. Initial efforts didn't work. In a discussion with John he has proposed we try a cover crop effort on another one of his fields that he believes has more erosion and runoff issues. I agreed and ask him to develop that plan and PRWA would look at supporting it or using 1W1P monies.

### Back to the Basics Seminar in Pine River

The Back to the Basics Seminar is on Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> in Pine River. Sheila is handling the planning and will be presenting so contact her if you want to attend.

#### The State Of Water Conference

The State of Water Conference is set for April 30 –May 1<sup>st</sup> at Grand Casino Mille Lacs. This has a very state wide information it has been interesting to see what is happening in other areas. We won't do a booth but I do plan on attending. Sheila is working with Bonnie Finnerty or a similar program but focused at our area. This is one more of us should attend.