

PRWA Board Update February, 2020

This is an email update on activities that have continued through the winter and are a replacement for Board meeting minutes.

(1) Committee Reports

- Finance – Steve reported that we had received a donation from Your Cause and wanted to be able to determine who the contributor was in order to properly thank them. He is working with Your Cause to get that information.
PRWA needs an annual budget planning process. Ron hopes to have a draft by our April meeting.
Our quarterly contract for services for CW SWCD will be paid, \$2,795.20.
- Membership
There still needs to be a focused active project to expand our membership.
Steve was at a Mississippi Headwaters group meeting and was pushing PRWA.
This winter Ron has received a number of communications from other environmental groups around the state. How do we learn about these organizations and somehow coordinate activity and efforts?
- Land and Waters
There was only one grant app received this year and it didn't fit the grant criteria. The deadline has past so the money that would have been granted will move to next year.
- Website
The project updates are complete and will be sent to Tasha to update the Website.

(2) Upper Whitefish

A final draft from our consultant Dick Osgood has been received. Besides our review we asked John Persell who has worked with PRWA in the past to review. We will now develop the work plan from the draft and review.

(3) Grazing Management

- The project continues. Abe and Denny who did the initial survey that identified 13 land owners who would like to work to improve their grazing management practices will now contact these people to work up work plans. Ron has committed to John Tuene that PRWA will support a cover cropping plan for one of his fields. His initial effort on his field by Arvig Creek was unsuccessful.

(4) CW Forage Basin Winter seminar

- Thanks to Sheila for her efforts at the seminar. The attendance was good and the responses from the seminar attendees were very positive.

(5) Back to the Basics Seminar

- Again thanks to Sheila for her efforts and Gordy and Steve who attended. The number of people attending seems to be growing and the interaction increasing.

(6) Up the Creek Meats

- The focus of the Winter Seminar was on helping local producers market their product. Jeff Forester, MLA, attended the Harvest Dinner and spent time with Abe Hollister who is working the grazing management project. Jeff then met with some of the Cows for Clean Water team to discuss how to support local producers who are practicing good land

- management practices and following good soil health principles. The idea is too work with local producers and connect them to lake associations. Lake associations should be interested in working with this group of farmers because their practices protect our waters.
- I will be working with one producer to bring their product to the association of Cass County Lakes (ACCL) to see if we can generate a market.

(7) Networking

- Ron had an interview sponsored by a Foundation on our mission and activity as well as our networking with HDT and other organizations. What was realized was a great deal of PRWA's success is from the networks we have built over the years. We need to understand better how we can network with HDT. At our April meeting I will ask Jim to talk about HDT and their Mission and Vision and then ask our Board how we do more with them.