



## Monthly Board Meeting Minutes February 16, 2021

Via Zoom

4:00 pm – 5:45 pm

**Board Member Attendees:** Ron Meyer, John Forney, Steve Roe, Jim Brandt, Scott Lucas, Sheila Boldt, Jodi Billy, Barb Courneya & Jodi Eberhardt.

**Guests:** Bob Karls (NWLTL) & Darril Wegscheid.

### (1) Agenda Approval

**There was a motion by Ron Meyer seconded by John Forney , to approve the 2/16/2021 PRWA Board Meeting agenda. Motion carried.**

### (2) Approval of Previous Minutes

**There was a motion by John Forney seconded by Jodi Billy, to approve the 1/19/2021 PRWA Monthly Board Meeting minutes. Motion carried.**

### (2) Finance

- Finance
  - o Collecting \$ so far this year, not technically fund-raising time (\$5k so far). Steve Roe completed Government filings (IRS, MN etc.). We have to report individual donations to the IRS (Anyone who donates over \$1,000 gets noted but over \$5,000 is officially reported).
- Land and Waters
  - o 3 grant requests have been received and will begin review in late February. 1 additional is coming from CW SWCD.
- Website/Facebook
  - o Continue posting and sharing educational information.
- Land and Ag
  - o Forage Basin internal meeting Friday to finalize tours. No winter meeting has been planned but there will be summer tours in 2021.
- Conservation/Enbridge



- o Enbridge is working fast to complete Line 3 installation. Requests to shut down construction by tribal members in court was not approved. Cost of the pipeline has increased by \$1.1 Billion. Protests and arrest@arrests to continue. The claim is that rail and cargo traffic will be decreased but it may actually increase. (Safety on the roads and rails was one argument for line 3).
- Membership
  - o Spring mailing in April/May as a membership drive.

#### (5) 1W1P

- i. Need to get projects on the ground, hopefully in priority areas. Discussed how things were prioritized, costs of projects in high, variety of size of projects. Example is RALALA plans for one specific landing project, 10 site visits with landowners and signage/education. No specific application, put together lake study with Moriah/Melissa and then formulate project ideas with landowners etc.

#### (6) Upper Whitefish

- a. Ron has been looking further into Biochar and other next summers water testing process needs to be established.

#### (7) Up the Creek Meats

- a. Trying to direct people to the website for people to purchase individually.
- b. Communicating through newsletters about the project to reach people.
- c. Website: Fish and Water Conservation Fund:  
<https://www.fishandwatersconservationfund.org/up-the-creek-meats/>
- d. Happy Dancing Turtle is funding an intern to help further this summer with the project.
- e. Other lakes are showing interest in doing this pilot project, waiting to see how this goes first before beginning elsewhere.

#### (8) PRWA Media

December: Trout Lakes Camp Article:

Press Release published by [Echo/Pine and Lakes](#) and [Northland Press](#)

329 Views on the blog site through Facebook and e-mail promotion

January: Protect Your Septic From Freezing:

170 views, promoted through facebook

February Plans:

- Highway 66 runoff – Sending Press Release
- Eberhardt Steep Slopes on Ossie - use to promote [Sheila's talk](#) at back to basics



Drafts:

- Lake Stewards on the Gull Chain - Recognizing Dorothy Whitmer and Gull Lake Steward Program. Paste into address bar of browser, word can't open the link: <http://tinyurl.com/3df12qzx>
- How to Create a Lake Steward Program – partnership with MLR Paste into address bar of browser, word can't open the link [tinyurl.com/1xrr618v](http://tinyurl.com/1xrr618v)

Proposed Topics:

- Sustainable Ag
  - o What is Sustainable Agriculture
  - o Up the Creek Meats
  - o Stories on Individual Farms/Video tours in the summer
- Conservation Easements
  - o Star Lake Camp Conservation Easement
  - o How to get help to create an Easement
- Pelican Lake Water testing program and reminder that everyone should test their water
- Lakeshore video tours – summer. Bar Harbor, area homes, other suggestions?

(9) Record Retention Opportunity

- a. Send Ron an email to assist with record retention.

(10) Grassland 2.0

- a. Education system Jim has applied for funding. Meeting with people from Grassland 2.0 was held but decision if we will get the support has not be received.

(11) Teune Cover Crop Project

- a. In process of planning for 2021.

(12) HDT Cows for Clean Water

- a. Jim has sent out a calendar for people to sign-up for a brainstorming session of how to move forward.

(13) Board comments

- a. Jim Brandt
  - Question – Clayton is leaving The CW SWCD, who replace? Hiring right now, easement and forester through the end of the week. We'll all miss Clayton!
- b. Barb Courneya
  - Receiving 2<sup>nd</sup> covid shots and spending Easter with children and grandchildren. Haven't lost the enbridge fight completely.
- c. Bob Karls – Northern Waters Land Trust (NWLTL)
  - <https://youtu.be/V3Afr5cqh9o> = Video about NWLT



- <http://northernwaterslandtrust.org/> Click on the Landowner Options tab. On the pulldown menu click Options for Landowners. Here you will find the Landowner Options Booklet.
- d. Sheila Boldt
  - Back to Basics. Somewhat on maternity leave through March 29<sup>th</sup>. SWCD Technician and intern positions hiring now, our offices will be backed up with work somewhat this spring. Might have easement potentials for NWLT, Adam will be in touch but he's very busy at the moment. Tree and plant sale ending soon, get order in for projects!
- e. Jodi Eberhardt
  - Jodi can assist with record retention, you don't necessary want to save too much.
- f. Steve Roe
  - Should be involved with record retention. Have boxes of PRWA information, what to do with this? Sheila has some of the data record at The CW SWCD office. Welcome to store at the office in a filing cabinet etc. Is there someone that can help with record keeping, treasury etc.
- g. Darril Wegscheid
  - Video shared: Annie Johnson, Why Protecting The Land Protects the Water video superb.
  - Working with ATV club to create a new trail to the East of Lawrence/Smokey Hollow/Ruth and go through the county/state lands versus the ditched (safer). Might include conservation easements of some sort to preserve this trail.
  - Stewardship with NWLT, place a planting in Outing by the gas station (previously DNR). Will be trying to promote Land and Waters
- i. Tom Kuschel
  - Pine River city engineer would have the knowledge of that particular situation (Information from Melissa at CW SWCD).
- j. John Forney
  - With regards to records, does not think he's qualified. Crosslakers are moving forward with the fourth project, by the Crosslake Charter School and The Pine River (between the dam and the bridge). Involving the county highway, city works, Corp. of engineers etc.
- k. Scott Lucas
  - Shared experience during investigation.
- l. Ron Meyer
  - Harvest Dinner is being planned but a decision on whether we can hold it or not will be made in early July.