

Bayfield County Aquatic Invasive Species Committee



MINUTES

November 30, 2016 (to be approved)

Present: Nan Olson, Jim Krueger, Jeremy Oswald, Mike Defoe, Sally Pease, William Bussey

Staff: Andrew Teal, AIS Coordinator

Absent: Sarah Boles

Attendance: Adam Haecker, NCWMA Coordinator; Arianna Austin, LWCD Clerk

1. Call to Order: Nan called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM.

2. Introductions: Brief introductions conducted for our newest committee member.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Motion: Approve minutes from September 14, 2016 AIS Committee meeting. Bussey / Krueger – carried.

- Grant Updates: Andy noted that the funds from AIS #4 have been used in full. AIS #5 began being spent in October and should last through 2019. Clean Boats Clean Water - Iron River (CBCW-IR) was fully used for 2016. Nan had questions about the match that we billed Long Lake, and would like to review the amounts with Andy after the meeting. The deadline for 2017 CBCW grants is December 10, 2016. We anticipate a notification of funding approval in mid-February. Andy will notify the group if the grants are approved. Clean Boats Clean Water - Lake Superior (CBCW-LS) had difficulty covering four landings with two interns. Andy suggested dropping down to three landings and noted that getting more interns has been a challenge in recent years. Nan suggested reaching out to the UW schools to recruit additional interns. Andy noted that Northland does contribute \$3 per hour, which counts toward grant match dollars. Adam suggested reaching out to Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC) as well. Jeremy asks which landings are currently covered: Loon's Foot, Second Landing, City of Bayfield and Washburn Marina. Adam stated that the Northwest Cooperative Weed Management Area (NCWMA) will also need two interns to use the boat washer next summer. Jeremy would like to see the grant continue to cover four landings. Jim suggested placing a newspaper ad to recruit interns, as the Namakagon Lake Association has had success with retired citizen volunteers. Nan noted Long Lake has had success with local high school students. Several committee members echoed that the \$3 match from Northland is not as important as having a greater number of landings covered. Jeremy suggested working with local 4-H students as well as Bayfield Sea Scouts.
- 6. Discussion Future of DNR funding allocation for AIS Coordinators: A proposed redistribution of \$600,000 funds would change funding as of spring 2019. Coincidentally, the current (2016-2018) AIS grant will end around that time. The DNR could potentially distribute the funds evenly between the 72 Wisconsin counties at about \$8,300 per county. This would shift from the current competitive grant application process for larger amounts of funding to smaller yet stable contracts between the DNR and counties. Bill clarified that this would change the current funding in Bayfield County from the current \$60,000 (approximately) per year to \$8,300 per year. Andy noted that other funding sources would need to be obtained, which may result in less concentration on AIS activities. The code revision research is being conducted by many individuals within the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Jeremy stated that he is willing to advocate on behalf of the county. Note: this is only one of a few possible funding distribution scenarios the DNR is discussing and considering at this time. There are going to be public hearings about the drafted rule for the code in 2017.
- 7. Discussion Future waterfowl hunter invasive species outreach: This topic was discussed at a recent conference, with a thorough demonstration of the equipment that needs cleaning. A YouTube video has been discussed on how hunters and trappers can clean between using different lakes. Nan suggested including this as a topic for the Northwest Wisconsin Lakes Conference. Adam is on the planning committee and will relay the suggestion.
- AIS Coordinator Report: Andy shared some of the recent activities and control work he has participated in reviewed and on-file.
- 9. Partner/Department Reports:

Lake Ecology Education Program (LEEP): None

Northwest Cooperative Weed Management Area (NCWMA): Adam winterized the equipment in the tool shed, with the help of Isaiah Messerly and Andy Teal. Field season priorities for 2017 will be discussed in January. Adam has been working on grant applications, including two grants from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) which are due in January. Adam has also researched several local grants, which are due in March. RAC funding is another possibility through the US Forest Service. Adam has also been working with Todd Norwood on Phragmites surveys at the Washburn Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Red Cliff Natural Resource Department: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) through GLRI has approved funding for an invasive species survey along 24 miles of the Red Cliff Reservation shoreline.

Friends of the Eau Claire Lakes Area (FOECLA): None

Namakagon Lake Association (NLA): The early detection/rapid response grant includes collaboration between nearly a dozen agencies and organizations to remove the hybrid water milfoil. We are considering a treatment, including the use of a dye, on the bay near Lakewoods Resort as soon as the ice goes out in the spring. Hand pulling took place in September, but plants returned within several weeks.

- 10. Future AIS Activities: Andy shared some of the upcoming activities—reviewed and on-file.
- 11. Other business: Meetings for 2017: February 22, May 24, August 23, November 29, 8-10 AM.
- 12. Next meeting date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 8:00 AM in the EOC
- 13. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM