

Interim Progress Report

April 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

Lake St. Croix TMDL Civic Engagement Initiative- St. Croix Co

Project Activities:

St. Croix County Water Network (SCCWN) is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix. The SCCWN develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix. The water network is framed, and abides by civic principles, standards, and disciplines. A meeting was held every month from April to December, with participation varying from 4-6 people per meeting. One of the members of the water network was quoted at "I have been able to learn more about the specific project's counties, lake associations, Trout Unlimited, and the DNR Nonpoint Source program are working on. This has allowed me to collaborate with other members on different projects. I have also gained a better understanding of the water quality issues by hearing and learning different perspectives of not only the group members but the farmers that we invited."

In mid-September, Lake Mallalieu Association members visited a farm with the members of the Dry Run Watershed Council, to discuss how upstream farming practices are influencing water quality in the lake. This was held at a council member's no-tilled bean field. The council members discussed the importance of water quality and soil health to their individual operations, and how important maintaining soil organic matter is to soil health and, empathizing the importance of no till, cover crops and field borders. In return the lake association hosted the members of the Dry Run to Lake Mallalieu, highlighting successes in shoreline restoration, invasive species removal native grass plantings. Both farm and lake shore owners were very pleased with the results of the event, as no judgement was passed, rather conversations on how the groups can work together to support each other's actions for better water quality. Plans are already being formed for another lake tour for the summer of 2022.

In the November St. Croix County Water Network Meeting, members hosted two local farmers to ask open ended questions about the water network. The water network was able to shed light on the civic partnerships created and discussed the role of lake association members, county, and state staff in conservation minded agriculture.

Cover Crop Cost Share:

There has been a total of 597 acres of single species cover crops implemented and reimbursed, between 04/01/2021 and 12/31/2021. These cover crops amount to a reduction of 689.13 lbs. of nitrogen, 171.64 lbs. of phosphorus, and 51.52 tons/year of sediment. The cost share available through this grant has been completely allocated. There is interest by landowners to continuing to plant cover crops.

St. Croix County Water Network

Member Roles and Individual Expectations

Identity Statement: St. Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The Sr. Croix Water Network develops civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix

The St. Croix Water network adopted the Civic Organizing Model in 2019 for the purpose of defining member roles and expectations as it relates to “active citizenship” and to provide a civic leadership development framework for Water Network members. The Civic Governance Model led the Water Network to develop an Identity Statement and Governing Document, both of which support our networks mission of building civic partnerships with local, state, and federal institutions. The Water Network utilizes three primary documents within our governing document to provide the foundation of our network’s future success and sustainability

1. Civic Policy Agenda
2. Governing Document
3. Civic Governance Workplan

This document establishes expectations for Water Network Members and helps to define roles for potential participation within our network. It’s the network’s expectation that new members will come to the Water Network with the understanding that meeting criteria for an active citizen is the lowest, acceptable membership.

An “Active Citizen” role is defined as:

- One which obligates a member to govern for the common good
- Demonstrates the ability to organize and develop Water Network policy in a transparent, and authentic manner
- Holds members accountable to building their own, and the Networks governing capacity

The Water Network’s Governing Document holds members accountable to:

- Participating in the yearly strategic planning process
- Making in investment of time and resources to the water network
- Advancing the water networks Identity Statement
- Building Civic Partnerships with our like organizations and agencies
- Developing and implementing workplans
- Tracking yearly progress and role evaluations
- Participating in mid-year and endpoint evaluations

The Value of the St. Croix County Water Network

The SCCWN is important because it brings together people who are focused on improving water quality within St Croix County. We are doing this by using the Civic Governance Model which is a new approach to governance that helps us focus on being active citizens. The Civic Governance model is the side boards in which we have agreed to govern ourselves. We understand and use the civic principles, standards, and disciplines. This has given us the opportunity to work with our different organizations in way that fosters sustainable relationships.

The SCCWN is important to St Croix County Resource Management Division because it gives employees the opportunity for leadership development that they might otherwise not have. The SCCWN is a great place to learn and hear about how other organizations work towards water quality, and perhaps find ways in which we can work together to enhance work that is already being done.

The SCCWN is a partnership of civic leadership to improve the water quality in Lake St. Croix. Its purpose is to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving the water quality in Lake St. Croix.

In providing purposeful partnerships for the common good it helps to eliminate duplication of efforts under different jurisdictions heading to the same goal of improving water quality.

As a member of the SCCWN involvement has provided opportunities to work together as active citizens, sharing our experiences, and understanding our limitations on what we can do to improve water quality for the common good. It has also provided knowledge and additional resources that can be shared that help in that effort.

Through partnerships the SCCWN was able to acquire the needed funding for the Willow River USGS station. Had it not been for the Network partnerships and the guiding principles of Civic Governance, not all the funds needed would have been made available.

We were able to identify educational opportunities in shoreline restoration and zoning issues along Lake Mallalieu and work together to outline this using a virtual meeting with LMA members.

Each monthly meeting provides participants the opportunity to gain knowledge of work being done in the Willow River Watershed by all the partners. This has been very valuable and provides an understanding of the challenges to improve water quality in Lake Mallalieu and Lake St. Croix. This process also helps identify opportunities that participants can take action on.

The SCCWN has been beneficial to myself and St. Croix County because it has allowed me to meet and connect with others that are working on the same water quality goals, even those within my organization. For example, because of this group I have been able to learn more about the specific projects that counties, lake associations, Trout Unlimited, and the DNR Nonpoint Source program are working on. This has allowed me to collaborate with other members on different projects. I have also gained a better understanding of the WQ issues by hearing and learning the different perspectives of not only group members but of the farmers that we invited. I can then take all of this

information and bring it back to my team and keep the local stream and lake biologists updated on the activities happening in St. Croix County.

The SCCWN is important to me and my organization by acting as a bridge between larger picture policy meetings and the local on the ground water quality implementation efforts. Without the group, I would not be able to communicate to larger regional or even statewide groups what is going on. My involvement with the group affords me access to that information, and my role is then to represent the group and pass that information along, so it is part of bigger decision-making processes that impact the group directly and indirectly. It is also my role as information conduit to reciprocate the flow of information in the other direction to let the group know what actions/policies/plans/decisions are being made at broader scales so they have an opportunity to contribute their perspectives to the development of the common good. This creating – fostering climate results in a positive feedback loop for everyone involved.

St Croix County Water Network

April 28th, 2021 9:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Team Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements from the work plan)
 - **Pre-work:**
 - Review Civic Governance Documents: Policy Agenda, Governing Document
 - What are the goals that you would like to see happen in 2021? What is your role?
 - Send Becky your Check-ins
 - Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
 - Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our Governing Document)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda

(This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said or discussed, with group approval)

9:45-10:00am Questions from Group Check-ins (From the SCCWN's Work Plan)

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1hwDLSLLmF_ikzcVle-S5YLBDxUyH0h4c

***Agreement was made at the January meeting to send check-ins by email to Becky**

10:00-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)

- Discuss conversation from Producer panel.
- Continue Strategic planning from January
 - What do we want to accomplish in 2021?
 - In Relation to the Grant?
 - What is your role for the SCCWN in 2021

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

<p>Meeting Agenda</p>	<p>Civic organizing measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	<p>Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-</p>
<p>SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	<p>Ranking is based upon:</p> <p>0 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure)</p> <p>1 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence.</p> <p>2 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence</p> <p>3 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>4 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	<p>Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-</p>

Check-ins

LMA; Susie Gilbert:

-Lake Mallalieu Virtual Workshops were held on March 23rd and April 6th. Tammy Traxler covered shoreland zoning and Cole Webster covering water quality and habitat on March 23rd. Aleisha Miller presented benefits of native plantings and examples of shoreline restoration on April 6th. Becky Brathal was instrumental in organizing the workshops and moderating the sessions. This was an opportunity to inform participants of the SCCWN. A big thank you for all the work done to get this accomplished!! It was well received by LMA residents.

-Discussed the last SCCWN meeting with the farmers at our 1-1 meeting with Becky. Question is how we can support the farmers in their endeavors. Kurt did express interest in having conversations with elected officials regarding farm bill and incentives.

-Discussed if it would be helpful to have one on one with Kurt Afdahl to discuss the farm bill and how can we show support with our elected officials in providing feedback on incentives that will help in BMPs providing better water quality in the watershed?

-Sent pictures of algae bloom blobs to DNR and reviewed video presentation by Gina LaLiberte of the DNR and forwarded to all Lake Mallalieu Association members.

-Had discussion with new North Hudson Village Board Member Amy Noonan regarding issues on Lake Mallalieu including no shore land zoning ordinances for North Hudson.

WDNR: Surface Water; Kristin Rathbun:

I don't really have anything for a check-in this month. See you tomorrow!

WDNR: Non-source point; Liz Usborne:

-I updated my individual work plan in the Google Drive. Not much to report for updates since last time. Really, the only news pertaining to my work in the watershed is the approval of the first invoice to reimburse Kyle's work under the special grant.

-River Falls dam removal to be updated on work plan

St Croix Cty; Becky Brathal:

-Participated in 2 Pilot Lead Organizer meetings, 2 Interstate Civic Governance Organizing Agency meetings, and a MACI meeting.

-WI Farmers Union made an offer to a candidate to replace Bill Hogseth in the Farmer Led Council Coordinator

-Interviews were done to hire for the Willow River position, almost all the candidates also applied for to back fill the Lake Protection.

-Could have all the cover crops allocated for this year, said we'd hold off on some until later in the summer.

-1-1s with all SCCWN employees

St Croix County Water Network
April 28th, 2020 9:30PM-12:00PM
Outcomes Document - Conference Call

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

I. Meeting Evaluation (Agenda, Purpose of the meeting)

Who:	Ranking:		What worked:	Gaps:
Kent Johnson	4.0		Enjoyed the updates, productive how we interact with the different organizations and what we can bring to the table, nice having an editable document,	More time for work plan context, request for next meeting to be on a platform for video ie Skype or Zoom
Liz Usborne	4.5		Great conversations with key stakeholders around the gauge is a huge strength, purpose met, work plan to guide though the year	We are in the beginning stages of progress and things need to be fleshed out and understood better.
Caitlin Nagorka	4.0		Good discussion, made good progress, high engagement on call, thanks for sticking with it	Needed some more clarification on the work plan
Alex Smith	4.5		It would be great to keep the Willow gauge station momentum, looking forward to the group increasing its strength moving forward	Technology, some confusion, clarification on the work plan goals
Kristin Rathbun	4.5		Agree with the gauge discussion, introductions were helpful to know who is who, zoom or skype meeting would be beneficial	
Susie Gilbert	4.5		Helpful to have everyone on for the gauge discussion especially Alex and Liz,	

Becky Brathal	4.5		Gauge discussion is great, it's a good example of why this group is here	Technology can be hard during this time, not meeting in person makes it hard to read people
Average	4.3		(average of all the meetings 4.3)	Next steps at end of doc.

II. Tracking Meeting Outcomes:

- Members met criteria for civic organizing disciplines:
 - ~ Governing Documents: Civic Governance Policy Agenda-CG Governing Document-Criteria for MACI Membership
 - ~ Civic Leadership Development-Means for implementing Policy Document while achieving goals. (Civic Organizing Agency)
 - ~ Power Analysis-Guides Strategic Planning
 - ~ Work Plan-Implements agreements
 - ~ Used to advance work plan:
 - Principle Driven Calendar
 - Public Meeting
 - Public Evaluation
 - ~ Civic Policy Making- Evidence supports Civic Governance Policy Agenda-calling for investment in civic leadership development.

- Bill had a check in. The Cover Crop Champion video was supposed to have started filming in March but will now be delayed until June and then more filming in July. The showings for the film will most likely be moved back as well to September. September might be bad for harvesting so maybe even back to November. Most of the Farmer Led Councils have not been meeting or only sparingly virtually, no significant update from them.
- Kyle gave a check in. The St Croix County Sportsman Alliance hasn't met recently, looking into meeting over the phone in the future.
- Caitlin has been working from home. There has been an increase in interest in the Partners Program as other people are home and thinking about habitat. She is not permitted to do any site visits until the Safer-At-Home order is lifted. She has been working on permits for various projects that are or will be underway this year. More information will be coming from NRCS later on, they have been delayed. The landowner pilot bird survey that was supposed to roll out this spring has been postponed until 2021, however she is working with them to still do citizen science on the land to keep them engaged. One of those things is working with the Monarch Joint Venture monitoring through a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant. Keeping landowners engaged keeps the habitat longer. (Caitlin please let me know if I got that right.)
- Kent: National Trout Unlimited and local chapters including the Kiap TU Wish chapter have all gone virtual. The National Meeting has been cancelled as well as the local annual meeting. The mobile app for citizen science capturing water quality data while fishing is still trying to go forward. They are working on a way to do trainings possibly virtually, and to get the materials out to folks who have went through the trainings. The group trying to get it to iPhone has slowed with pandemic efforts but are still working on it.

Currently it's only available for Android. Kent has also been working with the Kinnickinnic Partnership in the dam removals, the 1st dam being removed in 2023 and the other one in 2035-2040.

- Susie reported that the Lake Mallalieu Association's annual meeting has been cancelled, hoping to possibly reschedule it for later this year. They have an engineering firm looking into doing a full lake assessment of Lake Mallalieu. They have the Management revisions done but not Okayed yet from DNR.
- Kent and Susie have been talking with the USGS (US Geological Service) contact about the Willow River Gauge station, Ben Torrison. Ben informed them that the DNR is considering decommissioning the gauge and/or changing to only water levels. Kip TU Wish and the Lake Mallalieu Association have been helping to fund the gauge. Kent talked to Jim Almendinger who is the person who did the SWAT modeling for the Willow River. The current SWAT is antiquated and needs to be updated. Jim Almendinger is furloughed from the St Croix Watershed Research Station which is funded by the MN Science Museum. He has been looking at updating it and feels it's a worthwhile endeavor. Kristin has data that she has been analyzing that relates to the information for the gauge and for the SWAT modeling. Ben reported to Susie that \$24,000/year are needed to fund the whole gauge water quality included. DNR had no interest in continuing the funding. Alex mentioned that that the money being used to fund it are running out. Originally from Stillwater bridge mitigation funding that is sun setting. Possible looking into using 319 Clean Water Act funds. The group would like to see the gauge continue to be funded. No funding came with the Water Quality Task Force recommendations. Who else can help fund for the gauge?
- Alex informed us that DNR is not currently taking water samples until the Safer-at-Home order is lifted. And then will continue in a safe manner for all those assisting with them. There are going to be new grant administrative codes. Alex will send the link for public comment. A couple of big changes that are for public comment is that there will now 1 deadline for all grant applications. As a grant applicant you will need to submit a "We will be applying" document by November 1st, and then the application is due Dec. 1st. Hoping to be able to assist applicants better and to be able to fund the best projects. Hoping to get back to applicants in a few months to start work in the spring.
- Charlene has been working from the office once a week, trading off with her staff in once a week as well. They have been working remotely most of the time. They are closing on the access road on 70th Ave. KRLT has been awarded USFS dollars to purchase a piece of mixed forest that adds to the green space on the Kinnickinnic River. They have been using GIS to prioritize landowners to work.
- Kristin's role is to support the implementation of 9 Key Element plans. She is helping with modeling, field Days, and workshops. We can lean on her for helping to organize events in the area. She will send out the data she had mentioned before.
- Liz let us know that St Croix County was applying for a Large Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) grant to focus on the S. Fork of the Willow River and Black Brook Creek. She has looked at the draft and looks good so far. The City of River Falls has an Urban Runoff Grant that will most likely be extended due to the pandemic. They have the option for a total of 2 extensions. Emerald Sky Dairy had another spill, only 25 gallons and went through the proper channels to self-report and has been cleaned up already. There was discussion that they have had multiple spills in the last 6 months and how

disappointing it is to hear. There is Hotline for people to call if they see something and can't get to the proper channels. Liz will send that out. There has not been any land spreading of milk as of the meeting in St Croix County, possible in Eau Claire County. Ellsworth Creamery sent out letters to farmers to reduce production in milk either by culling or decreases in nutrition. There are protocols for folks to follow on culling animals.

There was discussion on what the common good is and what that meant for this group. We also discussed how that was related to the work plan we had been working on. There was confusion with the goals of the work plan that is on the google drive, so we went through some examples of that meant. Becky will try and clarify and fill names and objectives and then have 1-1s to discuss if members have time in their calendars to accomplish said objectives and goals.

- All meetings going forward will be the 4th Wednesday of the Month. The next meeting will be **May 27th 9:30am-12:00pm**. Remember if you can't make the meeting to please provide a check in, so someone else can still do one for you. Liz and Becky will work together to set up the meeting as a Skype or Zoom call. Details will be sent with the agenda a week before the meeting.

III. Gaps:

- a. Use the group work plan to make individual work plans.
- b. Making sure everyone has the technology to have a Zoom or Skype meeting
- c. Active Citizen worksheet

IV. Next Steps:

- a. Becky: Provide Outcomes Documents to attendees.
- b. Becky to provide a SCCWN work plan to the group. It continues to be an editable document to be able to fill in as needed or to help in reporting what has been done.
- c. ALL: When are you available for a 1-1 with Becky to go over the work plan?
- d. Everyone: Review Civic Governance Governing documents provided in email. Here is the MACI website for your review <https://activecitizen.org/>
- e. Everyone: Identity someone within your organization that could replace you if you can't make the meetings. Do you have someone who can fill your spot? (something to think about moving forward for sustainability)

St Croix County Water Network

May 27th, 2020 9:30am-12:00pm

Skype meeting: Send out on Tuesday

Agenda

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements made in previous meetings)
 - **Pre-work:** Review Civic Governance Documents; Governing Document, Policy Agenda, Work Plan
- Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
- Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our governing doc)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda

(This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said.)

9:45-10:30am Check-ins (Work Plan Agreements)

Becky –St Croix County

Kyle – St Croix County Sportsman’s Alliance

Bill – Wisconsin Farmers Union

Caitlin –USFWS

Kent –Trout Unlimited

Susie-Lake Mallalieu Association

Charlene – Kinnickinnic River Land Trust

Alex – WI DNR

Liz – WI DNR

Kristen- WI DNR

10:30-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)

- Willow River Monitoring Gage
- Time Certain Calendars (a specified date and time each month or other month to meet)
 - Mid-point Evaluation-June 24th, and End of Year Evaluation, Dec 23rd (let's make a different date, unless you are okay with the day before Christmas Eve?)
 - Sustainability: Identity someone within your organization that could replace you if you can't make the meetings. Do you have someone who can fill your spot? (something to think about moving forward for sustainability)

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

On a scale of 1-5, did we achieve the meeting purpose?

What worked? Meeting Gaps? Next steps?

St Croix County Water Network

May 27th, 2020 9:30PM-12:00PM

Outcomes Document – Skype meeting

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

V. Tracking Meeting Outcomes:

- Members are meeting criteria for civic organizing disciplines (mostly):
 - ~ Governing Documents: Civic Governance Policy Agenda-CG Governing Document-Criteria for MACI Membership
 - ~ Civic Leadership Development-Means for implementing Policy Document while achieving goals. (Civic Organizing Agency)
 - ~ Power Analysis-Guides Strategic Planning
 - ~ Work Plan-Implements agreements
 - ~ Used to advance work plan:
 - Principle Driven Calendar
 - Public Meeting
 - Public Evaluation
 - ~ Civic Policy Making- Evidence supports Civic Governance Policy Agenda-calling for investment in civic leadership development.
- Kyle had electronic issues and gave a check in: Kyle is getting commitment from the Alliance to also put funds towards funding the willow river gage. Also for funding for signage for the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust's Trumpeter Swan preserve. Mike Reiter and Dan Donahue will serve as Alliance alternates to these meetings. Ryan Sterry from the UW-Extension office informed us that Farm City Days have been put on hold until 2021. Extension also has dollars for cover crop participants to do yield checks and forage quality checks if harvested.
- Bill: Cover Crop Champion video timeline has been moved slightly to accommodate the virus. The farmer leds have not wanted to do virtual and so no new updates there. Bill has been focusing on leadership development within the Wisconsin Farmers Union organization
- Caitlin: Hopefully to be in the field by the end of the week to work on site visits and to work on surveys. NRCS is going to be sending out letters to who has been accepted in the EQIP program, numbers for habitat projects can come later from that. NFWF surveys, there are 4 projects in St Croix County. The Corrections in New Richmond have been working on a community plug project they have grown 750 plugs. That is a total of over 5000 plugs of local ecotype plants for free distribution into the community. Some of the plants could be planted on lake shores. Caitlin will email out when the plugs are available. Let Caitlin know if you wanted to be added to the automatic email list. FWS is working on a possible large NAWCA grant in conjunction with other partners PF, DNR,

DU. They are short 1 million for match. If they can't get the match they will switch to a small NAWCA grant. 2:1 match is needed.

- Kent: Monthly meetings are over for the season resume meetings in Sept. Mobile water quality measurements using strip test pads. There have been some delays in logistics during the pandemic. The release for iPhone is getting close. They will do a large release in the Driftless region, Pierce count is the farthest north county. Let Kent know if you want to participate. The St Croix Watershed Research Station, where Jim Allumding works, has been shut down for months now. Jim however is still working on the SWAT modeling for the Kinni. The funding for this is coming from grants secured by UW-River Falls Professors. There will be about 4 information sheets that will be available when it's done.
- Susie: Lake Mallalieu Association has hired AES a consulting firm to help in 3 tasks that will be completed by August. 1. Historical information gathering (to be done shortly), 2. Field review of Existing conditions, 3. Working meeting, a 2 day strategic planning process with partners. Those 3 things are phase 1, phase 2: task 4. Update lake management plan, not sure if the association has the funds for phase 2. There have been new home owners on the lake. There will be a couple of sheets that tell these new homeowners what they can and cannot do and who they need to contact to get permissions and permits for those activities. The annual dues notice went out asking for people to be more involved and that responses have been for water quality.
- Liz: Jeff Jackson is her replacement if she can't make it to the meetings. Liz has been working with EPA 319 (Clean Water Act) funding for priority watersheds. Liz has been directed to spend time in funding into these watersheds, Lake St Croix is one of them. St Croix County has applied for a TRM grant (Targeted Runoff Management) for the South Fork of the Willow sub-watershed and Black Brook sub-watershed. Liz is the reviewer of TRM grants in this area, there is a higher interest this year than in years past. DNR Badger bounce back plan, she is still working from home discouraged to spend more than an hour in the office at any one time. There is a projection of 5% lapse in funding that will be taken out of general funds.
- Kristen has been working on the P loading numbers for the willow, not final numbers but working on that as part of making the St Croix TMDL reductions report. If the group knows of BMPs in the willow that have been installed getting that information to Kristen will make a more accurate report. There were suggestions on how to incorporate USGS and DNR numbers to have a broader picture. She can send the report out when she is finished.

VI. Governing Issues

- Willow River Gage:
 - Discussion on who is putting funding towards the gage, and how much for how long. (Kent to put on the work plan amounts and who). Susie has word into the Township and the city of Hudson if they are committed. TU will pay for the temperature probe. The funding is not for the long term. What do we need to do to make sure the gage is funded for the long term?
- Time certain calendars: the next meeting will be out Mid-Point Evaluation. Changed the Dec, End Point, date to Dec 17th, 2020.

- Most have talked about who could/will be a replacement for themselves. This is a way to account for sustainability for our group.

VII. Gaps:

- Use the group work plan to make individual work plans.
- How does our group fit into civic Governance and then ultimately to the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI). <https://activecitizen.org/>

VIII. Next Steps:

- Becky: Provide Outcomes Documents to attendees.
- Everyone: All meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the Month. The next meeting is **June 24th 9:30am-12:00pm**. Remember if you can't make the meeting to please provide a check in, so someone else can still do one for you. Liz and Becky will work together to set up the meeting as a Skype meeting. This meeting will be our midpoint evaluation of the year. Are we going to be able to do what is on the work plan by December 17th, 2020?
 - Review your answers to the Active citizen Evaluation
 - Review the strategic plan (Work plan) online
- Everyone: Review Civic Governance Governing documents provided in email. Here is the MACI website for your review <https://activecitizen.org/>

IX. Meeting Evaluation (Agenda, Purpose of the meeting)

Who:	Ranking :	What worked:	Gaps:
Kent Johnson	4.5	Progress on work plan, monitoring gage discussion.	Cover Crop implementation, sustainability in the long term
Liz Osborne	4.5	Main contributors are also biggest piece of the pie and have the most cost effective BMPs that have a bigger impact	No stride yet, learning the process
Caitlin Nagorka	4.0	Great Discussion	Finding relevance in the gage discussion
Kristin	4.5	Agree with everyone, monitoring a good discussion and implementing practices	
Susie Gilbert	4.5	Long term funding for water quality monitoring, great discussions on things moving forward	Cover Crops, 2 things having an impact on water quality, 1. Farms, 2. Who/ what else
Becky Brathal	4.5	Good discussions, everyone was able to use the skype platform,	
Average	4.3		

X. Comments? Revisions?

St Croix County Water Network

June 23th, 2021 9:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Team Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements from the work plan)
 - **Pre-work:**
 - Review Civic Governance Documents: Policy Agenda, Governing Document
 - Review Active Citizen Summary worksheet
 - Write a draft narrative of what the SCCWN means to you and/or your organization.
 - What are the goals that you would like to see happen in 2021? What is your role?
 - Send Becky your Check-ins- Fill out our Individual work plan
 - Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
 - Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our Governing Document)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda (This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said or discussed, with group approval)

9:45-10:00am Questions from Group Check-ins ([SCCWN's Work Plan](#))

Agreement was made at the January meeting to send check-ins by email to Becky

10:00-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)

- New Hire! Starts ~~June 14th~~, July 7th.
- Draft Narrative
- Midpoint
 - What do we want to accomplish for the rest of 2021?
 - In Relation to the Grant?
 - What is your role for the SCCWN?

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0
SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	Ranking is based upon: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure) 6 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence. 7 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence 8 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021 9 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+) 	Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15

Check-ins:

Liz (WDNR): Met with Becky for our monthly one-on-one meeting. have been meeting with Andrew Craig, most recently this week to coordinate efforts to update Lake St. Croix 9 Key Element Plan (TMDL Implementation). Spoke with Alison Mikulyuk to ask about the possibility of Wild Rivers getting a surface water grant to hire a plan writer. That conversation led to me connecting Gina Keenan with Monika Zachay to start planning for a possible 2022 application submission. There is a question of if Wild Rivers qualifies to apply for eligibility we are working through. Wild Rivers Conservancy is incorporated in Minnesota and registered in WI to conduct business as a foreign corporation. Andrew Craig has begun coordinating some internal meetings within DNR in order for us to define our roles and assess our status in the Basin Team. DNR staff (besides me and Andrew) that have been reached out to are: Ruth King (my counterpart in Spooner), Jill Schoen (mine and Ruth’s supervisor), Mark Hazuga (Alex, Chris, and Kristen’s supervisor), Kristen Rathburn (yay!) Chris Willer (stream biologist), Greg Searle (Mark’s supervisor), Marcia Willhite (Madison), Chris Clayton (Madison), Karl Gesch (Madison), Pat Oldenburg (reviewed/familiar with the SWAT model), Alex Smith (Surface Water Grant & TMDL coordinator for Lake St. Croix), and Kevin Kirsch (Madison). Andrew has requested from the supervisors involved (specifically, Jill and Mark) to identify current/active DNR Basin Team members and then have a series of meetings to complete the following tasks:

- Work with Alex and WI counties to assess current progress/plan implementation for 2019-2021 years (only have records of implementation tracking documented for 2016-2018).
- Using recent progress metrics, determine how the full 27 percent reduction needed to meet the TMDL may be achieved

- Incorporate Jim Almendinger's 2016 SWAT modeling effort for Wisconsin portion of the St. Croix Basin and review EPA correspondence regarding the St. Croix 9E plan revision

The supervisors replied in support last week but no meeting date has been set yet. Andrew is beginning to reach out to individual suggested staff to collect info.

Making sure this plan doesn't expire guarantees there won't be a lapse in attention/funding in the watershed and a continuation of the momentum the partnership is working to build on.

Attended Northern Area Land and Water Association meeting where Matt Kreuger talked about legislative updates/budget that could effect efforts in the group and stakeholder influence on them

Susie (LMA): Gave update on LMA Board discussions relating to investigating process for silt removal and tax districting. Emphasized the TRM Grant, Surface Water Grant, and the Lake Malalieu Restoration document all point to establishing relationships in particular with the farmers in the watershed. Updated my work plan document. Completed the Active Citizenship Evaluation Worksheet. Provided my narrative of the SCCWN

Kristen (WDNR): I have sent out a data request for implementation data in 2019 & 2020 to partners in the St. Croix basin – the information I will receive will be put in our annual progress reports for the Lake St. Croix TMDL. I have been working on running a residue satellite imagery analysis for TMDL and Nine Key Element areas in the West Central region of the state. This imagery analysis has the potential to show how tillage and maybe cover crops are changing over a period of time. More information on that come in the next month.

Becky (SCC): New Lake Protection person starts July 7th. Kyle is coming back to work for SCC as a contracted person June 14th. I met with Tara Daun who is the new farmer led coordinator; She will be helping the farmer led councils put on education events. We had a farmer led council meeting that included all the county staff of the 4 counties, Bill Hogseth, Tara Daun, and Dan Zerr of UW-ext. We gave updates on the councils, talked about upcoming events and reviewed past events.

St Croix County Water Network

June 23th, 2021 9:30PM-12:00PM

Outcomes Document – Microsoft Team meeting

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

XI. How we have agreed to govern (Civic Governance):

- Members are meeting criteria for civic organizing *Disciplines* (mostly):
 - ~ Governing Documents: Civic Governance (CG) Policy Agenda; CG Governing Document; Work Plan
 - ~ Civic Leadership Development-Means for implementing CG Governing Document while achieving goals.
 - ~ Participate in Strategic Planning
 - ~ Work Plan used to implement agreements
- i. Used to advance work plan:
 1. Principle Driven Calendar (4th Wednesday of the Month)
 2. Public Meeting (St Croix County Water Network meetings and 1-1 on public meetings)
 3. Public Evaluation
 4. Outcomes Documents (tracking mechanism)
 - ~ Civic Policy Making- Evidence supports Civic Governance Policy Agenda-calling for investment in civic leadership development.
- Members are meeting *Civic Standards* as they guide all our decision-making
 - All those impacted by the problem are stakeholders and help define the problem in light of civic principles and the realities of their situation.
 - All stakeholders are accountable for contributing resources (leadership/time, knowledge, constituencies & dollars) to solve the problem.
 - All stakeholders are engaged in decision-making and policy-making that contributes to the common good. (Civic leaders take primary responsibility to organize transparency and accountability in the process of governance.)
 - All stakeholders implement policies grounded in civic principles in the places where they have the authority to act.

XII. Tracking Meeting Outcomes: Discussions from emailed Check-in Agreements. Here is a link to the [Google Docs 2021 Work Plan](#). This check-in time will be used to ask questions of check-ins that were emailed before meetings, Friday or Monday before meeting.

- a. Lake Mallalieu is looking into forming a Lake District and contacting WDNR as well as Amy Core of Engineers. An outcome of the organizing that Susie has been doing has shown an increase in member participation.

b. Discussion on imagery data.

XIII. Governing Issues

- a. Excitement and anticipation of Evan Starting.
- b. Draft narrative was put together with everyone’s inputs. The decision was made to keep names of individuals off the narrative for public viewing opportunities but for internal (for Evan) names would be added.
- c. A discussion on the sustainability of the group was a gap that was identified.

XIV. Gaps:

- Being able to speak **for** other SCCWN members when speaking about SCCWN.
- Working on gaining agricultural perspective within SCCWN.
- Criteria for being a governing member of SCCWN. Criteria of Active Citizen ([Active Citizen Summary Sheet](#))
- How does our group fit into Civic Governance and then ultimately to the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI). <https://activecitizen.org/>

XV. Next Steps:

- Everyone: Using
- Becky: Provide Outcomes Documents to attendees.
- Everyone: All meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the Month. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, July 28th 9:30pm-12:00pm**.
- Everyone: Remember to please provide a check in by email to be put into the agenda to help our meetings to go by faster.
- Everyone: Review Civic Governance Governing documents provided in email. Here is the MACI website for your review <https://activecitizen.org/>

XVI. Meeting Evaluation

Meeting Evaluation Criteria

What is Evaluated Ranking	Basis for Evaluation	
Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0! April-5.0 May-5.0 June- 5.0
SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	Ranking is based upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure) 11 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence. 12 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence 13 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021 14 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence 	Jan-1.9 Feb 2.0 April 2.05 May 2.15 June 2.5

	produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)	
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XVII. Comments? Revisions? If you do, please do a reply all to the group.

St Croix County Water Network

July 28th, 2021 9:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Team Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements from the work plan)
 - **Pre-work:**
 - Review Civic Governance Documents: Policy Agenda, Governing Document
 - Review Active Citizen Summary worksheet
 - What are the goals that you would like to see happen in 2021? What is your role?
 - Send Becky your Check-ins- Fill out our Individual work plan
 - Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
 - Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our Governing Document)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda (This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said or discussed, with group approval)

9:45-10:00am Questions from Group Check-ins ([SCCWN's Work Plan](#))
 Agreement was made at the January meeting to send check-ins by email to Becky

10:00-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)

- Meet in person? Virtual? And/or Mix?
- Discussion on the sustainability of SCCWN?
- Has your role been defined?
- Farmer panel questions/ dates?

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0
SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	Ranking is based upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure) 16 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence. 17 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence 18 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021 19 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+) 	Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15 June- 2.5

Check-ins:

Susie (LMA): Met with Becky and Evan for 1 on 1 meeting July 21st. Provided some dates for the farmer to lake-lake to farmer meetings. August 25-26th, August 30-31st or Sept 1st -2nd. Becky will check with the farmers to see what dates work best for them. Susie will connect with Lake Mallalieu members for attendance at the farmer sight and arrange for lake tour.

Lake Mallalieu Association has hired an attorney out of Madison that also does some lobbying and has good relationship with DNR officials in Madison. He has reviewed our Lake Study Restoration Plan completed last year and has shared it with the DNR. Shannon Zimmerman, our legislator for St. Croix County has also been contacted and made aware of the situation on Lake Mallalieu and our hopes in remediation from the Willow River Dam construction breach.

Becky provided information on St. Croix County Farm-City Day to be held on Saturday, August 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Susie will be sending the info to the Lake Mallaieu Association members encouraging attendance.

LMA members have been very appreciative of the workshops held this spring. One member passed on the lake shore restoration video to a contractor who was very appreciative for the information. This member also had a chance to meet Becky and Evan which provided the opportunity to share more information about SCCWN.

Susie would like to see about putting a workshop together in the fall as people start raking leaves and gain knowledge on the affects of storm sewers-

storm sewers. Rainwater and water from vehicle washing and over-irrigation flow into storm drains located in parking lots, streets, and gutters. These drains are connected through a series of underground pipes that carry water directly to our rivers, lakes, and streams. Unlike the sanitary **sewer** that carries water from the drains in your home to the wastewater treatment plant, the **storm sewer** system carries untreated water straight to the river and lakes. What can citizens and municipalities do? Where are the storm drains located on Lake Mallalieu?

Liz (WIDNR): During the 1 on 1 meeting, Liz was able to speak to myself (Evan) about what her job entails as the non-point source coordinator, the background history/importance of nutrient management plans and the importance of chapter NR 151 (runoff management) of Wisconsin's state legislature. We also discussed runoff categories 1-3 (category 1 being a pipe directly displacing chemical/manure into a federal navigable waterway, category 2- a farmer over applying manure and runoff collecting into a nearby stream and category 3 being "everything else"). We also discussed potential opportunity for more surface and groundwater work within the grant.

Kristen (WIDNR):

Becky (SCC):

Evan (SCC): I finally have been able to start in this position (July 7th being the first day). Becky and Kyle have introduced me to civic governance (learning what it means to be an active citizen, civic leader, and helping myself to be able to understand the governing document and creating my personal work plan) 1 on 1 check ins with Sussie and Liz, we were able to take a boat ride along the lake to see the bank erosion as well as the harmful blue-green algae blooms. I was able to partake in the pilot led organizer meeting as well as the demonstration meeting. I am also planning on meeting with Tim to see if I can partake in water quality monitoring with the Willow and Kinni watersheds.

St Croix County Water Network
July 28, 2021 9:30PM-12:00PM
Outcomes Document – Microsoft Team meeting

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

XVIII. How we have agreed to govern (Civic Governance):

- Members are meeting criteria for civic organizing Disciplines (mostly):
 - ~ Governing Documents: Civic Governance (CG) Policy Agenda; CG Governing Document; Work Plan
 - ~ Civic Leadership Development-Means for implementing CG Governing Document while achieving goals.
 - ~ Participate in Strategic Planning
 - ~ Work Plan used to implement agreements
- i. Used to advance work plan:
 1. Principle Driven Calendar (4th Wednesday of the Month)
 2. Public Meeting (St Croix County Water Network meetings and 1-1 on public meetings)
 3. Public Evaluation
 4. Outcomes Documents (tracking mechanism)
- ~ Civic Policy Making- Evidence supports Civic Governance Policy Agenda-calling for investment in civic leadership development.
- Members are meeting Civic Standards as they guide all our decision-making
 - All those impacted by the problem are stakeholders and help define the problem in light of civic principles and the realities of their situation.
 - All stakeholders are accountable for contributing resources (leadership/time, knowledge, constituencies & dollars) to solve the problem.
 - All stakeholders are engaged in decision-making and policy-making that contributes to the common good. (Civic leaders take primary responsibility to organize transparency and accountability in the process of governance.)
 - All stakeholders implement policies grounded in civic principles in the places where they have the authority to act.

XIX. Tracking Meeting Outcomes: Discussions from emailed Check-in Agreements. Here is a link to the [Google Docs 2021 Work Plan](#). This check-in time will be used to ask questions of check-ins that were emailed before the meeting

- a. Our discussion used civic standards to guide our decision making, allowing for open ended questions and critical thinking.

XX. Governing Issues

- a. The group stated meeting virtually for monthly meetings (unless new members are added) will continue
- b. Individual goals and group goals are were defined by the both the individual and updated water network work plan
- c. Potential farm to lake and lake to farm dates are as follows: (Aug. 25-26, 30-31, Sept. 2-3) more info on an exact date to follow.
- d. We also discussed “the frame of mind for the common good” and how to implement that mentality when discussing BMP’s with landowners and lake association members

XXI. Gaps:

- Being able to speak **for** other SCCWN members when speaking about SCCWN.
- Working on gaining agricultural perspective within SCCWN.
- Acceptance of the civic governance of peers
- [Criteria for being a governing member of SCCWN. Criteria of Active Citizen \(Active Citizen Summary Sheet\)](#)
- How does our group fit into Civic Governance and then ultimately to the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI). <https://activecitizen.org/>

XXII. Next Steps:

- *Evan:* Provide Outcomes Documents to attendees.
- *Everyone:* Continue to assess and evaluate our individual goals, as wells as the goals as a network to be achieved by the end of the year
- *Everyone:* All meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the Month. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, August 25th 9:30pm-12:00pm.**
- *Everyone:* Remember to please provide a check in by email to be put into the agenda to help our meetings to go by faster.
- *Everyone:* Review Civic Governance Governing documents provided in email. Here is the MACI website for your review <https://activecitizen.org/>

XXIII. Meeting Evaluation

Meeting Evaluation Criteria

What is Evaluated Ranking	Basis for Evaluation	
Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0
SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	Ranking is based upon: 20 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure)	Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15

	<p>21 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence.</p> <p>22 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence</p> <p>23 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>24 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	<p>June-2.5 July-3.0</p>
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XXIV. Comments? Revisions? If you do, please do a reply all to the group.

St Croix County Water Network

August 25th, 2021 9:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Team Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements from the work plan)
 - **Pre-work:**
 - Review Civic Governance Documents: Policy Agenda, Governing Document
 - Review Active Citizen Summary worksheet
 - What are the goals that you would like to see happen in 2021? What is your role?
 - Send Evan your Check-ins- Fill out our Individual work plan
 - Review Water Network Profile draft to discuss and address changes
 - Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
 - Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our Governing Document)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda (This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said or discussed, with group approval)

9:45-10:00am Questions from Group Check-ins ([SCCWN's Work Plan](#))
Agreement was made at the January meeting to send check-ins by email to Becky

10:00-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)

- New Richmond Adaptive Management Plan
- Water Network profile draft
- Farm to lake- lake to farm questions/date conformations
- Kristen leaving water network

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August-
SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO)	Ranking is based upon: 25 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure)	Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	<p>26 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence.</p> <p>27 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence</p> <p>28 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>29 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	<p>June- 2.5 July-3.0 August-</p>
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Check-ins:

Susie (LMA): One on one meeting with Becky and Evan (8/20) discussed the Lake Mallalieu management plan, the St. Croix Community Development plan and dates for the farm to lake, lake to farm event. We also discussed the idea of stormwater workshops for LMA members and buckthorn removal.

Liz (WIDNR): One on one meeting with Becky and Evan (8/17). No new information retaining to the TMDL or 319 funding, though an additional \$13,358 have been allocated for best management practices within the Willow River TRM project.

Becky (SCC):

Becky participated in the Pilot Lead Organizer and Interstate Civic Governance Agency meetings. We talked about how to implement civic partnerships and were organizing our annual workshop that will be held Oct 11 9-11am. Had 1-1's with Liz and Susie where we also talked about Civic Partnerships. Becky has been working with Tim to get all the necessary documents for applying for the Surface Water Grant to keep Evan on, as well as, to have a dedicated person to keep us on tract with Civic Governance so that we may better impact water quality. Becky, Susie and Evan have been working on getting dates nailed down for the Farm to Lake, Lake to Farm event, Sept 14-16th. Becky has been working with the Farmer led to have a pop-up field day sometime in sept/oct, depending on weather and crops. Tara Daun is also working on a Surface Water Grant for the 4 farmer led councils. As part of that she would like to use some of those dollars to update the Willow EVAAL.

Evan (SCC): I have been speaking with Tim regarding surface water quality within the county. We've also discussed groundwater/well abandonments that will be added to the next grant. I was able to sit in on the New Richmond adaptive management plan and discuss what MSA Engineering Consultants have planned for P reduction into the Willow.

St Croix County Water Network

August 25th, 2021 9:30PM-12:00PM

Outcomes Document – Microsoft Team meeting

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

XXV. How we have agreed to govern (Civic Governance):

- Members are meeting criteria for civic organizing Disciplines (mostly):
 - ~ Governing Documents: Civic Governance (CG) Policy Agenda; CG Governing Document; Work Plan
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 - ~ Participate in Strategic Planning
 - ~ Work Plan used to implement agreements
- i. Used to advance work plan:
 1. Principle Driven Calendar (4th Wednesday of the Month)
 2. Public Meeting (St Croix County Water Network meetings and 1-1 on public meetings)
 3. Public Evaluation
 4. Outcomes Documents (tracking mechanism)
- ~ Civic Policy Making- Evidence supports Civic Governance Policy Agenda-calling for investment in civic leadership development.
- Members are meeting Civic Standards as they guide all our decision-making
 - All those impacted by the problem are stakeholders and help define the problem in light of civic principles and the realities of their situation.
 - All stakeholders are accountable for contributing resources (leadership/time, knowledge, constituencies & dollars) to solve the problem.
 - All stakeholders are engaged in decision-making and policy-making that contributes to the common good. (Civic leaders take primary responsibility to organize transparency and accountability in the process of governance.)
 - All stakeholders implement policies grounded in civic principles in the places where they have the authority to act.

XXVI. Tracking Meeting Outcomes: Discussions from emailed Check-in Agreements. Here is a link to the [Google Docs 2021 Work Plan](#). This check-in time will be used to ask questions of check-ins that were emailed before the meeting

- a. Our discussion used civic standards to guide our decision making, allowing for open ended questions and critical thinking.

XXVII. Governing Issues

- a. The group viewed the New Richmond Adaptive management plan, discussing the more conventional “business as usual” interactions vs civic partnerships
- b. The group has finalized the Water Network Profile document
- c. Individual and group goals were defined by the both the individual and updated water network work plan
- d. Farm to lake and lake to farm dates are as follows: September 14th lake to farm (farm within the Willow River watershed), September 15th, or 16th farm to lake. Times for both dates will be at 5:30 PM. More info on an exact location and lake to farm date to follow.
- e. A proposed updated TMDL for Lake St. Croix (Wisconsin side only) would roughly cost \$20,000. Wild Rivers Assoc. may pursue this
- f. Workshop date and time for the pilot-led organizer meeting is October 11th, 9:00 AM at the Baldwin office

XXVIII. Gaps:

- There is a gap in sustained evidence in implementing civic governance to people outside of the water network
- Departure of a network member/adding additional group members
- [Criteria for being a governing member of SCCWN. Criteria of Active Citizen \(Active Citizen Summary Sheet\)](#)
- How does our group fit into Civic Governance and then ultimately to the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI). <https://activecitizen.org/>

XXIX. Next Steps:

- *Evan:* Provide Outcomes Documents to attendees.
- *Everyone:* times should be discussed and decided upon for the farmer panel through email
- *Everyone:* Continue to assess and evaluate our individual goals, as wells as the goals as a network to be achieved by the end of the year
- *Everyone:* All meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the Month. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, September 22nd 9:30pm-12:00pm.**
- *Everyone:* Remember to please provide a check in by email to be put into the agenda to help our meetings to go by faster.
- *Everyone:* Review Civic Governance Governing documents provided in email. Here is the MACI website for your review <https://activecitizen.org/>

XXX. Meeting Evaluation

Meeting Evaluation Criteria

What is Evaluated Ranking	Basis for Evaluation	
Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August-5.0
SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO)	Ranking is based upon:	Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	<p>30 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure)</p> <p>31 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence.</p> <p>32 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence</p> <p>33 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>34 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	<p>May-2.15 June-2.5 July-3.0 August- 2.95</p>
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XXXI. Comments? Revisions? If you do, please do a reply all to the group.

St Croix County Water Network

September 22nd, 2021 9:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Team Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements from the work plan)
 - **Pre-work:**
 - Review Civic Governance Documents: Policy Agenda, Governing Document
 - Review Active Citizen Summary worksheet
 - Send Evan your Check-ins- Fill out our Individual work plan
 - Review Water Network Profile to discuss and address changes
 - Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
 - Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our Governing Document)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda (This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said or discussed, with group approval)

9:45-10:00am Questions from Group Check-ins ([SCCWN's Work Plan](#))
Agreement was made at the January meeting to send check-ins by email to Becky

10:00-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)

- Lake to farm- farm to lake
 - General thoughts, what went well/what could have been improved
- DNR vacancy updates
- Farmer meeting update
- Through civic partnerships, how can we sustain ourselves as the water network?
- Evaluate/negotiate time of meetings?

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August- 5.0 September-
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<p>SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	<p>Ranking is based upon:</p> <p>35 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure)</p> <p>36 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence.</p> <p>37 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence</p> <p>38 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>39 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	<p>Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15 June- 2.5 July-3.0 August- 2.95 September-</p>
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Check-ins:

Susie (LMA): Tuesday September 14th John Thomas, Bill and Deb Fristad, Ken Heiser and I from the Lake Association met with members of the Dry Run Creek Farmer Led Council along with Becky and Evan. We learned a lot about the current methods they are using on their crop land such as cover crops that help to improve water quality keeping their soils intact as well as measuring nutrients in their soils. They were also concerned about the shoreline along Dry Run Creek and felt that a lot of erosion was occurring along that shoreline and bringing more silt into the Willow River watershed.

On Wednesday September 15th the farmer group visiting Lake Mallalieu consisted of Dan Donahue, Dennis Mitchell and wife Jackie, Sam and Barb Erickson, and Bud & Renee Henderson.

The lake tour began at the upper end of Lake Mallalieu where most of the silt has accumulated in the last 5 years. Bill Fristad commented on the effect the silt has had on his shore land and the difficulty in getting his boat off the lift. It was also mentioned the number of swans that congregate on that part of the lake over the winter months and the importance of wildlife on the lake.

Some of the shoreline restoration was highlighted and the need for ongoing education for the lake homeowners. The tour included observing the Lake Mallalieu Dam and its flow into the St Croix River.

I feel both events were very successful and felt I had made new friends that also have a common interest in improving water quality. As a result, Bud Henderson offered to take us on a lake tour of Cedar Lake and discuss the efforts that were made on that lake regarding dredging. Sam Erickson mentioned he would like to visit the lake again and Becky and I along with John Thomas want to visit Sam and Renee's natural native plant lot.

On September 18th I attended a gathering of folks on one of the lake home owners property where other members of the Lake Association were in attendance. I spoke with Jeff Lavers, a LMA board member regarding our event and its success as well as mentioning the SCCWN and the Civic Governance model that is used. I had the opportunity to speak with a few others about the event as well. They were thankful for my involvement and the work that is being done with the SCCWN.

It has been determined that the Lake Association will attempt to hold their annual meeting in the spring of 2022. A draft of the Lake Management Plan has been sent to a few board members for their review.

Liz (WIDNR): Met with Monica Zachay, Wild Rivers Conservancy, and Andrew Craig, DNR, earlier this month to discuss progress on Lake St. Croix 9 Key Element Plan update effort to keep the 319 designation from expiring. Timelines are still on track. Since Wild Rivers underwent a name/branding change this year that took up most of the organization's attention, Monica is using this winter to establish eligibility by the May 2022 deadline for working on a fall 2022 Lake Planning grant application submission. That gives 2023 to organize the stakeholders (Monica's role) and hire a consultant to write the plan update, leaving 2024 to write and submit the plan and time for addressing comments from DNR/EPA and final approval before the ultimate 2025 expiration date.

Becky (SCC): Becky participated in the Civic Governance Demonstration Meeting where we talked about how the Lead Organizers are working to create or working within our civic partnerships. We also talked about challenges and successes we are having and have had implementing Civic Governance into our jurisdictions. Also participated in the Pilot Lead Organizing meeting where the Pilot Lead Organizers are organizing an opportunity to talk and demonstrate a civic partnership. The event is being organized by Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership. This is in preparation for the October 11th, workshop that the Pilot Lead Organizers are putting on. This is an opportunity for our jurisdictions to get together to learn more about what is a civic partnership and how to implement them, but also to show we are building infrastructure for us all to learn from. The event is this Saturday Sept 25th from 9am-12. The Interstate Civic Governance Organizing Agency meeting mainly focused on how to take the theory of civic governance and to adapt to work with in our jurisdictions. The Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI) meeting focused on the Civic Non Profit case study. We learned about how Dan Holub from the Indiana Teacher's Association is implementing Civic Governance with the 4 managers that are directly below him. We learned about what he sees his next steps are in organizing those folks to be active citizens and to hopefully become civic leaders.

Met with the other countys' staff to talk about what the farmer led councils have been working on, such as Horse Creek field day, Hay River meeting successes, South Fork of the Kinni field days, and Dry Runs potential field day. We also talked about how the incentives are going for each council.

Tim Stieber presented to the Community Development Committee for approval to send to the county board for their final approval in applying for a Surface Water Grant to continue to fund Evan's position, ensuring some sustainability in this group.

Had the Lake to farm, farm to lake event, which was a huge success, reported by both the Dry Run Farmers and LMA members.

Evan (SCC):

I attended the September Pilot Led Organizer meeting, we discussed roles and expectations with the active citizen tier of civic governance, and members using civic governance outside of our pilots. Friendly reminder that the next Pilot Lead Organizer Workshop set for Oct. 11th- within this

meeting is the opportunity to see how a typical Pilot led organizer meeting is held/gain knowledge on civic governance. Also, I was able to attend the farmer led meeting, which the farmers discussed what incentives they would like to see written onto the next grant (streambank restoration being one they all agreed upon). The lake to farm - farm to lake event was a huge success. Looking into the next few weeks, I'll be attending a field erosion day and meet with landowners that have interest in streambank restorations.

Sunny:

There are currently 8 people in my project area who we are working with or have at least met with. There's one shoreline restoration project being designed but still waiting on permitting. Then 4 wetland projects, 1 that has been approved and 3 were only discussed with landowners and would need to be pursued further. One landowner has had field borders and six grassed waterways approved, but we are waiting for a signed contract still. Another landowner is in the design/revision stage for a grassed waterway. Then there is one project that will be a large pit closure and new pit development.

St Croix County Water Network
September 22nd, 2021 9:30PM-12:00PM
Outcomes Document – Microsoft Team meeting

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

XXXII. How we have agreed to govern (Civic Governance):

- Members are meeting criteria for civic organizing Disciplines (mostly):
 - ~ Governing Documents: Civic Governance (CG) Policy Agenda; CG Governing Document; Work Plan
 - ~ Civic Leadership Development-Means for implementing CG Governing Document while achieving goals.
 - ~ Participate in Strategic Planning
 - ~ Work Plan used to implement agreements
- i. Used to advance work plan:
 1. Principle Driven Calendar (4th Wednesday of the Month)
 2. Public Meeting (St Croix County Water Network meetings and 1-1 on public meetings)
 3. Public Evaluation
 4. Outcomes Documents (tracking mechanism)
- ~ Civic Policy Making- Evidence supports Civic Governance Policy Agenda-calling for investment in civic leadership development.
- Members are meeting Civic Standards as they guide all our decision-making
 - All those impacted by the problem are stakeholders and help define the problem in light of civic principles and the realities of their situation.
 - All stakeholders are accountable for contributing resources (leadership/time, knowledge, constituencies & dollars) to solve the problem.
 - All stakeholders are engaged in decision-making and policy-making that contributes to the common good. (Civic leaders take primary responsibility to organize transparency and accountability in the process of governance.)
 - All stakeholders implement policies grounded in civic principles in the places where they have the authority to act.

XXXIII. Tracking Meeting Outcomes: Discussions from emailed Check-in Agreements. Here is a link to the [Google Docs 2021 Work Plan](#). This check-in time will be used to ask questions of check-ins that were emailed before the meeting

- a. Our discussion used civic standards to guide our decision making, allowing for open ended questions and critical thinking.

XXXIV. Governing Issues

- a. The group discussed the lake to farm, farm to lake event. Highlighting the relationships built by both stakeholder groups. Comments from both lake assoc. members and farmers will be used for an article in the Ag. Review. And St. Croix County Facebook Page
- b. Liz noted a new aquatic species coordinator was hired, and Kirsten’s old position is still vacant, but moving forward to being filled
- c. The farmer meeting has been postponed to October 27th from 12:00-1:30 PM
- d. The group discussed the sustainability within the water network, leading into a conversation about the importance and understanding of civic governance and how to use your understanding to reach out to potential new members
- e. Timeliness was addressed as a potential concern for the addition of new members, the group has decided to make attempts towards a shorter meeting
- f. Workshop date and time for the pilot-led organizer meeting is October 11th, 9:00 AM at the Baldwin office

XXXV. Gaps:

- There is a gap in sustained evidence in implementing civic governance to people outside of the water network
- Departure of a network member/adding additional group members
- [Criteria for being a governing member of SCCWN. Criteria of Active Citizen \(Active Citizen Summary Sheet\)](#)
- How does our group fit into Civic Governance and then ultimately to the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI). <https://activecitizen.org/>

XXXVI. Next Steps:

- *Evan:* Provide Outcomes Documents to attendees.
- *Everyone:* times should be discussed and decided upon for the farmer panel through email
- *Everyone:* Continue to assess and evaluate our individual goals, as wells as the goals as a network to be achieved by the end of the year
- *Everyone:* All meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the Month. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, October 27th 9:30pm-12:00pm.**

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August-5.0 September- 5.0
SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	Ranking is based upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure) 41 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence. 42 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence 43 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces 	Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15 June-2.5 July-3.0 August- 2.95 September- 3.08

	<p>confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>44 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	
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- Everyone: Remember to please provide a check in by email to be put into the agenda to help our meetings to go by faster.
- Everyone: Review Civic Governance Governing documents provided in email. Here is the MACI website for your review <https://activecitizen.org/>

XXXVII. Meeting Evaluation

Meeting Evaluation Criteria

What is Evaluated
Ranking

Basis for Evaluation

XXXVIII. Comments? Revisions? If you do, please do a reply all to the group.

St Croix County Water Network

October 27th, 2021 9:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Team Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements from the work plan)
 - **Pre-work:**
 - Review Civic Governance Documents: Policy Agenda, Governing Document
 - Review Active Citizen Summary worksheet
 - Send Evan your Check-ins- Fill out our Individual work plan
 - Review Water Network Profile to discuss and address changes
- Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
- Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our Governing Document)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda (This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said or discussed, with group approval)

9:45-10:00am Questions from Group Check-ins ([SCCWN's Work Plan](#))
Agreement was made at the January meeting to send check-ins by email to Becky

10:00-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)

- October Pilot Lead Organizer meeting thoughts and questions
- Civic leader credentials
- End point evaluation discussion
 - Have we achieved our 2021 goals?
- Increase the number of stakeholders in the water network?
- Date for next water network meeting
 - Farmer meeting
 - As of now, the meeting is scheduled for the day before Thanksgiving

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August- 5.0 September- 5
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SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	Ranking is based upon: 45 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure) 46 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence. 47 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence 48 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021 49 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)	October- Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15 June- 2.5 July-3.0 August- 2.95 September-3.08 October-
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Check-ins:

Susie (LMA): September 21st - Contacted Bill Fristad and John Thomas to submit comments regarding the Farm to Lake and Lake to Farm event. Sept. 30th - Tara Dunn received comments to be added to article. Spent time reviewing the SCC 2018 Land and Water Resource Management Plan and the 2020 annual review document. Contacted Alex regarding latest 2013 DNR Implementation Plan for Lake St Croix TMDL. October 21st - Attended the SCC Community Development Board Meeting - provided copies of the Lake to Farm - Farm to Lake article from the Baldwin newspaper. Continue work on LMA Lake Management Plan to ensure accurate information. Need to view the recording of October 11th meeting.

Liz (WI DNR): Talked with Becky and Evan about the PLO meeting in October and discussed general thoughts: where your individual state of mind is during the meeting and being in the real state how much time and effort can be put fourth to civic governance while maintaining work, family exc.. Liz talked about how TCE (Trichloroethylene) has been found in several wells in the towns of Warren and Hudson. Lastly, Bass Lake has a elevated water table, and with the risk of high flows during the spring flooding there is the possibility to issue a permit for Bass Lake to discharge water into the Willow. Water would be tested for N,P,TSS.

Becky (SCC):

Sunny (SCC): We have 9 people involved in the project – two of which have approved designs and are waiting for contracts; four are being designed or awaiting approval; three are still in discussion stages; one contract has been signed and is waiting for payout. The only addition from the last update, other than design advances and further discussion, is that one person has signed a contract to plant 104 acres of cover crops.

Evan (SCC): I was able to attend the Oct. Pilot lead organizer meeting, discussing the differences between a civic leader and active citizen, civic partnerships and how civic governance helps keep organizations (and in this case the water network) sustainable. I was able to partake in the civic governance interstate meeting, where we discussed the credentials for a civic leader and the

difference between a civic leader and civic lead organizer, your state of mind- meaning "how present can I be.. during this meeting and teaching the model to folks who have been doing things "the old school way their entire life. Theirs been added interest in streambank restorations, especially within the Kinni River watershed so Becky, myself, and other LCD staff have been spending time surveying and designing those. A landowner within Sunny's Project limits is preparing to add 6 waterways and field buffers.

St Croix County Water Network
October 27th, 2021 9:30PM-12:00PM
Outcomes Document – Microsoft Team meeting

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

XXXIX. How we have agreed to govern (Civic Governance):

- Members are meeting criteria for civic organizing Disciplines (mostly):
 - ~ Governing Documents: Civic Governance (CG) Policy Agenda; CG Governing Document; Work Plan
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 - ~ Participate in Strategic Planning
 - ~ Work Plan used to implement agreements
- i. Used to advance work plan:
 1. Principle Driven Calendar (4th Wednesday of the Month)
 2. Public Meeting (St Croix County Water Network meetings and 1-1 on public meetings)
 3. Public Evaluation
 4. Outcomes Documents (tracking mechanism)
- ~ Civic Policy Making- Evidence supports Civic Governance Policy Agenda-calling for investment in civic leadership development.
- Members are meeting Civic Standards as they guide all our decision-making
 - All those impacted by the problem are stakeholders and help define the problem in light of civic principles and the realities of their situation.
 - All stakeholders are accountable for contributing resources (leadership/time, knowledge, constituencies & dollars) to solve the problem.
 - All stakeholders are engaged in decision-making and policy-making that contributes to the common good. (Civic leaders take primary responsibility to organize transparency and accountability in the process of governance.)
 - All stakeholders implement policies grounded in civic principles in the places where they have the authority to act.

XL. Tracking Meeting Outcomes: Discussions from emailed Check-in Agreements. Here is a link to the [Google Docs 2021 Work Plan](#). This check-in time will be used to ask questions of check-ins that were emailed before the meeting

- a. Our discussion used civic standards to guide our decision making, allowing for open ended questions and critical thinking.

XLI. Governing Issues

- We discussed the urban phosphorus loading through leaf litter entering waterways to reduce the P load into Lake St. Croix. We discussed numerous resources associated with that(see link for Rin to Rivers webpage) This discussion led to a perfect example of a power analysis. (who do we need to talk to-how to do so-end results)
 - We discussed the civic leader role, the next role above an active citizen. A civic leader can understand the model and take it to an organization that is currently not using civic governance)
 - As 2021 is wrapping up we talked about what we have achieved and what we plan on doing before endpoint evaluation. Also began discussions on agreements for 2022
 - The next meeting has been moved to November 19th, with the intent of farmers joining us and them sharing ideas and questions with us SCCWN members.
- ~ We made the agreement to move the December meeting to December 17th

XLII. Gaps:

- There is a gap in sustained evidence in implementing civic governance to people outside of the water network
- Departure of a network member/adding additional group members
- [Criteria for being a governing member of SCCWN. Criteria of Active Citizen \(Active Citizen Summary Sheet\)](#)
- How does our group fit into Civic Governance and then ultimately to the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI). <https://activecitizen.org/>

XLIII. Next Steps:

- *Evan:* Provide Outcomes Documents to attendees.
- *Everyone:* times should be discussed and decided upon for the farmer panel through email
- *Everyone:* Continue to assess and evaluate our individual roles, as wells as you individual work plan, SCCWN work plan, and the goals as a network to be achieved by the end of the year
- *Everyone:* The next meeting will be November 19th: Specific time to be determined
- *Everyone:* Remember to please provide a check in by email to be put into the agenda to help our meetings to go by faster.
- *Everyone:* Review Civic Governance Governing documents provided in email. Here is the MACI website for your review <https://activecitizen.org/>

XLIV. Meeting Evaluation

Meeting Evaluation Criteria

What is Evaluated Ranking	Basis for Evaluation	
Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August-5.0 September- 5.0 October- 5.0

<p>SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	<p>Ranking is based upon:</p> <p>50 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure)</p> <p>51 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence.</p> <p>52 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence</p> <p>53 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>54 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	<p>Jan-1.9</p> <p>Feb-2.0</p> <p>April-2.05</p> <p>May-2.15</p> <p>June-2.5</p> <p>July-3.0</p> <p>August- 2.95</p> <p>September- 3.08</p> <p>October- 3.21</p>
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XLV. Comments? Revisions? If you do, please do a reply all to the group.

St Croix County Water Network

November 19th, 2021 9:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Team Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements from the work plan)
 - **Pre-work:**
 - Review Civic Governance Documents: Policy Agenda, Governing Document
 - Review Active Citizen Summary worksheet
 - Send Evan your Check-ins- Fill out our Individual work plan
 - Review Water Network Profile to discuss and address changes
 - Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
 - Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our Governing Document)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda (This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said or discussed, with group approval)

9:45-10:00am Questions from Group Check-ins (SCCWN's Work Plan)
 Agreement was made at the January meeting to send check-ins by email to Becky

10:00-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)
 • Conversation within the water network, Jason and Dennis

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August- 5.0 September- 5 October- 5
SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	Ranking is based upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 55 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure) 56 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence. 57 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence 	Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15 June- 2.5 July-3.0 August- 2.95 September- 3.08

	<p>58 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>59 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	October-3.125
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Check-ins:

Susie (LMA): I reviewed the recording of the Civic Governance Workshop held on October 11th and shared my thoughts with Becky and Evan at our one on one, agreeing that our challenge is being able to add additional stakeholders and leaders.

The LMA Lake Management Plan should be in the final draft stages for review by the end of the year. The draft would then be shared with DNR and Land & Water Resource staff for feedback.

At a recent ad-hock committee meeting involving the Library I had the opportunity to ask the group if they were familiar with the Civic Governance model and gave a very brief explanation on the concept. I also passed on the link "activecitizen.org" to another member of the Library Foundation Board.

Liz (WI DNR): Liz was able to share some knowledge that the DNR is looking into supplying more funds for the farmer led councils within the state. Staff within DNR are also sorting through the recently passed infrastructure bill to see how this bill will influence funding for different natural resource concerns. The annual reports put out mention the work being done within Lake Mallalieu association and St. Croix county LCD. Great to see the work being done is being see at such a large scale!

Becky (SCC):

Evan: I spent time working within the Farmland Preservation Program, which consisted of going to several producers' operations and seeing if they are still in compliance- meaning following nutrient management plans erosion levels are tolerable, no manure spills. Great opportunity to meet folks within the county and have them share information on their farm. I was able to attend the civic governance interstate, demonstration, and MACI meetings this month with key ideas/objectives related directly to the water network being using the MACI model to keep the network sustainable and meet our objectives for endpoint. The county farmer led meeting was yesterday and I was able to hear from folks out of Pierce, Polk counties and the farmer leds the are a part of. Lastly, continue to do the monthly water sample collection at different townhalls and residences throughout the county and measure the amount of nitrate variability within the different locations.

Sunny (SCC): We have 9 people involved in the project – two of which have approved designs and are waiting for contracts; four are being designed or awaiting approval; three are still in discussion stages; one contract has been signed and completed. We have made progress on a manure pit design

happening in Cylon township, but the process will be long and will require assistance outside of the County's expertise.

St Croix County Water Network

November 19th, 2021 9:30PM-12:00PM

Outcomes Document – Microsoft Team meeting

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

XLVI. How we have agreed to govern (Civic Governance):

- Members are meeting criteria for civic organizing Disciplines (mostly):
 - ~ Governing Documents: Civic Governance (CG) Policy Agenda; CG Governing Document; Work Plan
 - ~ Civic Leadership Development-Means for implementing CG Governing Document while achieving goals.
 - ~ Participate in Strategic Planning
 - ~ Work Plan used to implement agreements
- i. Used to advance work plan:
 1. Principle Driven Calendar (4th Wednesday of the Month)
 2. Public Meeting (St Croix County Water Network meetings and 1-1 on public meetings)
 3. Public Evaluation
 4. Outcomes Documents (tracking mechanism)
- ~ Civic Policy Making- Evidence supports Civic Governance Policy Agenda-calling for investment in civic leadership development.
- Members are meeting Civic Standards as they guide all our decision-making
 - All those impacted by the problem are stakeholders and help define the problem in light of civic principles and the realities of their situation.
 - All stakeholders are accountable for contributing resources (leadership/time, knowledge, constituencies & dollars) to solve the problem.
 - All stakeholders are engaged in decision-making and policy-making that contributes to the common good. (Civic leaders take primary responsibility to organize transparency and accountability in the process of governance.)
 - All stakeholders implement policies grounded in civic principles in the places where they have the authority to act.

XLVII. Tracking Meeting Outcomes: Discussions from emailed Check-in Agreements. Here is a link to the [Google Docs 2021 Work Plan](#). This check-in time will be used to ask questions of check-ins that were emailed before the meeting

- a. Our discussion used civic standards to guide our decision making, allowing for open ended questions and critical thinking.

XLVIII. Governing Issues

- The proposed nitrate standard has been shot down by state legislatures
- We discussed the importance of local leadership to extend conservation minded practices
- We discussed the change in farming practices from previous generations and the importance of best management practices
- We made the agreement to move the December meeting to December 17th

XLIX. Gaps:

- There is a gap in sustained evidence in implementing civic governance to people outside of the water network
- Departure of a network member/adding additional group members
- [Criteria for being a governing member of SCCWN. Criteria of Active Citizen \(Active Citizen Summary Sheet\)](#)
- How does our group fit into Civic Governance and then ultimately to the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI). <https://activecitizen.org/>

L. Next Steps:

- *Evan:* Provide Outcomes Documents to attendees.
- *Everyone:* times should be discussed and decided upon for the farmer panel through email
- *Everyone:* Continue to assess and evaluate our individual roles, as well as your individual work plan, SCCWN work plan, and the goals as a network to be achieved by the end of the year
- *Everyone:* The next meeting will be December 17th at 9:30 A.M
- *Everyone:* Remember to please provide a check in by email to be put into the agenda to help our meetings to go by faster.
- *Everyone:* Review Civic Governance Governing documents provided in email. Here is the MACI website for your review <https://activecitizen.org/>

LI. Meeting Evaluation

Meeting Evaluation Criteria

What is Evaluated Ranking	Basis for Evaluation	
Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August-5.0 September- 5.0 October- 5.0 November- 5.0 December-

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	<p>May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August-5.0 September- 5.0 October- 5.0</p>
<p>SCCWN Focus For Organizing (FFO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Learning and Teaching the Civic Governance model</i> 	<p>Ranking is based upon:</p> <p>60 No ownership of FFO so no basis for evaluation (Either lack of interest or lack of exposure)</p> <p>61 Ownership of FFO and ownership of the CG-MACI model-no plan to produce evidence.</p> <p>62 Ownership of Model, plan, no evidence</p> <p>63 Ownership, implementing plan, progress with beginning evidence from all members that produces confidence year end FFO will be met. (Midpoint goal) June 2021</p> <p>64 Ownership, evidence that FFO (objectives were met good enough) because of consistent pattern of evidence produced by all members and plan to move forward to do 2021 Strategic Planning. (Endpoint goal 3+)</p>	<p>Jan-1.9 Feb-2.0 April-2.05 May-2.15 June-2.5 July-3.0 August- 2.95 September- 3.08 October- 3.21 November- n/a December-</p>

St Croix County Water Network

December 17th, 2021 9:30am-12:00pm

Agenda

Team Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Identity Statement: St Croix County Water Network is a partnership to improve water quality in Lake St. Croix

Purpose Statement: The **St Croix County Water Network** develops the civic leadership necessary to increase capacity and sustain purposeful partnerships for the common good of improving water quality in Lake St. Croix.

Meeting Purpose: Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to organize around Lake St. Croix water quality issues.

- Stakeholder check-ins (progress on agreements from the work plan)
 - **Pre-work:**
 - Review Civic Governance Documents: Policy Agenda, Governing Document
 - Review Active Citizen Summary worksheet
 - Send Evan your Check-ins- Fill out our Individual work plan
 - Review Water Network Profile to discuss and address changes
 - Governing issues (ongoing conversations within the group)
 - Evaluate meeting (using the civic standards and principles from our Governing Document)

9:30-9:45am Negotiate Agenda (This is the time to add things that are not part of your agreements progress report, but still would like to have said or discussed, with group approval)

9:45-10:00am Questions from Group Check-ins ([SCCWN's Work Plan](#))
Agreement was made at the January meeting to send check-ins by email to Becky

10:00-11:30am Governing Issues (ongoing conversations)

- End Point Evaluation
 - Have we achieved the goals on our individual work plan? Goals as a water network?
- Do we want to continue the water network in 2022?
- Strategic Planning for January 2022
 - What do we want to accomplish in 2022?
 - Are adjustments to the work plan needed?

11:30-11:45am Other Business (from negotiated agenda)

11:45-12:00pm Do Meeting Evaluation.

Meeting Agenda	Civic organizing measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve the particular meeting agenda • Meet criteria for civic organizing disciplines • Timeliness – Members do their weekly 1-1s and pre-work to ensure practice meets criteria and civic organizing agency meeting time is allotted for learning 	Jan-4.6 Feb-5.0 April-5.0 May-5.0 June-5.0 July-5.0 August- 5.0 September- 5 October- 5 November-5 December
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Check-ins:

Susie (LMA): Gave update on LMA Lake Management Plan - Still under review. Waiting for final draft.

Conversation regarding silt management - Researching information regarding Cross Section reports. Comparison for prior to Willow River Dam removal and after construction breach. Susie to arrange for meeting with Kyle and Doug to discuss cross section reports. LMA has requested proposal from RES that would outline mitigation suggestions for silt removal.

Discussed 2022 SCCWN plan. - Continue establishing relationships with farmers. Another lake tour in late spring-early summer. Consider additional and repeat educational opportunities for lake shore owners. Susie to complete an in-depth review of St. Croix County Land & Water Resource Management Plan 2018-2028. Possible check-ins from Tim.

The grant for Evan's position to continue will be reviewed in February.

Becky's last day was December 10th and Sonny has left her position as well.

Liz (WI DNR): To follow up a little on my previous check ins, we had more information shared with us regarding the NR 151 Targeted Performance Standard for Nitrate topic and why DNR is no longer working on rules for nitrate targeted performance standards at this time.

As a reminder, the intention of the rule change was to abate nitrate pollution in groundwater and protect drinking water for public health across Wisconsin. Specifically the rule would have defined sensitive areas targeting highly permeable soils and would have affected many portions of St Croix County.

In early 2019, DNR proposed a scope statement to consider targeted performance standards for nitrate in areas susceptible to nitrate leaching to groundwater. That scope statement was approved by the Governor and the Natural Resources Board in December 2019. From February 2020 – October 2020, Technical Advisory Committee meetings were held. On March 8, 2021, DNR public noticed the Draft Economic Impact Analysis for public comment. Substantial comments were submitted on the potential costs of compliance for agricultural producers and on the costs of not acting on the nitrate pollution issue in terms of public health and costs for treating public and private water supplies.

While the societal costs outweighed the cost of compliance, the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act requires the cost of compliance be the deciding component considered. Additionally, other simultaneously happening matters understandably competed for priority of limited higher level staff capacity (Natural Resource Board, wolf hunt, PFAS). Ultimately, we were not able to complete the proposed rule process within the given statutory restrictions – a 35 step process in the course of 30 months – this is not uncommon.

However, through this process many good partnerships were generated, the best available scientific research was collected, and agricultural practices were outlined that can help achieve safe drinking water. Therefore, DNR will continue to work on the science and land management approaches and practices that can help address Wisconsin's nitrate/groundwater/safe drinking water issues.

Here is a pretty biasly written article: <https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2021/11/18/legislative-roadblocks-force-dnr-to-abandon-water-pollution-protections/>

A little more on the newly formed Office of Ag and Water Quality:

DNR is expanding its water quality efforts by creating the Office of Agriculture & Water to address the growing need for innovation, research and outreach for Wisconsin's agricultural industry.

The new office's objective are:

Generate clear, achievable goals in collaboration with communities representing agricultural, environmental and public interests

Serve as liaison between divisions to help the department prioritize and coordinate research and policy efforts

Sponsor or lead teams charged with analysis and development of new policy recommendations

Identify funds and staffing that can be leveraged to strengthen research, outreach, policy and programs

Serve as the internal and external main point of contact for the science and policy approaches to addressing agricultural impacts on water quality

Communicate results of the Office's efforts to the Secretary's Office and department leadership teams

Serve on the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Board, and serve as an advisor to the Discovery Farms Steering Committee

Serve as the agency's lead for collaboration with UW, DATCP, NRCS, key industry groups, Wisconsin Land and Water and environmental NGOs

In addition, the UW-Madison Division of Extension recently created their Agriculture Water Quality Program within Extension's Agriculture Institute to bring additional support and structure for new collaborations and initiatives to improve water quality related to agricultural production.

My program is actively in discussions regarding simplifying and streamlining the runoff management grant timeline and processes (addressing UW EX Natural Resource Educator surveys) in response to feedback on why some counties are reluctant to participate in TRM & NOD grant programs (clearly St. Croix County isn't one of those counties, but you may still relate to some of the frustrations!).

DNR hears the feedback that the Runoff Management grant timeline is very long (11.5 months) and does not coincide well with the budget cycle for counties and municipalities. DNR is evaluating and implementing various ways to remove duplicative steps and make the grant processes more efficient and grant program staff are requesting permission to discuss and propose modifications to the joint allocation plan process with DATCP and counties that will ultimately simplify and streamline the timeline and processes, as well as consulting our attorney if the proposed changes are consistent with our obligations outlined Wisc. Stats. Ch. 92.

Hopefully, this illustrates how DNR is paying attention and respecting the information gathered from these surveys. Another example is addressing the feedback from the NR 151 Evaluation Report. Examples of efforts to address the highlighted are:

The current timeline modification previously mentioned

- Conducting regular webinars for grant recipients

- I've coordinated meetings with grant applicants and the grants team to go over unfunded applications

- I'm working on improving and making more consistent enforcement efforts

- The newly formed Office of Ag and Water Quality mentioned before

- I have been working on increasing communication with counties both through one on one interactions as well as larger group meetings in various capacities

- Grant funds for staff time have increased from 10% to 40% in Large Scale TRM program

- The BITS online tool

Finally, last month, I shared that Kristen Rathbun's old position had been posted. Andrew Craig also noticed based on the position title, "Watershed Restoration Coordinator," and reached out to Mark Hazuga, the position's supervisor, to ask how our program might collaborate with the person he hires, for

example with 9 Key Element plans, TMDLs, etc. I was sure to add my thoughts on how great Kristen had been to work with and her involvement with the watershed groups in the region was a huge asset.

Evan (St. Croix County): With Becky leaving I see my role within the county having more responsibilities, with that being said Becky was able to walk me through the wetland permitting process and how to input sediment and phosphorus reductions into the STEPL database. In terms of civic governance meetings, the monthly PLO meeting was canceled, and I am not able to attend in interstate meeting so no updates in terms of civic governance. I will be attending a shoreline restoration workshop/webinar Wednesday so I will give an update on how that goes. The water quality specialist and I continue to collect water samples from various townhalls and a few private wells. Once the data from the year is analyzed and a report is finished, I will send the results over. All of our county cost share funds from DATCP and the grant I'm hired under have been spent!

St Croix County Water Network

December 17th, 2021 9:30PM-12:00PM

Outcomes Document – Microsoft Team meeting

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- Our discussion used civic standards to guide our decision making, allowing for open ended questions and critical thinking.

III. Governing Issues

- The group made the agreement that we have achieved our 2021 goals as a water network and the goals on our individual work plan
- The water network will continue into 2022 and begin strategic planning in January
- Outreach highlights from 2021 include the farm to lake, lake to farm event, meeting with Dennis and Jason
- A focus of 2022 will be the addition of new members
- FFO from January-December changed from 1.9 to a 3.1; showing ownership and implementation of the model.

IV. Gaps:

- There is a gap in sustained evidence in implementing civic governance to people outside of the water network
- Departure of a network member/adding additional group members
- [Criteria for being a governing member of SCCWN. Criteria of Active Citizen \(Active Citizen Summary Sheet\)](#)
- How does our group fit into Civic Governance and then ultimately to the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI). <https://activecitizen.org/>

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VI. Meeting Evaluation

Meeting Evaluation Criteria

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