

Golden Sands Resource, Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Waters Committee Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2019
Golden Sands RC&D Office, Stevens Points, WI

Attendees: Bob Ellis (Waupaca); Reesa Evans (Member-at-Large); Chris Hamerla (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Ed Hernandez (Waushara); Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Paul Pisellini (Adams); Al Rosenthal (Marquette); Emily Salvinski (Wood); Joe Tomandl (Taylor); Shane Wucherpennig (Wood).

CALL TO ORDER: Al Rosenthal, acting chair, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: No introductions made. All familiar.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Hernandez, seconded by Leichtnam, to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW PROJECTS: Two projects were presented. One is the continuation of the regional Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) coordinators. This involves applying for a \$150,000 grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and \$50,000 in match. \$16,000 of that needs to be cash to gain an extra scoring point. Motion by Evans, seconded by Wucherpennig, to approve this project. Motion carried unanimously. The second project is a contract for AIS services to the White River Flowage. The mapping and monitoring activities can count as match for AIS grants. However, control activities cannot come under the grants. The estimated cost for those activities is \$1579.12. Motion made by Tomandl, seconded by Evans, to approve this project. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON GROUNDWATER PROTECTION: Leichtnam reported on the multi-county Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGCC), composed of seven counties. Going forward with groundwater protection activities has been approved unanimously by the county boards for six of the counties. Resolutions and letters asking for support will go to the legislators and other counties. There are ten groundwater-related bills pending in the Wisconsin legislature, looking for sponsors. Nothing is expected to happen before the legislature resumes in January or February 2020.

COUNCIL AND STAFF UPDATES:

Hernandez: Waushara started its second round of private well testing, covering the middle part of the county. There is a court date coming up on October 19, 2019, for a long-time runoff violation. The WDNR has issued a citation on the same property. Work on waste storage and waterways is ongoing. Several other county conservationists are touring the Isherwood farm today. A tour of the Sand Valley Golf Course is set for Friday.

Tomandl: Taylor has been sponsoring private well testing for years and is continuing to fund the project. Spraying for terrestrial invasives has been happening. Seventh graders recently had a water quality education day.

Wucherpennig: Wood is also continuing to sample private wells, especially for Nitrate levels. Two rounds have been completed. The balance will be completed by the end of 2019. About 5%

of the results so far have been above the 10 ppm. The sandy area of the county is showing a higher percentage of excess Nitrates. A no-till drill purchased this year by the county is being rented out by several farmers.

Evans: Reported that the Adams County Lake Alliance recently had a presentation on the Wisconsin River's Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). There is a public meeting scheduled by the County Drainage Board on September 23, 2019, to consider annexing Jordan Lake to an abutting drainage district.

Hamerla: Reported that Golden Sands has received a lot of calls about higher than usual lake levels. This has resulted in several lakes being temporarily designated as 'slow no-wake' lakes. Hamerla, Cisar, and the summer interns completed several plant and AIS surveys this summer. There have also been some Eurasian watermilfoil training and updating of some Aquatic Plant Management (APM) plans. One of the regional AIS grants will be closed by the end of this year. Later this month he will be working with a waterfowl hunting group on Lake Puckaway to prepare a video about waterfowl hunting and AIS.

Ellis: High water levels continue to be an issue in the Chain of Lakes District. There seems to be good control of AIS this year, especially for Eurasian watermilfoil.

Pisellini: Adams was one of the counties Leichtnam referred to about passing the groundwater resolution. It is also involved in setting up a multi-county private well testing system. The setup in Adams will last four years, starting in the southern part of the county. A new recycling plant will be built. It will be receiving inputs from other counties. Septic testing in the Tri-Lakes area is also being evaluated.

Rosenthal: A dive team recently spoke to the Marquette County Lakes group about what it found in the bed of White Lake. Reportedly, this included a human body weighed down with cement blocks. Since Marquette is such a small county, funding lake and water activities is an ongoing problem. Purple Loosestrife seems especially abundant this year. Two small lakes given to the county by the WDNR are being cleaned up to prepare for public use.

County Building Security: Pisellini said that Adams is planning on increasing county building security by having only one entrance and possible metal detector installations. Leichtnam reports that Wood already has these measures and also has a deputy stationed at the entrance.

ADJOURN: Motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. by Wucherpfennig and seconded by Hernandez.
Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Reesa Evans
Temporary recording secretary