



Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2010

The fifth 2010 meeting of Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers (PCALR) was held Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at Polk County Justice Center in Balsam Lake. Meeting came to order at 7:00 pm.

Attending: Peter Frohnert, Loveless; Ken Peterson, Butternut; Tim Ritten, Polk County LWRD; Carl Holmgren, Balsam; Nancy Knutson, Lotus Lake; Chris Shermach, Lotus; Karen Engelbretson, Bone.

Old Business

PCALR website. Karen presented the site for review and comments:

- AIS: Include county and state ordinances, list what lakes are doing for AIS rather than the lengthy info on species.
- Management and protection: Phosphorus and the problems it causes should be exemplified. A recent article in Lake Tides could be repeated. The two dead lakes near Menomonie should be cited. along with photos.
- Comment: North Twin, Pike and South Twin lakes near Amery have stopped harvesting and reports conclude that the water is now clearer than when harvesting was underway.
- Resources page: add links to UW Extension pages.
- Ask Cheryl Clemens if the Runoff Checklist and Runoff Practices books can be included as pdf.
- A motion was made to go live. Motion seconded, carried by unanimous vote.
- A second motion was made to approve the \$48 per year expenditure to host the site. The motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote. (Larry Bresina, Optidat, has volunteered to maintain the site for one year at no charge.)

Next meeting, October 20

The letter mailed to county board supervisors appointed to lake districts was circulated. This letter invites the county board supervisors to attend the October 20th meeting. Rep. Ann Hraychuk and Sen. Sheila Harsdorf were also invited. It was suggested to include the press: Buzz Swerkstrom, Osceola Sun. Nancy Knutson will contact him. Carl Holmgren will send information about Ann Hraychuk's opponent so he/she can be invited to the October meeting. Karen will contact the pc Ledger.

County political leadership should make the lakes a priority. We keep hearing "there's no money for lakes" while tax dollars are spent on public health, social services, nursing homes. LWRD needs an I&E personnel to protect, preserve and enhance Polk County water resources. Lake organizations need help from LWRD to energize and organize our efforts; the department's support is needed for any lake organization's efforts to be effective.

The importance of lakes should be stressed. Tim Ritten mentioned that he presented a "Powerpoint" to county board supervisors with a summary of the economic impact of lakes, and taxes. Waterfront property owners support local services, utilities, merchants,

restaurants and bars, in addition to providing over 50% of the county's tax revenue.

Discussion topic

Spraying contract, Carl Holmgren, Balsam

Carl's looking for a bid form for hiring spraying or plant management companies.

Creating a taxing district, Nancy Knutson, Lotus

Lotus Lake association is considering restructuring as a lake district and asked for help with steps and process. Tim Ritten referred them to wisconsinlakes.org and his office for information.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm

Minutes submitted by

Karen Engelbretson, President

Polk County Ass'n of Lakes and Rivers

October 4, 2010

