



## **Meeting Minutes**

Meeting date: Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013

The second 2013 meeting of the Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers (PCALR) was held Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Polk County Justice Center in Balsam Lake. Polk County Board Supervisors were invited for presentations and discussion. Polk County Lake organizations shared their management and protection work and answered questions.

## **Attending**

Ray Sloss, Balsam Lake; Carl Holmgren, Balsam Lake; Derrick Carlson, Apple River Flowage; Mark Tryggstad, Wapogasset/Bear Trap; Mike Seidl, Wapogasset/Bear Trap; Julie Selle, Wapogasset/Bear Trap; Joseph Ziglinski, Wapogasset/Bear Trap; Ray Schmidt, Wild Goose Lake; Karen Engelbretson, Bone Lake; Phil Foster, Bone Lake; Dan Bergeron, Big Round Lake; Gordon Kill, Big Round Lake; Tim Ritten, Polk County LWRD; Katelin Holm, Polk County LWRD; Jeremy Williamson, Polk County LWRD; Rick Scoglio, Apple River Association and County Board Supervisor District 11; Warren Nelson, County Board Supervisor District 14; Neil Johnson, County Board Supervisor District 21

## **Welcome and Introductions**

## **Treasurer's Report**

Current balance is \$1,474.52.

## **Membership**

The new membership year began on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Annual dues are \$25 for organizations and businesses and \$10 for individuals. Thank you to everyone who has already renewed their membership or joined PCALR for the first time. Thank you to Larry Bresina for setting up online membership renewal: <http://pcalr.org/join-pcalr/>

## **PCALR Lake Management Workshop**

Thirty four participants signed up for the Lake Management Workshop and each session of the workshop was attended by over 20 participants. Sessions were held on May 4<sup>th</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup>, and June 4<sup>th</sup>. Materials from the workshop are online at: <http://pcalr.org/2013-workshop/> Thank you to Larry Bresina for maintaining the PCALR website!

## **Who's Who Brochure**

The Who's Who Brochure has been popular with lake organizations and individuals. This year the brochure will be updated and reprinted. Polk County LWRD, Polk County Zoning, and WDNR have all reviewed the brochure for updates. If you have any suggestions for changes or would like to order a quantity of brochures for your lake group please email Karen Engelbretson or Katelin Holm. The more brochures that are ordered, the cheaper the unit price becomes.

## **Action Item**

Write to your legislator regarding Motion #375 which was adopted by the Joint Finance Committee into the state budget on Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. This amendment prohibits a citizen from challenging an application for a new high capacity well, even if the state has not considered the cumulative environmental impacts of other high capacity wells.

## **Lakescaping for Wildlife Presentation**

The Star Prairie Land Preservation Trust, Inc. Annual Meeting will feature Carrol Henderson, author of Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality. The event will take place on Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 p.m. at the New Richmond High School and is open to the public.

<http://pcalr.org/lake-and-river-scaping-for-wildlife/>

## **Landing Blitz**

The fifth annual Landing Blitz will take place July 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will be at landings demonstrating the required prevention steps boaters must take, providing educational prompts to remind boaters of these steps, and talking about Wisconsin invasive species and VHS laws. Each participating landing will be given 25 free "Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers" boating towels to hand out to boaters found practicing good boat hygiene. Sixteen Polk County lakes are participating in the Landing Blitz including: the Apple River Flowage, Big Round Lake, Bone Lake, Balsam Lake, Big Butternut Lake, Pipe and North Pipe Lake, Half Moon Lake, North White Ash and White Ash Lake, Church Pine and Big Lake, Lake Wapogasset, Bear Trap Lake, Big Blake Lake, and Paulsen Lake. Katelin Holm will be sending out the template Landing Blitz news release for the sixteen participating lakes.

## **Project Riverine Early Detectors (RED)**

Polk County LWRD, National Park Service, St. Croix River Association, River Alliance, and WDNR will be training citizens to identify invasive species during two Project RED trainings held on Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Both trainings will include a classroom and in-field learning experience.

## **2014 Governor's Fishing Opener**

The 2014 Governor's Fishing Opener will take place on Balsam Lake. There will be numerous opportunities for PCALR and lake organizations to be involved.

## **Presentations and Discussion**

*Polk County Land and Water Resources Department: Tim Ritten*

Polk County LWRD is overseen by the Land Conservation Committee (LCC) and County Board and has seven staff in the areas of water quality, engineering, and agriculture. Tim outlined the projects LWRD has implemented to meet the goals of the Polk County Land and Water Resource Management Plan in regards to aquatic invasive species, limiting phosphorus runoff from agriculture, and urban stormwater. A sampling of projects include: County-wide AIS grant activities, lake grant projects, assistance with CBCW, manure management, nutrient management plans, edge of field monitoring stations, construction site review, and non-metallic mining permits. At the County level, all the ordinances are being codified and rewritten. Additionally, in 2014 the County will be redistricted and the number of County Board Supervisors will be changed from 23 to 15.

*Big Round Lake: Gordon Kill*

- 12<sup>th</sup> year of completing aquatic plant point intercept surveys
- Yearly dives for early detection of zebra mussels and Eurasian water milfoil
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year of I-LIDS cameras at the boat landing
- Began CBCW last year
  - AIS Violation last year which resulted in a \$250 fine
- 2013: year-long WDNR fish study
- Last year of walleye stocking (3,000/year, 9 inch)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lake Management Plan
- Lake maps/AIS flyers last year
- Website has information regarding every project that has been implemented on the lake

*Balsam Lake: Carl Holmgren*

- Largest lake in Polk County
- The equalized value is 269 million in 2013 and 300 million in 2007

- CBCW since 2007
- Purchased Stumps Bay parcel for Conservancy
- \$100,000 Waterfront Runoff grant which expires in 2013
- Culvert replacement to provide access to the Millpond
- Top issue is water quality in East Balsam
- APM plan: treated 14.5 acres of CLP in 2013
- 2012 updated Long Range Plan
- Website has information regarding every project that has been implemented on the lake

*Apple River Flowage: Derrick Carlson and Jeremy Williamson*

- Began harvesting aquatic plants in 2012
- CBCW program started in 2012
- Currently working on a Lake Management Plan

*Wapogasset/Bear Trap: Joseph Ziglinski*

- Top issues are curly leaf pondweed and runoff
- 5 year plan to treat CLP, not getting results so are looking at other options
- CBCW program for the last 5 years, all inspectors are paid this year
- Question regarding if the Polk County Recycling Center takes CLP
  - Follow up: Recycling Center will take CLP if it is dried, bagged, and tied
- Shares boat with Church Pine, Round, and Big Lake PRD for increased boating enforcement
  - DNR grant paid for boat, Sheriff's Department rents the boat
- Education at Garfield Park for boater safety

*Bone Lake: Phil Foster*

- Second largest lake in Polk County
- Very active volunteer base, around 50
- Many committees (ex: waterfront runoff, fisheries, natural beauty/wildlife)
- \$1,000/year for 5 septic upgrades
- AIS activities: 2 I-LIDS cameras, CBCW
- Currently have 5 grants
- Interested in increased boating regulation enforcement
- Muskie fishing: population down by half, less tournaments, less tourism
- Just completed a property owner survey
  - 530 surveys mailed, 243 returned, 43% response rate
  - Largest concerns are aquatic invasive species, excessive aquatic plant growth, water clarity, unsafe boating/personal watercraft safety, and decreased muskie population
  - Programs respondents feel should be continued: programs to deter new aquatic invasive species (95%), treat CLP (85%), incentives to upgrade non-conforming septic systems (85%)

*Wild Goose Lake: Ray Schmidt*

- Less than 200 acres in size
- Very quiet lake, half of the lake undeveloped wetlands/tamarack
- Shallow lake, less than 11 feet deep
- Froze out in 1974
- Water quality is pretty good but color is tainted because of the wetlands
- Association: 15 years old, 60% of residents are members
- Plans to hold a boat ride tour of Wild Goose Lake

*Apple River Association: Rick Scoglio*

- Volunteer organization: 501(c)(3)
- Covers 2/3 of the County
- Donated dollars to help purchase the harvester for the Apple River Flowage
- Installing the Apple River Signs (ex: Beaver Brook, Fox Creek, Balsam Branch)
- The watershed is the tax base for Polk County
  - Georgetown is the highest valued Town in Polk County because of all the lakes

Next meeting: Wednesday August 21<sup>st</sup>, 7-9, Guest speaker on social marketing: John Haack

**Adjourn**

Minutes submitted by

Katelin Holm, Secretary

Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers

June 2013