

Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group
Meeting Minutes – February 11th, 2019
Hazelton Town Hall

Members Present: Perry Bunting, MLBO DNRE; Evelyn Close, Hazelton Township; Barb Eller, Onamia; Diane Jacobson, Crow Wing SWCD; Jake Janski, Mille Lacs SWCD; Bob Janzen, Supervisor Aitkin SWCD; Harmony Maslowski, Watershed Coordinator; Doug McCormick, Round Lake; David Oslin, Mille Lacs Co Commissioner; John Pearson, South Harbor; Janet Smude, Aitkin Co SWCD; Chad Weiss, MLBO DNRE; Laurie Westerlund, Aitkin Co Commissioner.

1. Chair, Laurie Westerlund called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.
2. Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved as presented. M/S/C Barb Eller/David Oslin.
3. Guest Speaker: Peggy Jones from American Peat Technology presented on their peat product, along with APTsorb media used in storm water treatment, and their proposed expansion in the McGrath area including a new processing facility and peat harvest area. Bob Janzen informed the group that American Peat Technology was recognized as the Aitkin Area Chamber of Commerce 2018 member of the year.
4. Consent Agenda: A consent agenda included: a. Approve of December 17th, 2018 Meeting Minutes, b. Approve of Financial Report, c. Information Only: Topic of the Month- *Smart Salting Protects Minnesota Waters*. The consent agenda was approved as presented. M/S/C Bob Janzen/Jake Janski.
5. Discussion and Action
 - 5.1. Plan of Work Goals for 2019 Approval – Harmony Maslowski provided the Plan of Work documents with all edits made up to date. Discussion of goals for 2019, possible MN Lakes and Rivers Membership, and outreach. Outcomes were to have additional 2019 goals to focus on outreach including visibility efforts at existing events added to Plan of Work for approval at next meeting. Request for an upcoming events calendar to be shared with the group. Discussion on having MLLWGM on other events calendars including Mille Lacs Tourism.
 - 5.2. Website Discussion – Harmony Maslowski informed the group that they have been initially approved for the requested \$500 from the Aitkin County Water Planning Task Force, and can count on receiving funds shortly. John Pearson proposed moving to Bluehost. Discussion followed on the logistics, cost, and MLLWGM documents posted up to two years prior. A motion was made for the reimbursement of John Pearson, allowing him to move forward with the website transition. M/S/C Barb Eller/David Oslin.
 - 5.3. AIS Grant Application – Harmony Maslowski reported the deadline for AIS application is March 15th of 2019. Discussion followed on Media Committee goals for coloring sheets, crayons, watershed game prototype with AIS education component. Discussion on refreshments for the Healthy Land, Healthy Lake, and payment for John Pearson’s AIS related services on website. Outcomes were that Maslowski would submit a draft AIS application to officers for review before submitting.
 - 5.4. Topic of the Month – Topic of the Month Volunteer sign-up sheet was passed around for 2019.
 - 5.5. Coordinator’s Report – Harmony Maslowski discussed the updates on the financial report format. Maslowski has attended the 1W1P steering committee meeting and has

expressed the MLLWMG's interest in participation through the Advisory Committee. Maslowski reported that Laurie Westerlund and Diane Jacobson are on the Policy Committee for One Watershed One Plan and that committee will be meeting in late February or early March. Maslowski also attended the Mille Lacs County Local Water Management Plan Advisory Committee meeting and relayed information on proposed Oak Wilt projects in the area. Maslowski has reached out to a contact associated with the We Are Water exhibit that will be hosted in the Mille Lacs Indian Museum in the Fall of 2019. Maslowski will attend a meeting to explore possible partnerships with the event and activities around the exhibit. Maslowski has found eight lake associations in the Mille Lacs Watershed, discussion followed on other lake associations to contact and provide MLLWMG information. Outcomes were to email or connect with lake association contacts and provide them MLLWMG information.

6. Updates and Comments

6.1. Media Committee – Already discussed in item 5.3. 2019 Aitkin County AIS Grant Application items.

6.2. Fundraising / Grant Writing / Membership –Already discussed in item 5.3. 2019 Aitkin County AIS Grant Application.

6.3. Updates and Comments: John Pearson brought DNR Scientific and Natural Areas posters for the group. Pearson has volunteered to do a Topic of the Month in July of 2019 on the Mille Lacs Moraine. Pearson mentioned that the DNR Scientific and Natural Areas publication will also highlight the Mille Lacs Moraine topic in the future.

7. Meeting Evaluation and Next Steps: Smude suggested that the coordinator's report could be moved up in the agenda.

8. The next meeting - The next meeting will be March 18th at Kathio State Park Interpretive Center Classroom and Shelley Larson will be the guest speaker. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. M/S/C Dave Oslin/Jake Janski.