



# Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards

## ***Minutes of PACRS January 19, 2024 Necedah Town Hall 10:00 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.***

**Board Members In attendance:** Scott Bordeau, Steve Taylor, Colette Camerano, Rick Georgeson,

**Members & Guests in attendance:** Shane Wucherpfennig, Star Ann Lemar, Sarah Fleck, Grafton Hull, Anna James, Jannah Mather, Pat Monat, Dennis Glidden, Karen & Al Knotek, Scott Kimball, Lauren Lueneburg, Mike Turok, Barbara Baker, Patrick Oldenburg

**Call to Order:** President, Scott Bordeau, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Scott welcomed everyone and began the meeting with introductions from all present.

**Secretary's Report:** Colette stated the last PACRS meeting was held on December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Monroe Center Town Hall. Minutes were posted to the PACRS website on December 8<sup>th</sup>. A short recap of that meeting:

- Scott Provost discussed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual WI River Meet and Greet. The date for this year's meeting in March 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Steve Taylor and Scott Bordeau presented a draft budget for 2024. Membership fees will remain the same for 2024. Scott felt we may get more members if the home owner associations encouraged their property owners to join PACRS. Scott will draft a letter for the HOAs. The 2024 budget includes a tightening of expenses while still continuing to support our affiliates and county conservation projects.
- Discussion on cover crop field days and upcoming meetings.
- Conservation reports were given for Wood, Juneau and Adams Counties.

A motion was made by Grafton Hull to accept the Secretary's report. Steve Taylor second the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Steve Taylor gave current balance information on our checking and savings accounts. Steve provided Colette with copies of the bank statements through December. The budget for 2024 was discussed. Grafton Hull made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Karen Knotek second the motion. All in favor, motion passed. Steve has filed our federal tax forms. PACRS has set up an additional checking account that will be the fiscal agent account handling funds for the Farmers of the Roche-A-Cri. Anna James said the farmers will have their first event on March 6<sup>th</sup>. The WI River Basin Meet and Greet is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held in Plover. Scott has been working with Scott Provost scheduling this event. PACRS will be sponsoring lunch. Colette made a motion to spend up to \$500.00 for lunch and refreshments. Rick Georgeson second the motion. All in favor, motion passed



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**Affiliates and Conference Sponsorships:** Scott discussed this is the time of year when conferences are held. Sponsorship funds for these events have been allocated in the 2024 budget.

1. Wisconsin Land and Water: PACRS will donate \$500.00 as a sponsor for their conference to be held March 6-8<sup>th</sup> in Green Bay. Rick Georgeson will attend and represent PACRS.
2. River Alliance of Wisconsin: Colette made a motion to donate \$500.00 to support the work of the River Alliance. Rick Georgeson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.
3. Wisconsin Lakes: Rick Georgeson is on the board at WI Lakes. Currently PACRS is not a member of WI Lakes but we have benefitted from all the work they do, especially their WI Lake Leaders Institute. In the past, we have donated \$1,000 towards their conference. It was decided there would be two donations from PACRS. An annual donation for membership and a donation towards sponsoring their conference. The total of two checks will not exceed \$1,000 annually. A motion was made by Scott Bordeau to split the membership and sponsorship with a maximum \$1,000. Colette second the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

## **Communication Report:**

- On December 7<sup>th</sup>, Scott attended the Wisconsin Water and Soil Health conference in Wisconsin Dells. PACRS sponsored the event. The conference was well attended. Sarah Fleck, Juneau County, also attended. She said there is testing going on with mill waste. There are experiments underway that mill waste under potato roots may grab nitrogen. Years of testing would have to be done before this is ever wide spread.
- Farmers of Mill Creek Field Day was December 13<sup>th</sup>. 3 dozen students from area high schools were present. Scott gave a presentation on PACRS.
- February 20<sup>th</sup>, Rick, Steve and Mayo will attend the 2024 Annual Producer Led Watershed Protection Grant Workshop in Wausau. The conference is mandatory for farmer led councils and their fiscal agents.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual WI River Basin Meet and Greet will be held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Food and Farm Exploration Center in Plover. This is a new facility in Plover. The meeting will run from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Producer and Citizens Groups are welcome. Scott Provost is targeting for 70 people to attend.

## **Conservation Reports:**

### **Wood County:**

Shane Wucherpennig said that he is planning another Central WI Farmers Profit Exposition (CWFPE) along with Anna James. A date has not been set yet. There are so many farm conferences going on the next three months, it's difficult to find days when most farmers would be available. The Farmers of the Mill Creek Watershed are now into their 5<sup>th</sup> year of their 9Key Element plan implementation. Shane is working with Caleb Armstrong at EPPIC to host a joint field day between the groups.

### **Juneau County:**

Sarah Fleck said the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Fishing Tournament hosted by the Guardians of Lake Decorah (GOLD) is Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be prizes and food. A Farmer Appreciation Dinner was held January 18<sup>th</sup> at the Lodge of Mauston. The event was sponsored by WRJC radio and local area businesses.



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The weed harvester may have a full-time operator in 2024. 125,000 lbs. of weeds were pulled from Lake Decorah and the Lemonweir River in 2023. The no till drill is ready for rental in 2024. The Annual Soil Health Workshop will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup> at the Baraboo Arts & Convention Center. The keynote speaker is Blake Vince, a fifth-generation farmer from Ohio. The workshop starts at 9:30 and ends at 3:30 p.m. Please register if you would like to attend. <https://www.sswig.org/event-details/annual-soil-health-workshop-with-blake-vince>

### **Adams County:**

Kyle Kettner gave us his last update on the 14 Mile Watershed. Kyle's has accepted a new position with NRCS out of Sparta. This is in Monroe County. Scott thanked him for all his conservation work and building relationships in the 14 Mile Watershed. He will be missed.

### **Next Meeting Date:**

**Friday, March 15, 2024**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Monroe Township Townhall  
981 County Rd. Z  
Arkdale, WI. 54613**

Meeting adjourned 11:40 a.m.  
Respectfully Submitted,

Colette Camerano , Secretary