



***Minutes of PACRS Member Meeting
July 21, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m.
The Lester Public Library***

Board Members: Scott Bordeau, Colette Camerano, Steve Taylor, Peter Manley, Rick Georgeson, Virgil Miller

Members and Guests: Tom Camerano, Anna James, Wayne Gjersvig, John Endrizzi, Dennis & Carolyn Glidden, Brad Strobel, John Payson, Jacki Koll, Jim Carpenter, Keifer Sroka, Patrick Oldenburg, Kyle Kettner, Kirstie Heidenreich, Caleb Armstrong

Call to Order: President, Scott Bordeau, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with introductions.

Secretary's Report: Colette reported the last PACRS meeting was held on June 16th at the Lure Bar. Minutes were emailed to members on June 20th. Colette recapped notes from that meeting. A motion was made by Virgil Miller to accept the June minutes. Rick Georgeson second the motion. All in favor of accepting the June minutes, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Taylor reported on current bank balances. Steve provided Colette with copies on the current bank statements. PACRS received a grant donation of \$2225.00 from Visit Rome and a \$1,000 anonymous grant. The Visit Rome grant was used to pay the final payment to our web developer. Colette Camerano made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Jim Carpenter second the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

TMDL Update: Patrick Oldenburg- WI River TMDL Coordinator

Patrick updated members on the current status of the Wisconsin River TMDL. He discussed:

- Permitted Municipal Stormwater Systems
- Wastewater Treatment Systems
- Multi Discharger Variance (MDV)
- Producer Led Groups - \$214,360 in DATCP grants for 8 farmer led groups
- 9 Key Element Plans – 4 Plans approved in our TMDL
- Targeted Runoff Management Grants - Funding in 2023 provided grants to Marathon County Large Scale TMDL and Wausau Urban Construction
- Select Surface Water Grants - 2023 grants funded for 6 projects
- Gulf Hypoxia Program Workplan - \$1.7 million from the EPA

Patrick's entire presentation can be found on our website with this link

<https://pacrs.org/news/tmdl-update-july-2023>

EPPIC Story Marathon County – Kirstie Heidenreich (County Conservationist) & Caleb Armstrong (NRCS & EPPIC)

Kirstie discussed the Fenwood Creek’s Project in Marathon County. They are seeking grant funding of \$600,000 a year for 5 years. The money will be used for a full- time staff person in the county and then funds for the farmers. The Fenwood Creek Watershed drains approximately 26,000 acres of land into the 6,348-acre Big Eau Pleine reservoir. The Big Eau Pleine has experienced fish kills over the years due to non-point source pollution from agricultural fields. This project requires basic conservation for all land, provides incentives for superior levels of management and performance and engage the community stakeholders in the effort. There are incentives for farmers from \$20.00 to \$40.00 per acre for superior conservation. 5 farmers were in the pilot for 3 years and the county saw good results. In May, PACRS wrote a letter to Senator James for support of this project.

The Eau Pleine Partnership for Integrated Conservation (EPPIC) website is now live. www.eaupleinepartnership.com To highlight the work the EPPIC farmers are doing, they have edge of field signs to showcase conservation practices across the watershed.

Conservation Reports:

Adams County: Kiefer Sroka is organizing the SnapShot Day in Adams County. The date is Saturday, August 19th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will be held at Adams County Petenwell Park on Big Horn Dr. This effort is part of a state-wide search for aquatic invasive species. All the search activity will be done from the shoreline. Adams County is also looking to hire a County Conservationist.

Other:

- Natural Resource Educator (NRE) positions will hopefully be funded through a NRCS grant. It has been approved at the state level and now needs federal approval.
- Farmers of the Roche-A-Cri (FOTRAC) and Adams County Lake Alliance (ACLA) are organizing a “Pontoons and Potatoes” on Castle Rock Lake for August 17th.
- We have 2 tickets available for Golden Sands Grazing Workshop on Saturday, August 12th. It is at UW Stevens Point from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. PACRS are a Choice Level Sponsor.

Adjourned at 12:00 pm

Next Meeting:

August 18, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Place: Shipwreck on Castle Rock Lake

N7265 Shacks Rd.

Mauston, WI.

Respectfully Submitted,
Colette Camerano - Secretary