



Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards

Minutes of PACRS Member Meeting June 17, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Lure Bar & Grill – Nekoosa, WI

In attendance: Rick Georgeson, Scott Bordeaux, Steve Taylor, Colette & Tom Camerano, Virgil Miller, Mark Diedrich, Ron Von Haden, Wayne Gjersvig, Joe Sukana, Shane Wucherpfennig, John Endrizzi, Jes Roloff, Rick Potter, Paul Pisellini, Bob Knecht, Greg Lowe, Allen Suykora, Steve Schmidt, Jim Will, , Matt Krueger, Wally Sedlar

Call to Order: President, Rick Georgeson called the meeting to order at 10:10 with introductions.

Secretary's Report: Colette Camerano distributed May 2016 Minutes by email and regular mail. A good portion of the May meeting were presentations of The Petenwell Castle Rock EPS Model Report and the Central Sands Water Action Coalition. Ron Von Haden made a motion to approve the minutes. Virgil Miller seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Taylor provided the financial update on current bank balances. Deposits of \$1031.00 were received from membership and apparel sales. PACRS spent \$661.00 on apparel and promotional key chains for the Clean Boats Clean Water program. After checking with a couple of resources, the decision was made that we do not need to renew our charitable license in July. The state has raised the limit to \$25,000. If PACRS were to receive a large donation we have 30 days to file. Colette Camerano made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Scott Bordeaux seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Communication Report: Scott Bordeaux gave a report on recent progress. We have 345 people that "like" us on Facebook. Scott and Colette worked with Mike Coke to get our website updated with accomplishments and events. We will try to keep the website more current.

Keytainers will be distributed at the boat launches as the inspectors talk with boaters about Clean Boats Clean Water. The keytainers are bright yellow and inscribed with "Improving Water Quality Together" Join Us pacrs.org

WRPCO Presentation: Jes Roloff provided an overview of WRPCO and the management of the Shoreline Commons Area (SCA). WRPCO own project lands 100' inland from shores. This represents 29 miles out of 210 miles of shoreline. There are 18 SCA developments are Petenwell Lake and 14 on Castle Rock Lake. WRPCO hydro dams are regulated under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). WRPCO must comply with the policies and articles of in the hydro dam license with FERC. Included in the regulations is the Vegetative Management Plan, the Shoreline Commons Area. Jes answered a number of questions regarding the SCA. Many of PACRS members own homes in the developments. Jes walks the 29 miles of SCA twice a year looking for encroachment violations and resolutions to the encroachments.



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Jersey Valley Watershed Tour: Mark Diedrich, Colette and Tom Camerano took the tour of the Jersey Valley Watershed on June 7th. The tours are sponsored by PDPW and UW Discovery Farms. The watershed project began in 2009. Water monitoring stations were set up in 4 agriculture fields and 4 other sites. The farmers in this area were very willing to participate in this project and many are doing cover crop and no till. After 5 years of monitoring they are gathering feedback, establishing a continuation plan and continue edge of field monitoring.

The Sparta Wastewater Treatment Plant was also on this tour. There are over 20 processes in place at this water treatment plant to clean waste water to the point of discharging into the La Crosse River.

The Malin Farm is a 80 cow dairy outside of Westby, WI. The Malins teamed up with Discovery Farms in 2010 to learn more about the nutrients, sediment and water that leaves their farm. This farm has a monitoring station and weather station.

Shane Wucherpennig, Wood County Land and Water Conservationist, was on a similar trip that included a wastewater treatment plant and Belgioioso Cheese. Shane believes a lot of farmers are stepping up and doing the right thing to improve soil and water health. Rick Potter suggested that PACRS have some sort of award for farmers that practice good conservation on their lands. A farmer would be selected from the three counties. PACRS will explore this idea further.

Mill Creek Farm Tour: June 25th, is conservation day at John Eron's farm in Stevens Point. The farmers in the Mill Creek Watershed are anxious to share with citizens groups the practices they have put in place for land and water conservation. This event runs from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm. Lunch is available for purchase between noon and 1:00 pm. Live music starts at 7:00 pm. The address is 3471 County Road C, Stevens Point, WI.

Invite Farmers to the Lake: A conversation early in the year between Rick Georgeson and John Eron expressed an interest in farmers coming down to our lakes this summer. In the past, PACRS has held a "Pontoon and Politics" event whereby politicians toured the waters of Castle Rock Lake on a pontoon. There is an interest that we hold the same type of event for agriculture producers in our area. Colette, Mark and Wayne will coordinate this event most likely to be held in August.

Land and Water Conservation Reports:

Juneau County – Greg Lowe provided an update of activities in his county. Greg distributed a recent article on restoring the Little Lemonweir and how Nate Bell, a Juneau county farmer worked with NRCS to complete a streambank restoration project that ran through his property. When Nate was contacted by NRCS to restore the stream, he was all over it. Once again, proving many farmers want to be good conservationist of the water and land. The full article is attached to these minutes.

Adams County: Wally Sedlar provided an update of activities in Adams County. He has recently hired a new coordinator, Hannah Rogers from Mississippi. The water levels of Lake Camelot continue to go up and down. The Adams County committee has changed its name to Land and Water Resources and Recreation (LWRR). His department will still be called Land and Water Conservation.



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Wood County: Shane Wucherpennig provided an update for Wood County. He has been doing lots of work with the farmers in the Mill Creek Watershed. There are 10 farmers in the core group. Farm Bureau received a \$1,000 grant to aid the class rooms with conservation material.

Central Sands Water Action Coalition: This group presented at our May meeting. A decision to join this group has been delayed.

Other:

Clean Boats Clean Water: A second boat inspector has been hired for Adams County Petenwell Park. Both inspectors will be distributing keytainers and encouraging members to go to PACRS website.

Gaylord Nelson Awards: Denny Caneff, Executive Director of the River Alliance, received an award at the Nelson Award ceremony held June 2nd in Madison, WI. Denny received “Conservation in Action” award for his commitment to conservation. The ceremony was attended by approx. 125 people. Rick Georgeson, Colette Camerano, Mark Diedrich and Gail Rollins were present for the event and gave Denny a PACRS cap. Matt Krueger made the comment that Denny was really pleased to see representation from PACRS there. Congratulation to Denny!

**Next Meeting Date: Friday, July 15th
10:00 a.m. to Noon**

**Lure Bar & Grill
1735 Archer Lane
Nekoosa, WI. 54457**

Meeting adjourned 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colette Camerano,
Secretary