



Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards

Minutes of PACRS Member Meeting March 18, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Spot in the Woods - Friendship

In attendance: Rick Georgeson, Steve Taylor, Lynda & Larry Everson, Bob Knecht, Colette & Tom Camerano, Curtis Frost, Joe Sukana, Amy Franckowiak, Greg Lowe, Gerry Ganther, Jim Murphy, Wally Sedlar, Scott Bordeau, Rick Potter, Mike Coke

Call to Order: President, Rick Georgeson called the meeting to order at 10:15 with introductions.

Secretary's Report: Colette Camerano distributed January 2016 Minutes by email and regular mail. Colette was notified by Steve Taylor that there was an error in the minutes. Steve sent the River Alliance a check for \$500.00 which represented the \$100.00 membership fee for 2016 and a \$400.00 donation. Colette will correct the January minutes. Lynda Everson made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Scott Bordeau seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Taylor provided an update on current bank balances. No expenses were paid since the last meeting. Deposits of \$1320.00 were added for memberships paid. PACRS received a thank you letter from the River Alliance for our donation. For the benefit of the new members attending, Rick explained how the River Alliance works with PACRS and all the other citizens groups up and down the river. Many of our initiatives have been successful because of our relationship with the Alliance. Jim Murphy made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Lynda Everson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Communication Report: Scott Bordeau does the PACRS posts on FaceBook. Mike Coke does the newsletters. 334 people "like us" on FaceBook. Newsletters are not sent out at a specific time. Generally, they are sent when there is news that we want to share with our members. A newsletter recently went out a week ago and reached 195 people. The newsletter described the Healthy Soil / Healthy Water Workshop held in February. If any member has articles they want to share, please let Scott or Mike know. Colette gave an update on membership renewals. Members that have not responded to our emails were mailed a letter this past week. There are members who have not renewed since 2014 and earlier. Colette will send the board of directors the list of those individual and businesses for follow up. It was suggested that possibly a phone call from a member might be successful. Scott Bordeau will put together a "message" that could be used contacting these individuals.

PACRS Apparel / T Shirts / Caps: Lynda Everson said that she will have sample T-shirts for the next meeting. There are 12 caps left for purchase. Lynda and Colette will also get an estimate on fishing towels that may be given to fishermen after talking with the representative on the Clean Boats Clean Water program. PACRS caps were available for purchase right after the meeting.



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Healthy Soil/ Healthy Water Workshop: Rick gave an update on the success of the Healthy Soil / Healthy Water Workshop. PACRS representatives, Rick, Lynda and Mark worked on the planning committee. In the past years, the Water Symposium Conference lacked the participation from the agriculture industry. This year's planning changed the conference focus to soil and water and their goal was to have 50% of agriculture producers attend. Registration was opened up to the public after producers were given a chance to sign up. The conference facility could accommodate 130 people.

The workshop opened with welcoming remarks from Dr. Sue Bujac, President, Mid-State Technical College where the workshop was held. Following Sue, Peter Manley, Community Resource Development Agent Wood County UW RExtension talked about team building. He explained that we are all here as a team and everyone should be sensitive to each other without finger pointing. We have all come together to discuss soil and water health and what can be done. Peter set the atmosphere as everyone was cooperative and respectful throughout the day.

The keynote speaker, Ray "the Soils Guy" Archuleta, is nationally known and a sought after speaker on soil health and cover crops. Ray comes from a farming family and has 25 years of experience with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Ray's message was that we have to farm in nature's image. A soil demonstration showed the benefits of no till soil versus conventional tilled soil. Ray's entire presentation and other speaker presentations are available to view at <http://fyi.uwex.edu/healthysoilwater/workshop-materials/>

Land and Water Conservation Reports:

Greg Lowe (Juneau County) stated he has submitted an annual report to the county board. The county's cost share for 2015 was 1.9 million dollars. Central Wisconsin TMDL changes the farmer's set back from 5 feet to 20 feet.

Wally Sedlar (Adams County) stated that manure spray irrigation permits are renewed annually. Pathogens spread is reduced to 600 feet from 1,000 feet. Lake Camelot's dam gate is stuck. Wally believes another rock is the problem. They have a position open for a conservation person in his department. His department is doing lake sampling now.

Introduction of Darrin's Replacement: Darrin Johnson has left his position at Wisconsin River Power Company. His replacement, Jessica Roloff, was unable to attend this meeting. Joe Sukana, WRPCO Supervisor, joined our meeting and was a familiar face to some PACRS members. Joe works at the Petenwell and Castle Rock Dam and resides in Mauston. The delayed water drawdown that has been in effect for the last 5 years has been successful. FERC still has not signed off to make this permanent yet. Joe's contact information is (608) 547-7041 jsukana@wisconsinpublicservice.com

Other:

- Mother Earth Water Walk event will be held September 17 and 18th. The celebration of waters ceremony will end at the Lure in Nekoosa. Contact Reesa Evans if you would like to volunteer or need further information. Brochures will be available for our April meeting.



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

**Splash Waterfront Bar and Grill
1947 Dakota Lane.
Friendship, WI. 53934**

Meeting adjourned 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colette Camerano,
Secretary