



Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards

***Minutes of PACRS Member Conference Call
July 17, 2020 at 9:45 a.m.
Conference Call In Toll Free
(844) 875-7777
Access Code 309003#***

In attendance:

Board Members: Rick Georgeson, Colette Camerano, Steve Taylor, Scott Bordeau, Virgil Miller, Lynda Everson, Jim Stewart, Peter Manley, Mark Diedrich,

Members and Guests: Larry Everson, Tom Camerano, Lisa Schenk, Sam Peterson, Rachel Whitehair, Pat Oldenburg, Dustin Ladd

Call to Order: President, Rick Georgeson called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

Secretary's Report: Colette emailed and mailed the May minutes to members on May 21st. We did not have a meeting in June. In May we discussed, the memorial stocking of fish is still scheduled for September. Rick G had updated members on work being done by the Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed. Lynda Everson made a motion to accept the Secretary Minutes for May. Jim Stewart seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Taylor reported on the current balances of PACRS savings and checking accounts. Steve made mention that our donation of \$1,000 to Wisconsin Lakes Partnership has not yet been cashed. Rick G will look into the matter. A motion was made by Colette Camerano to approve the Treasurer's Report. Peter Manley seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Communications Report: Scott Bordeau listened to a presentation of the 9 Key Element Plan for the 14 Mile Creek Watershed. Sam Peterson, Adams County Conservation, said the plan has been approved by the EPA. This is good news for the Tri Lakes and Wisconsin River Basin. Initially, efforts will be on education and outreach programs. Scott said the 9 key element plan is a holistic approach in the 14 Mile Creek Watershed for surface and ground water reduction of nitrogen and phosphorous. The watershed is 55,000 acres of which 50% is crop land. The plan has a 63% reduction in phosphorous. The financial plan will provide assistance of \$8 million over 10 years. The money will come from grants. There is discussion of a possible committee to oversee goals achieved. Members were asked if they see improved lake water this year. Mark and Lisa said the lake water has been better than previous years. Steve Taylor said the water on Castle Rock Lake has been clear. Peter Manley said algae on Petenwell is starting to build.



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Conservation Reports:

Adams County – Sam Peterson stated the 9 Key Element Plan has been approved by the EPA for the 14 Mile Creek Watershed. USDA recently corralled geese in the Tri Lakes area and removed them. Lake property owners are encouraged to plant prairie grasses on their property to discourage the geese from foraging. Geese prefer low cut grasses.

Wood County – Shane is on vacation. Scott Bordeau received an email from Shane with activity in Wood County. Shane indicates there is a group of farmers that has rented the no till equipment several times this past year. They are practicing no till on 800 acres. They have a Nutrient Management Plan and cover crops on 600 acres. Shane recommends this group for the PACRS Conservation Award. Scott Bordeau made a motion for this group to receive our award for conservation. Rick Georgeson second the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Juneau County – Dustin Ladd, County Conservationist, indicated he is involved with a restoration project at the Wilderness camp ground. The boat ramp will be upgraded to the water. He also has been working with the Lake Decorah group on a lake management plan.

Other: Rick Georgeson reported that John Eron, leader of the Mill Creek Farmer led Council, expressed interest in bringing his family to Lake Petenwell for a day of fun. Mark Diedrich and Lisa saw an opportunity to be the host and invited John and his family for a day of boating, swimming, and tubing. Both lunch and dinner were provided by Mark and Lisa, ending the day with a campfire and s'mores. John and Melissa and their children, Jack and Nora, had a very full day, a day they will remember as fun with their lake friends. Such a day does much to strengthen the relationship with our ag. community. Mark and Lisa were wonderful hosts.

Pat Oldenburg said the EPA in Chicago has approved the SSC for Lakes Petenwell and Castle Rock and Lake Wisconsin. The DNR is working on a press release. Marathon County is working on their Land and Water Plan.

Rachael Whitehair said the Field Day for Portage County was today, July 17th. It is a drop in event and they are demonstrating manure injecting equipment until 3:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned 10:42 am.

Next Meeting Date:
August 21, 2020
9:45 Conference Call

Respectfully Submitted,
Colette Camerano - Secretary