



Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards

Minutes of PACRS Annual Member Meeting Virtual Meeting September 25, 2020 at 9:45 a.m.

Board Members In attendance: Rick Georgeson, Scott Bordeau, Steve Taylor, Colette Camerano, Lynda Everson, Peter Manley, Jim Stewart

Members in attendance: Patt Pisellini, Shane Wucherpennig, Bill Clendenning, Chris Hamerla, Patrick Oldenburg, Jim Carpenter, Rachael Whitehair, Anna Cisar, Scott Provost, Wayne Gjernsvig, Eric Olson

Call to Order: President, Rick Georgeson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Secretary's Report: Colette Camerano said the last PACRS meeting was a conference call held on August 21st. Minutes were mailed and emailed to members on August 28th. Steve Taylor provided an update on check and saving balances. Scott Bordeau gave us the communications report. Wood County will be nominating one of their farmers for the conservation award. The memorial fish planting in memory of Ron Von Haden was scheduled for Monday, September 14th. Rachael Whitehair provided an overview of the virtual conference being planned for December. Rick Clark, a 5th generation farmer from Indiana, will be the key note speaker. Shane Wucherpennig, Wood County Conservationist, provided an update for his county His new project was to purchase a roller crimper so farmers would be able to rent the equipment. A motion was made by Jim Stewart to approve the Secretary's report. The motion was seconded by Lynda Everson. All in favor, motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Taylor reported on PACRS current bank balances. Steve summarized income for 2020 and balances were compared to last year. Major contribution made in 2020 totaled \$10,500. Contributions were made to support; Cover Crop Conference in Stevens Point, Wisconsin Lakes Conference, Wisconsin Water Lobby Day, Wisconsin Land and Water, River Alliance of Wisconsin, Land and Water Envirothon, Muskies Matter Inc, Consolidated Musky Club and Wood County Land and Water Department. A motion was made by Scott Bordeau to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Peter Manley. All in favor, motion approved.

Communications Report: Scott Bordeau attended a Tri Lakes meeting recently and a new board was elected. Now that the 9 Key Element Plan for the 14 Mile Creek Watershed has been approved, Kason Morley, Adams County Conservationist, has applied for additional staffing in his department. In the last 28 days, we had 4 posts on Facebook that reached 1100 people. We added 7 new likes. This addition brings our Facebook total to over 700 users. Terra Firma Realty will be sending us a \$500.00 donation. The PACRS members on the farmer recognition committee have approved Roth's Golden Farms to receive our conservation sign. Scott Made a motion to have the conservation sign for Roth's Farms printed. Jim Stewart second the motion. All in favor, motion passed.



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TMDL Update: Pat Oldenburg joined our meeting to provide information on the monitoring at the Biron Dam. Flow data has been collected downstream of the Biron Dam for the past 34 years in Wisconsin Rapids. They have seen the phosphorous levels go down over the past 20 years. There has been lots of rain the last 4 – 6 years. The Biron Long Term Trend Monitoring (LTT) has seen a -70% reduction in point source loads over the past 20 years. Paper mill closing in Whiting and Brokaw and the 2010 P ruling play a role in the reduction. Citizens Lake Monitoring (CLM Network) has 1,000 citizen volunteers statewide. CLM been monitoring a site on Lake Petenwell 1 mile southeast of Longview Point. This site has been sampled for Secchi depth (water clarity) since 2005. It has also been sampled for TP and chlorophyll (algae) since 2007. For the months of July through September, phosphorous and chlorophyll levels have dropped since the mid- 2000s. For the months July through August, Water clarity has increased about 1 foot. The Trophic State Index (TSI) is a way of relating different measures of water quality. All three parameters are behaving consistently. Chlorophyll is the main driving force behind water clarity. Total Phosphorous (TP) is the main driving force behind chlorophyll (algae) levels. Larger variability of TP and chlorophyll may be due to fewer samples / yearly. Pat said we will see more reduction from point sources but not like what we have seen in the last 20 years, maybe another 10%. Changes from Non Point sources will depend on quickly practices are adopted. Largescale changes take time. We will see changes on land before water quality data shows them. Long periods of dry spells will provide poorer water quality. Members expressed their gratitude to Pat for sharing this data. We would like to see something published that can be distributed to the public and PACRS members.

WI Lakes Virtual Conference 2021: Eric Olson, UW Extension SP, joined our meeting to share UW Extension's vision for their 2021 Virtual Conference. The conference will be held March 8 – 12th. Day 1 will be focused on groundwater and climate. Day 2 focus will be lakes and wetlands and Day 3 will have a focus on water action. Day 4 (Thursday) will have 12 regional water conferences. Ours will be the Central WI conference with 2 lead partners that will set the agenda and format for the day. Golden Sands Research and Development is one partner. Eric would like to know if PACRS will like to be the other partner for that day. Participants attending will pay \$20.00 for each day of the conference.

President's Report: Rick Georgeson reported that a fish stocking memorial in honor of our past board member, Ron Von Haden, was held at Petenwell County Park on September 14, 2020. Consolidated Musky Club coordinated this event, working in conjunction with the DNR. This event was well attended, including approximately 20 PACRS, 8 of whom were PACRS board members. Family members included Barb Von Haden, her son and daughter in-law and two grandchildren. Jennifer Bergman, DNR fish biologist and her staff demonstrated to those present the process of installing a pit tag and individually weighing each fish before releasing. This pit tag identifies the fish, such that when the fish is caught the use of a scanner reads the pit tag and the fisherman reports the weight and length of the fish to the DNR. Volunteers providing boats to distribute the fish at various locations in the bay were Mark Diedrich, Larry Everson and Bob Paterson. 550 muskies, each approximately 12" long, were released in Lake Petenwell. A very nice memorial plaque with Ron's name has been installed at the park.



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Conservation Report:

Wood County: Shane Wucherpfennig reported it has been one year since the approval of 9 Key Element Plan for the Mill Creek Watershed and they have hit the ground running. TMDL grant shared with Portage and Wood counties tracks GIF plots of acres with no till soils. Other farmers using no till are able to track PH reduction. Roth's Golden Acres planted 600 acres of cover crop.

Election of Board Members: Colette stated this year's nominating committee was Rick G, Scott B and herself. Colette said that according to PACRS By-Laws, board members serve a 2-year term. The members, at the annual meeting, can approve the renewals of directors at the two-year anniversary of each director's service. No director may serve for more than six consecutive years, unless this restriction is waived by the affirmative vote of the majority of the members present at the annual membership meeting. This year, we have 4 directors (Scott, Steve, Lynda and Colette) who have served for 6-years. All have agreed to continue serving on our board. Colette asked if members were in favor of waiving this restriction. All members present were in favor, none opposed. Therefore, the 6- year restriction of service is waived.

Rick G stated the nominating committee presents the following names to continue serving as directors: Gerry Ganther, Scott Bordeau, Steve Taylor, Colette Camerano and Lynda Everson. Rick asked if there were any additional nominees. None were presented. Nominations were closed. Rick asked for motions on each individual director. Members approved all nominated directors to serve another 2- year term.

Next Meeting Date:

Friday, October 23, 2020 at 9:45 a.m.

Conference Call In-Toll Free
(844) 875-7777 Access Code 309003#
OnLine Meeting ID: pacrsinfo
Join the Online Meeting:
<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/pacrsinfo>

Meeting adjourned 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colette Camerano
Secretary