



Petenwell and Castle Rock Stewards

Minutes of PACRS Member Conference Call

March 19, 2021 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>

In attendance:

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

Members and Guests: Shane Wucherpfennig, Pat Oldenburg, Scott Provost, Anna James, Mayo Ewanowski, Sarah Fleck, Scott Grigsby

Call to Order: President, Scott Bordeau, called the meeting to order at 9:48 a.m.

Secretary's Report: Colette distributed the January 15th Meeting Minutes on January 26th. Minutes were sent via email and regular mail. Colette provided a recap of the January meeting. Virgil Miller made a motion to accept the Secretary Minutes for January. Lynda Everson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Taylor reported on the current balances of PACRS savings and checking accounts. Donations made since January were \$1,000 River Alliance of Wisconsin, \$1,000 Wisconsin Land and Water and \$500 to 14 Mile Creek Watershed Alliance. PACRS received a deposit from Thrivent Choice Dollars and Smile.Amazon. Gerry Ganther made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mark Diedrich seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed. Steve distributed the 2021 Budget at the January meeting and it was emailed to board members this past week. Steve asked for comments. Colette mentioned that the donation amount may be high but wasn't sure until the membership renewal checks come in. Also, we may not be donating funds for fish stocking. There may not be a stocking of fish in 2021 per the DNR. After some discussion, Jim Stewart made a motion to approve the budget for 2021. Peter Manley seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.



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Communications Report: Scott Bordeau said we now have 884 likes on Facebook. This is up 266 likes from a year ago. 3 posts were made during Wi Lakes Water Week. During the Wisconsin Lakes conference, there was discussion regarding social media. Instagram was named as a good source for communication. Anna James said she would be able to help PACRS get set up on Instagram. Mayo Ewanowski volunteered to work with Anna to establish an account for us. Thank you both for your support.

On MARCH 5th, Scott attended the Listening Session in Necedah with Senator Marklein, from the 17th Senate district and Rep Kurtz, 50th Assembly district. Approximately 24 people attended, 3 PACRS and 8 speakers spoke for about 4minutes each. Thanks to Tom Camerano and Gerry Ganther for attending. Tom talked about ground water. Gerry had spoken to REP Kurtz prior to the start of the meeting. Juneau County Star Times reporter Christopher Jardine, published an article on March 8th.

Allison Werner is now Acting Executive Director of River Alliance of Wisconsin. Raj Shukla is pursuing a new opportunity.

14 Mile Creek Watershed Alliance also received Surface Water grants including funding for a staff position at Adams County Land and Water Dept to implement 9 Key Element Plan. Adams County received over 250K for implementation of plan and water sampling and 35K for habitat and Clean Boats Clean Water.

Conservation Reports:

Wood County: Shane Wucherpennig, County Conservatist, discussed the 2020 accomplishments of his department. 95% of the county streams and creeks drain into the Wisconsin River. Improvements made in Wood County benefit the water quality of our lakes. Shane talked about the number of farmed acres that are using cover crop and no-till. One pound of phosphorous can produce 500 pounds of algae. County wide 5,666 acres were converted to no-till with cover crops, saving 5,526 lbs. of phosphorous from runoff.

Wood County is the top producer of cranberries in the state with 5,451 acres grown. Wood County has 53% of cropland under Nutrient Management Plans (NMP). NMPs reduce PH and nitrogen. Farmers recognize the over application of nutrients once they put a NMP plan together. Discovery Farms is doing a lot on nitrogen. You can go to their website for more information.

Adams County: Anna James stated they had a second meeting with producers of Roch-a-Cri Watershed. They need 5 producers to say yes to form the farmer led council and then they can put together a memorandum of understanding.



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WI River Project Downstream of 10 Mile Creek: Scott Provost discussed the 14 Mile Watershed Denitrification Project WDNR 2021. Scott talked about a fully funded DNR project on 480 acres in the 14mile watershed where they would raise the water level and the ground water will then be forced through the highly organic soil in which carbon will then take the nitrogen out of the water and release it into the air.

Scott also discussed a project that partners Wood County, NRCS, Quest and the property owner. They received a Targeted Runoff Management Grant (TRiM) under the Small Scale Urban TMDL. The project will riprap the section of river downstream of the 10-Mile Creek confluence for about 525 linear feet. This area loses 2 feet of shoreline annually from erosion. It will be designed to have the right size rock for spawning sturgeon and overwintering flathead catfish habitat, which will utilize several large root wads in the design. What this will do will eliminate sand and phosphorus loading to the river, AND supply much needed habitat for species once extirpated from the river. Sturgeons are very particular of their spawning habitat. It needs to be the right size rock and have the right flow. The dams prohibit migrating sturgeon to historic spawning areas. In fact, the only place downstream of the Nekoosa dam where this exists is a tiny spot just below the dam. The Serenity River Project (that's what it's called) will be a huge addition of spawning habitat for these prehistoric fish. About 212 pounds of phosphorous will not enter the river once this project is complete and that prevents 106,000 pounds of algae in our lakes.

WI Land and Water and WI Lakes Water Week: Rick attended both conferences that were held via Zoom conference. There were approximately 400 attendees for the WI Land and Water and 1,000 attendees at Water Week. A lot of the discussion was on no-till and cover crops. Farmer Led Councils are starting in new areas such as Roch-a-Cri, Lake Red Stone, the Lemonweir and Little Plover River areas. WI Lakes was sharing the registration fees with PACRS and Golden Sands for March 11th. Total registration fees for the day were \$880.00 and our revenue was \$440.00.

Future PACRS Meetings: Our next meeting will held as a conference call on Friday April 16th.

Meeting Adjourned 11:50 a.m.

Next Meeting Date:

March 19, 2021

9:45 Conference Call

Respectfully Submitted,
Colette Camerano - Secretary