



***Minutes of PACRS Member Meeting
June 17, 2022 @ 10:00 a.m.
Lakeside Waterfront Restaurant & Bar***

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

Members and Guests: Tom Camerano, Karin Ganther, Jim Markland, Jacki Koll, Dennis Glidden, Sue Taylor, Sarah Fleck, Wayne Gjersvig, Johnson Bridgewater, Shane Wucherpennig, Kyle Kettner, Chris Zindorf

Call to Order: President, Scott Bordeau, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with introductions.

Secretary's Report: Colette reported the May meeting was held on May 20th at the Lure Bar & Grill. Minutes were emailed or mailed to members on June 1st. A summary of those minutes – Steve Taylor reported on current bank balances. Steve provided PACRS with the current bank statements showing balances on checking and savings accounts. Lisa Kubis from Visit Rome explained how their group is funded and the services they provide the town. Conservation reports were given by Dustin Ladd and Anna James. Dustin reported that GOLD raised funds to purchase a weed harvesting machine. It will be demonstrated at Riverside Park on June 24th. Anna James said Farmers of Roche-A-Cri will be hosting a kick-off event on June 28th. The event will be held at Heartland Farms. PACRS donated \$200.00 for their hog roast dinner. Kyle Kettner is coordinating a farm tour at Leola Cranberry Co on June 9th. Lynda Everson has resigned from the PACRS board after serving 8 years. The Adams County board voted 14-5 to approve adding the Clean Water Now referendum question to the November 8th ballot. Colette said she would be happy to talk about the referendum at the next Juneau Land and Water Committee meeting. Dustin said next meeting was June 9th. The Town of Quincy will be donating \$850.00 to PACRS. Backcountry Hunters and Anglers are looking for volunteers to help-out on July 16th. They will be removing dilapidated duck blinds on Castle Rock Lake. Meet at Waller's Pond at 8:00 a.m. Meeting adjourned at 10:55. A motion was made by Gerry Ganther to accept the Secretary's report. Steve Taylor second the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Taylor reported on current balances in our checking and savings accounts. Steve provided PACRS with the May bank statement showing the

monthly activity. Steve said PACRS received a dormancy notice from the bank. Our saving account has had no activity for two years. We have been depositing all funds into our checking account. The checks from Visit Rome and Town of Quincy will be deposited into our saving account which will automatically remove the dormancy status. A motion was made by Virgil Miller to accept the Treasurer's report. Gerry Ganther second the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Visit Rome: Jackie Koll reported that Visit Rome sells t-shirts and other promotional items at the Farmers Market each Friday. Proceeds from these sales are donated to non-profits organizations in the town. Jackie presented PACRS with a check for \$780.00. Thank you, Jackie and Visit Rome!

Clean Water Now Referendum: Johnson Bridgewater, River Alliance of Wisconsin, discussed the Clean Water Now program. The basic reason for this referendum program is because no significant water legislation has been passed. In 2019, Speaker Voss had formed a Water Quality Task Force that held hearings throughout the state and heard testimony from hundreds of citizens. However, the proposals from the task force fell short and the Senate never took action on the 13 bills that were proposed. March 15th 2022, the Senate adjourned and no action on water protection. On June 15th, the EPA released four drinking water "Health Advisories" for PFAS. In Spring of 2021, voters in Marquette, Wood and Portage counties passed the referendum. The question is simple: "Should the State of Wisconsin establish a right to clean water to protect human health, the environment, and the diverse cultural and natural heritage of Wisconsin. In Spring of 2022, Eau Claire and La Crosse passed the referendum. Adams county will have the referendum on the November 2022 ballot. Other counties in review are; Green, Outagamie, Ashland, Bayfield, Sawyer, and Racine. Juneau County board votes on June 21st. Their Land and Water Committee approved the referendum and it now needs full board approval to go on the ballot. PACRS members will be attending the board meeting. Results from the referendums go into legislator's hands and the governor.

Conservation Reports:

Juneau County: Sarah Fleck gave the update on Juneau County. The Guardians of Lake Decorah (GOLD) have purchased a Weed Harvester that will be demonstrated at Riverside Park on June 24th. The weeds will be used for compost. They are going to concentrate weed removal around the boat docks. The City of Mauston will operate the weed harvester. PACRS members are welcome to attend. A 9 Key Element Plan for Lake Decorah is being worked on and a 9 Key Element Plan for Lake Redstone has been submitted for approval. Chris Zindorf thanked the Juneau County Land and Water Department for all their hard work. They have been involved in many projects including getting Clean Water Now passed through to the county board.

Wood County: Shane Wucherpennig reported that lots of cover crops are planted. He drives the county roads to see if cover crops are used or not. He is doing an inventory on trends and will then analyze the data. They are doing county wide well testing. Revisiting wells that tested high in nitrates 5 years ago. He has been working with the

Central Sands Groundwater County Collaboration (CSGCC). They can't answer if a deeper well will give better water. On June 27th, there is a meeting at the Hancock Research Center. Supervisors from each county, plus land and water and health departments will be attending. Many residents can't drink water from their tap in Northern Juneau and South Wood counties. Shane said the no-till drill is greatly used by their farmers. This is the 3rd year of the 9 Key Element Plan for Mill Creek. The group has made a significant dent controlling run-off. Shane gauges or monitors surface water. They will be in Phase 2 soon and that will get them more funding. Wood county rents farmers a roller crimper that is used to terminate cover crops. Farmers can then decide to purchase one. Reduced tillage is the best bang for their money.

Adams County: Kyle Kettner is the 9 key coordinator for the 14 Mile Watershed. They are doing a well sampling campaign and should have results in the next 2 to 3 weeks. The Leola Cranberry tour had 23 participants from Rome. Visibility on the fields varied based on amount of tillage done.

Communications Report: Scott Bordeau updated members on recent events.

- 14MWA State-Of-Our-Lakes was held June 4th at the Town of Rome. There were 180 attendees. Kyle Kettner presented and did an excellent job.
- Donation received from Visit Rome was \$780.00. Thank you.
- Scott will attend the Town of Quincy meeting on June 23rd to accept an \$850.00 donation.
- Castle Rock Clean Up of dilapidated duck blinds with Backcountry Hunters and Anglers is July 16th at Waller's Pond.
- GOLD event June 24th Riverside Park in Mauston
- Farmers-of-Roche-A-Cri will host their event on June 28th at Heartland Farms.
- Rachael Whitehair, Natural Resource Educator for Wood County and Water Quality Outreach Specialist for the Central Sands area has resigned and will be moving out of state. Rachael had many talents and was always so knowledgeable. Good luck Rachael! We will miss you. .

Adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Next Meeting:
Friday July 15th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
Shipwreck
N7265 Schacks Rd. Mauston, WI.

Respectfully Submitted,
Colette Camerano - Secretary