

MEETING MINUTES



January 31, 2020

Present from Board: Gary Pulford, Chris Bedwell, Mark Laustrup, Dick Laumer, Jeff Aspenwall, Jim Coors, Dave Zimmer (phone)

Present from Committees and Guests: Alf Sivertson, Dan Tyrolt, Jim Payne

Recording Secretary: Mark Laustrup

Gary Pulford call the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the January 3 minutes was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Chris Bedwell. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Bedwell provided the profit and loss handout. We spent \$133,830.96 in 2019; 71.4% of projected. When the AIS reimbursement comes in, it will reduce the total by \$10,000. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Dick. Laumer. The vote was unanimous

SSC Update: The Natural Resources Board (NRB) voted to not approve site specific criteria (SSC) for LCO. Christa Westerberg, COLA's attorney, has never seen a DNR approved action blocked by the NRB. The DNR staff didn't frame the issue properly nor did they correct the board when they were off track. The tribe is contacting the governor's office to see what can be done. Westerberg is working on options and will have them ready in two weeks. We needed the impaired status to move forward. Phosphorus is coming from the atmosphere, forest lands and watershed water bodies. Cranberry discharges account for 45% of Phosphorus that we can do something about.

CWA Action Update: Closed session.

2020 COLA Budget: Alf Sivertson reported that the Foundation board wants a \$100,000 yearly budget and they want to generate a surplus. Alf edited the original budget by cutting legal by half (\$75,000 to \$37,500), travel from \$2500 to \$1000 and litigation tech support from \$30,000 to \$10,000. His edits result in a budget of \$108,320 for 2020. Gary Pulford stated that other lakes in the watershed are contacting us and we need to respond. The budget needs to be voted on at the February meeting. Jim Coors suggested that the foundation have a member sit in on COLA meetings so they better understand our budgeting process. Alf Sivertson is working on a new campaign strategy with Rob Gales to increase the donor base.

Eco-Harvester Update: Alf Sivertson stated that \$64,400 has been raised for the machine. He has two additional people to contact. If we raise the money by the end of March we can still put in an order for 2020. Gary Pulford said that hopefully 2020 will be the last year that we use chemicals.

Shoreline Monitors: Dick Laumer has no volunteers yet. He said that we need a training program set up before ice out. Dick will put it together over the next couple of weeks. Dan Tyrolt suggests we contact Pat Brown (Sawyer County) to set up training sessions. Talk with Tom Connell about GPS and file transfer. Contact Round Lake for help.

Clean Boats: Mark Lastrup is still looking for Eli Robinson's replacement.

Forestry Project Update: It was suggested that we get Paul Eckerline involved in the meetings with Steigerwaldt, Futurewood and Groeschl to move the sustainable forestry objective forward.

Membership Renewals: Jim Coors said that Rick O'Neill was unable to attend but will attend next month. We need one database that both the Foundation and COLA use. Jim is working with Rick to make it happen. Data management and budgeting need to be shared between the two organizations.

Sawyer County Manure Storage Ordinance: Gary Pulford said the proposed ordinance regulates herds of less than a thousand animal units. It's a good start; Gary suggested that COLA support the effort. Mark Lastrup made a motion to support the Sawyer County Manure Storage Ordinance and Chris Bedwell provided a second. The vote was unanimous

2020 AIS: Gary Pulford said that we need an AIS Coordinator to replace Steve Umland. The job entails acquiring necessary permits and working with the operators.

USACE Watershed Grant Update: Dan Tyrolt hasn't heard from the Corps. He's been out of the office and will check with them next week. There is \$600,000 potentially available for the project.

Musky Spawning Habitat Restoration Update: Gary Pulford said the project is alive and moving forward. Limnotech is developing the permit application to WDNR for dredge material disposal. Dan Tyrolt suggested that we should look to see if farmers want the material for fertilizer.

New Business: Alf Sivertson said that Donna Carlson is applying for a WDNR grant to acquire the marsh on Grindstone Lake. Dan Tyrolt said that program eligibility for Tribe as State (TAS) is going to the EPA. and will take approximately 6-months. With Cathy Stepp gone, it looks promising.

Adjourn: 4:57