

MEETING MINUTES



October 23, 2020

Present from Board: Kevin Horrocks, Gary Pulford, Chris Bedwell, Mark Laustrup, Dick Laumer, Jeff Aspenwall, Jim Coors, Kris Sivertson, Dave Zimmer, Mike Persson, Paul Eckerline

Present from Committees and Guests: Alf Sivertson, Rick O'Neill, Dan Tyrolt, Jim Payne

Recording **Secretary:** Mark Laustrup

Kevin Horrocks call the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the September minutes was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Kris Sivertson. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Bedwell summarized income and expenses for the month. There is a balance of \$10,876 in checking and \$54,470 in savings. The down payment of \$39,000 for Eco-Harvester has been made. Chris mentioned that Peoples Bank has changed ownership, so account information is currently offline. Membership dues of \$200 came in and communications and legal bills were paid. COLA spent \$42,603 in October. D&O Insurance was also paid. There is \$65,539 cash on hand and that includes Eco-Harvester money. We still have not received the 501c3 confirmation from the IRS, so the Eau Claire Foundation will have to pay what is owed on the Eco-Harvester directly to the vendor if the paperwork from the IRS does not come in before the next payment is due. Kevin Horrocks said that we need to make sure 100% of what is being held by the foundation is to the final payment. Chris said that it would be good to know what the total is that sits in the funds at ECCF, so she will follow up with them to get an updated financial report. Kevin Horrocks reminded everyone that there are conditions on the use of the foundation money sitting at ECCF. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Mark Laustrup and seconded by Dick Laumer. The vote was unanimous.

AIS Reimbursement Request: Jeff Aspenwall has completed the paperwork for reimbursement. Once he sends it, there will be a two week turnaround. We also need to submit the updated APMP. Gary Pulford mentioned that there is additional money left in the grant. This year, we had enough time in kind to get the full reimbursement. Kevin Horrocks will get the grant extension letter sent out next Monday.

View from Your Dock: Jim Coors has the survey results back and we got over 200 responses. Graphs are ready to go on the website. Jim is pleased with the results. There are a couple of people who were negative but the vast majority support what we are doing. Kevin Horrocks said that some of the comments on plant control point to a lack of education on the part of the commenters. There were 89 mail in comments and 141 online comments. 970 people were sent hard copy along with 600+ duplicate emails.

Musky Bay Habitat Restoration: Mike Persson said that nothing can happen until spring. Dan Tyrolt has \$30,000 in grant money that can be used for the restoration project. There will be no movement on permits until spring. Gary Pulford mentioned that until we get a permit on their (WDNR) desk, nothing will move. Permits are required for dredge material disposal and the use of the Aqua Blaster.

Aquatic Plant Management Plan: We need to get the plan in before we can use the Eco-Harvester. Gary Pulford has been trying to get with Dan Tyrolt but has been unsuccessful. Plan on the middle of next week for a Zoom meeting. Jim Coors will help set it up. Chris Bedwell asked about the \$2000 for the plan update. Gary Pulford said that we do not need to pay for it this calendar year. Get your comments to Dan Tyrolt by next Wednesday.

Eco-Harvester Update: Kris Sivertson said that the down payment has been made and received and we are good to go. Insurance will be put in place right before delivery. Alf Sivertson reminded us that licensing of all vehicles will need to happen.

SSC/NRB Update: Closed session

Fundraising Plan: Alf Sivertson said that the draft letter is ready to go and that he is waiting for the results of the view from your dock survey to incorporate. A draft will go to the full board. He wants to get the letter out to potential donors before Thanksgiving. Each board member should submit 2-3 names for one-on-one contact. Barb Baird will help with the project. Gatherings in Eau Claire, Woodbury, Victory Heights, etc. will be scheduled to bring donors together. Dave Zimmer said that he will contact WISMO members. Chris Bedwell asked about the transition from membership to partnership. Alf replied that yes it will be rolled out. Legacy = water quality. Different levels of giving have been developed.

Water Levels: Kevin Horrocks mentioned problems with movement between the two lakes. Boats can be stranded because of low water. When water level is at 1.3 or lower, boats hit bottom. There is also a problem with current following rain events. Sedimentation is also a problem. Kevin said that we need to stay involved with the county decision making process. Jeff Aspenwall summarized issues that directly affect Little LCO property owners. Dan Tyrolt stated that the dam has no impact on the level of big LCO; only Billy Boy and Little LCO are impacted by dam operation. When you look at the hydraulics of the system and the size of the watershed, the dam has no impact. Relators are developing along the flowage and are selling easy access to LCO.

2021 Activities and Budget: see below

501c3: see above

AIS Grant Extension: Dan is waiting on comments from WDNR on the aquatic plant management plan. The plan needs to happen simultaneously with the grant extension. Dan will be on vacation for the next couple of weeks. He will be available for a couple of days next week.

Shoreline Buffers: COLA needs to adopt a survey protocol and identify a primary investigator. Minnesota's protocol is adopted; the Wisconsin one has not. The Wisconsin protocol is almost a mirror image of Minnesota's. COLA needs to get estimates from consultants and apply for a WDNR grant the following summer.

Watershed Forestry: Paul Eckerline and Allison will meet and report back.

USACE Grant: Nothing new.

Other: Kevin Horrocks provided a activities/projects handout that needs to be updated for 2021 budget. Look it over and provide feedback.

Adjourn: 4:42