

**AIS Committee meeting**  
**Monday, February 17, 2014 6:30 p.m.**  
**Barnes Town Hall**

Members present: Ingemar Ekstrom, Barb Romstad, Lee Wiesner, Pamela Toshner, Mitch McGee, David Pease, Sally Pease, Jeremy Bates

Absent: Glenda Mattila, Leslie Hall, Steve Krivinchuk, Dorothy Vogel, Gerald Gustafson

**Ingemar called the meeting to order**

**1. Minutes from the October Meeting**

Ingemar asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Lee made a motion to accept the minutes; Dave seconded; passed.

**2. Clean Boats Clean Waters**

Sally reported that Jim Pricket and Gene Ratzel have indicated they will be returning as monitors, summer 2014. They will cover the Lower Eau Claire landing. Ken is also returning and he will cover the Upper Eau Claire landing. Alan Basacker has indicated an interest in being a monitor. Since it has been 3 years since he was last interviewed he will have to go through the application process again. We will also need a few more alternates to get through the season. Dave indicated he would be interested in being an alternate again this year. Barb made a motion that the committee advertise monitor positions in upcoming publications, Dave seconded; motion passed. The sign from the Upper Eau Claire landing will be put back in time for the opener.

**3. Volunteer Luncheon**

Barb volunteered to organize the volunteer luncheon on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will include the shoreline monitors again this year. She will take care of the notice in the Blog and the invitations.

**4. 2013 Budget Activity/2014 Budget**

Ingemar shared the Town of Barnes budget for 2014 and pointed out the detail included for the upcoming year for the AIS activities. The group reviewed some of the AIS detail on the budget and found some areas that could be better clarified. However including the AIS detail is a good start on getting more structure and clarity in working towards the process of a yearly balanced budget. At this time it would be helpful to get the 2013 grant reimbursements to the WDNR in order to better outline our budget for the upcoming 2014 season.

The committee learned that any of the Tomahawk/Sand Bar research grant money left can be used in 2014.

**5. Michelle Nault's Sand Bar Lake survey from 2013**

Two sites with EWM were found on Sand Bar Lake following the treatment of the lake. Each site had one very small plant, neither looked healthy but it had some green so was considered

“alive.” EWM was not found any other place on the lake. There did not appear to be any significant changes to the native plants.

After the treatment in Tomahawk Lake, Matt Berg did find similar instances of EWM in that lake near the boat landing.

**6. Tomahawk/Sand Bar Lake research results by WDNR “Lake and Reservoir Management.”**

The results of the research project are published in the above publication. The entire publication is available online: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10402381.2013.862586>

**7. 2014 Tomahawk/Sand Bar property owners meeting**

Glenda and Ingemar will coordinate a meeting for the property owners of Tomahawk and Sand Bar Lakes and George Lake property owners will also be included. The purpose of the meeting will be educational; advising attendees of the ways the EWM is being monitored, and controlled as well as what property owners can do to help. Jeremy suggested Carrie Sanda would be a good person to make the presentation.

**8. Matt Berg’s written results on the Eau Claire Lakes and George Lake**

Matt has supplied the group with the results of the point intercept studies he did on Middle, and Upper Eau Claire lakes. He reported that he found Curly Leaf Pondweed in the same places that had previously been identified by the monitors. On Middle he also found a couple Yellow Iris in the north bay and also some Reed Canary Grass and Forget Me Knot near the boat landing. Matt does not recommend any treatment for the lakes. He suggested hand removal of the Curly Leaf Pond Weed by volunteers and possibly paid volunteers. Some discussion took place about putting “Slow No Wake” buoys near the Middle Eau Claire boat landing to help prevent the spread of the Curly Leaf Pondweed. Some discussion took place about the different methods for control of the Curly Leaf Pondweed. The group agreed that hand pulling for the upcoming season would be our best path forward. We will monitor the lakes for the amount of Curly Leaf Pond Weed present. If it expands too aggressively we will consider possible treatment. Additional efforts will be made to educate property owners on different ways they can help to control invasive species and help keep the lakes healthy.

**9. Technical assistance – Memorandum of Understanding – Jeremy, Pamela**

Jeremy distributed a “First Draft” copy of agreement that the AIS committee would have with Bayfield County Aquatic Invasive Species Project. It outlines the responsibilities and activities the county staff would provide the TOB AIS projects through Jeremy Bates. The group decided to review the document for further discussion or approval at the April 2014 meeting.

**10. Bayfield County Activities**

Jeremy reminded everyone of the NW Lakes Conference being held in Drummond on June 20, 2014.

## **11. Other Business**

- St. Croix Headwaters Watershed Stewardship Project has hired a watershed coordinator. She has established 5 separate subcommittees; AIS, Fish Passage, Critical habitat, Water Quality, Land Use. The group is looking for citizens to serve on these committees.
- Barb brought up the topic of Tomahawk Lake Park and the TOB tourism committee's aspirations to enhance the park's usage for both the local population and day visitors. EWM concerns in the lake are currently being managed and the group felt increasing usage of the park was very appropriate.
- CBCW help people educate people on the methods of preventing the spread of invasive species. Creating and printing a small brochure with a map showing the locations of CLP and advising people to boat through those areas slowly, and also advise against motoring too close to shore was an option the group agreed to explore.
- Ingemar indicated that he would like to step down as the chair of the AIS committee at the end of the year. We will discuss a possible replacement for him over the next couple meetings. Ingemar suggested Barb, Mitch and Glenda as a nominating committee, search for his replacement

**Next meeting Monday, April 21, 2014 6:30 P.M. Barnes Town Hall**

**Motion to adjourn: Lee, seconded by Barb; passed**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM**