

MINUTES

ARPRD Board of Commissioners

Saturday Feb. 18, 2017, 9:00 a.m.

Ida Mae's "Back Room" Amery, WI

1. Chairman Roland Peterson called the meeting to order, set the agenda, and verified the official notice twice in the Amery Free Press.
2. Members Present: Roland Peterson, Angie Johnson, Billie Jo Schleusner
Others Present: Dave Schleusner, Matt Berg, Terri Hamernick, Mike Green
3. Reports:
 1. The July 23rd, 2016 minutes were approved.
 2. The Treasurer's Report was approved.
 - a. Bank balance as of Dec. 31, 2016 is \$32,952.80.
 - b. Bank balance as of Feb. 18, 2017 is \$48,462.95.
 - c. One full payment for the harvester will be made in February, and the a smaller final payment will be made in August to pay off the harvester loan.
4. Action Items:
 1. Update on awarded grants and applications
 - a. The 2016 harvesting report was submitted by Dale Richardson.
 - b. The 2016 CBCW grant project was completed; final payment received.
 - c. The 2017 CBCW grant project has been submitted; the total project is \$3,200, and the state share is \$2,400. Grantees will pay a portion.
 - d. The 2016-17 Healthy Lakes projects had 4 completed; grant payment request was submitted on 2/17/17 with a total project cost of \$6,017, and state share is \$4,389.
 - e. The 2017-18 Healthy Lakes Project application has been submitted with 6 projects. The total project cost estimation is \$8,004 with state share request at \$6,000.
 - f. The 2017 Surface Water Grant application was submitted with a grant request to update the APM Plan; total project award is \$5,060 with state share of \$6,000. Cheryl Clemens will assist with the update.

Matt Berg presented information from his May 2016 APM Plant survey, comparing it to the May 2010 survey . The bottom of Apple River is nutrient-rich muck so plants grow well. The Curly-leaf Pondweed is not significantly different. However, the reduction of the total plants in a rake was reduced from 2.27 in 2010 to 1.84 in 2016, which is highly significantly less and better for navigation. The survey showed a few more specimens of native plants, which did better with harvesting, and is good for fish. Three types of duckweed and algae saw increases. One type of duckweed, which is suspended in the middle of water, decreased dramatically. Native milfoil is very low. In summary, not much negative was seen, and a few positives

were seen. A question was asked about the large jellyfish-looking specimens seen in the river. They are Bryozoa, a type of animal, and good for harvesting plants; it is a good sign if they are seen. When asked about chemicals to address Curly-leaf Pondweed, Matt said it's expensive, would take at least 5 years to make a difference, but we'd still have sources from upstream. If the ice goes out early, we'll probably have prolific Curly-leaf Pondweed this year. The information from the report will be used in the Update of the APM Plan.

- g. The 2017 Weed Harvesting Application was submitted in Nov. 2016 and must be approved by the DNR and the Tribal Council.
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- 2. The Audit Committee's Final Report for 2016 was approved.
 - 3. Dave Schleusner gave an update regarding the rental/ purchase of additional harvesting equipment from Rice Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District. They are not interested in renting out one of their machines. There appears to be no machines to rent anywhere.
 - 4. Discussion on 2017 activities included the update of the APM Plan. Members submitted names of those who may be interested in attending three meetings, which will be scheduled this spring from April until June. Angie Johnson will submit meeting minutes to the ARPRD website; other information can be submitted, too, for increased communication.
 - 5. Dave Schleusner reported that Dale Richardson is looking for an improved GPS system. The truck is considered part of a waste "management" program, so the license will be only \$5 for one time instead of \$374 a year. A new clutch has been installed in the truck, and cheaper equipment insurance will be sought after the harvester is paid off in August.
 - 6. Colin Bursik is getting a team ready for the CBCW Boat inspections. A minimum of 200 volunteer hours of inspections at the boat landing will be needed; Terri Hamernick and Mike Green, who live next door to the landing, will be able to help.
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- 5. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Johnson, Secretary