

**MINUTES**  
**ARPRD Annual Business Meeting**  
**Amery City Hall, Amery, WI**  
**10:00 a.m. on August 21, 2021**

1. Chairman Roland Peterson welcomed all ARPRD residents.
2. Chairman Roland Peterson called the meeting to order and set the agenda with additional items.
3. The official notice of the meeting was posted twice in the Amery Free Press, posted on the arprd.org website, and mailed out. The Summer 2021 Newsletter is also posted on the website.
4. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting.
5. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report. The 2021 Income to date is \$56,307.11 with expenses of \$43,809.64. As of August 21, 2021, there is a balance of \$10,790.76. On Monday, August 23, 2021, a harvester loan payment of \$7,598.65 is due to the bank; we haven't received the second half of taxes yet.
6. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Audit Committee Report from January 1-July 15, 2021, provided by Derrick Carlson, which indicated everything balanced.
7. Reports were provided:
  - a. The Weed Harvesting Committee report was provided by Dave Schleusner. The new harvester was delivered on May 6, and harvesting began two weeks earlier this year. The weeds have been the worst he's seen; the dry weather and early ice out has had an impact, according to the DNR. As of today, there have been 320 loads for a total of 5,760,000 pounds. Seven operators, who earn \$15 per hour, have logged 390 hours to date. Harvesting costs are approximately \$14,000 so far with a month left to harvest. Fuel costs increased this year and have been \$3,529.00 to date. The old harvester operates in the north end above the Highway 46 bridge, and the new harvester operates below that in the south end. The new harvester can harvest almost 3 times the amount of the old machine. The goal was to harvest by properties every 6-7 working days. Curlyleaf Pondweed (an invasive species) appears mid-May and is usually dead by July. It's important to harvest it well until it goes to seed. We can harvest all over for Curlyleaf Pondweed and go after floaters because it's an invasive species. Coontail grows after Curlyleaf Pondweed, beginning early July. The permit allows us to harvest the 50-100 ft. wide channel and into properties. Dave Schleusner's extra hours and mechanical abilities are much appreciated. Inland Harvester Co. has been very responsive.
  - b. Roland Peterson gave a report from Steve Schieffer on the Clean Boats/Clean Water grant in which four students are paid for activities such as checking boats and monitoring at the Lincoln Landing to help prevent aquatic invasive species. They have completed 144 hours, and Dave Schleusner and another harvester driver will complete the remaining hours for the 200 hours required by the grant at the end of the season.
  - c. Roland Peterson provided an update on the payroll status of Carlson SV. Harvester operators and the students from the Clean Boats/Clean Water grant are on the payroll.
  - d. Tom Sheffel reported on the Apple River Flowage Water Quality. In 2021, the average summer Secchi disk reading in the Deep Hole was 6 feet with water reported as clear and brown (tannic because of stains from decaying matter); this is an increase in clarity from past years. The results of the samples of Chlorophyll and Total Phosphorus in the Deep Hole sent to Madison have not been received yet. He will continue his testing in September and October. The DNR SWIMS Site has the water quality data, and a link to that data will be added to the arprd.org website: [dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn](http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn)  
Fran Duncanson reported that Polk County Watershed information is 30 years old so Polk County wants to update the information and is asking for residents who have wells to consider if they want to apply to participate in the study of the Apple River Flowage next year.
  - e. Roland Peterson shared the Polk County 2015-2020 Aquatic Invasive Species Report handout. Derrick Carlson reported that as a volunteer, he has checked the Apple River Flowage 40 times this year and will take 2 more measurements this year. We have Curlyleaf Pondweed, and he

- has seen Chinese Mystery Snail and Purple Loosestrife in an inaccessible area. He reminded residents that we need the Aquatic Plant Management Plan to be able to do monitoring.
- f. Paul Isakson reported that the DNR denied our application for the No Wake Zone at the narrow area to the north of North Park as residences in that area have eroding shorelines from the boats moving fast through that area. The reason for the denial is that the area is already covered by the no wake zone law that says there is a no wake zone 100 feet from shoreline. We will post a No Wake Zone sign on a building in that area. Polk Co. has a Recreational Officer who can help monitor.
  - g. The website ARPRD.org can be accessed for information about ARPRD activities. The Annual Meeting agenda and budget and Minutes are posted there.
8. The action items were as follows:
- a. By unanimous ballot, Billie Jo Schleusner was elected as Treasurer for the ARPRD Board of Commissioners term for 2022, 2023 and 2024.
  - b. Chairman Roland Peterson asked for the approval of pursuing several grants and applications.
    1. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve a motion to seek an application for permission to harvest weeds in 2022.
    2. It was moved, seconded, and carried to update the Aquatic Plant Management Plan as required to continue weed harvesting at an estimated total cost of \$14,610.00 with the State providing 67% of the costs. The timeline will be from September 2, 2021, for the application for the grant; Aquatic Plant Survey by Matt Berg from late May/early June, 2022 to be completed by December 31, 2022 (which will provide the data regarding that status of the weed population as compared to the 2011 survey and the 2016 survey, which will be the basis for the updated Aquatic Plan Management Plan);background information March-April 2023; APM Committee Meetings May-July 2023; draft APM Plan for Committee review July 15,2023; comments back on Plan August 1, 2023; final Draft available for resident review August 15, 2023; public meeting August 2023 Annual Meeting; finalize plan August 31, 2023; request DNR Review of Plan completed by Oct. 31, 2023; surface water grants due Sept 2(draft) and November 1, 2023 final.
    3. It was moved, seconded, and carried to apply for a Clean Boats/Clean Water grant in 2022.
  - c. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the proposed 2022 Budget as recommended by the Board of Commissioners with an increase of \$10,000 in taxes for 2022. The necessity of a plan survey for the Aquatic Plan Management Plan, as required by the DNR to continue harvesting, plus unknown costs of fuel and a possible price inflation increase required a careful and annual review of the budget. Having a relatively small carry-over hopefully will enable full harvesting and maintain a relatively clean body of water for the Apple River Flowage.
  - d. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the resolution to update the Aquatic Management Plan.
9. Information requested about the number of harvester operators, operating hours, and placement of old harvester was detailed by Dave Schleusner. Locations to store the old harvester in the north end next summer and updating the look of the old harvester will be addressed.
10. Residents were appreciative and positive about the harvesting on the river.
11. Chairman Peterson recognized and thanked all who have helped the ARPRD, including the Weed Harvesting Operation Team, the Clean Boats/Clean Water Inspection Team, and the ARPRD residents for their continuing support. Chairman Peterson made a special recognition posthumously of Dale Richardson for his many years of volunteering and doing significant work for the ARPRD. A special plaque to honor Dale was displayed, to be posted at the Lincoln Landing.
12. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Angie Johnson, Secretary