

## MINUTES

### Apple River Protection and Rehabilitation District (ARPRD)

#### Board of Commissioners' Meeting

Saturday, April 22, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.

#### Amery City Hall, Amery, WI

1. Chairman Roland Peterson called the meeting to order, set the agenda, and verified that the official notice was published in Amery Free Press and posted online. Board members present were Roland Peterson, Angie Johnson, Denise L'Allier-Pray, Eric Elkin, and Billie Jo Schleusner. Dave Schleusner, Paul Isakson, and Derek Carlson were also present.
2. The Minutes of the Board of Commissioners' Meeting on July 16, 2022 were approved.
3. The Treasurer's Report was approved. Bank balance as December 31, 2022 was \$21,218.78. Bank balance of April 22, 2023 is \$44,865.89. To date, income from taxes is \$38,393.01.
4. The Audit Committee report from Derek Carlson for July 1, 2022-December 31, 2022 that indicated all balanced correctly was approved; Audit Committee was Derek Carlson and Erin Schleusner. Derek will submit a written report.
5. Reports:
  - a. Dave Schleusner reported on harvesting. In 2022 on the south end, 42,404 cubic feet/1,661.4 tons were harvested. On the north end, 15,240 cubic feet/381.5 tons were harvested. This is a little less than 2021 because there were less weeds. Permit for harvesting has been approved. They won't be harvesting too early because of low water depth and the cold. The red truck is fixed and serviced at \$900. The hydraulic oil has been changed in the old and new harvesters at approximately \$1500 each. Dave has been preparing the landings. The north end landing had trees down. The Larson Landing area needed to be rebuilt. Dave received permission from Dan Harrington at DNR to fix the hole in the Lincoln Landing. Because it is small maintenance, no permit is required. Operators are lined up with lots of new help. Dave is organizing the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Dale Richardson Bass Tournament with Todd Christiansen's help. No date has been set yet, but it will be on a Saturday, and Dave will be providing brats/beer/pop at the Lincoln Landing.
  - b. The Clean Boats/Clean Water grant for 2023 was approved, and we have received a \$1,000 advance. Isaac Wiczorek will be in charge again and has nine volunteers who will help to make the required 200 hours at Lincoln Landing. Katelin Anderson from Polk Co. Land and Water Resources Department will be offering two online training opportunities for Clean Boats, Clean Waters inspectors. The first training will take place on Wednesday, April 26th from 10 AM - 12 PM and the second training will take place on Tuesday, May 2nd from 5:30 - 7:30 PM. The trainings will cover the same material, so inspectors only need to attend one of the two training dates. After completing this registration form, participants will receive an email with the online meeting information. To register for either of these free training opportunities, please fill out the form online at: <https://forms.office.com/g/633KMJPJkY>
6. Under Old Business, for the 2023 budget, the expected increase in harvesting fee of \$2500 proposed by DNR did not happen so it remained at \$300.
7. Several items were discussed under new business.
  - a. The Aquatic Plant Survey completed last summer by Matt Berg and now in our hands electronically, which is shared with Cheryl Clemens. Roland Peterson will send the link to board members to read. Matt said that the Curly-leaf Pondweed is not decreasing so he

recommends continue harvesting. The native plants are good and healthy. The river is a nutrient-rich body but is doing well, and we need to keep harvesting since the Coontail also grows fast. In 2016 the wild rice in the north end had declined but is now up again, which is a mess with 6 inches of mud and 6 inches of water. Kayaks and canoes can't get to the Apple River from the Polk County Park because of the rice.

b. Roland Peterson reviewed the next steps to finalize our Aquatic Plant Management Plan and submission to the DNR with Cheryl Clemens of Harmony Environmental. There were 9 people who signed up for the committee to review the plan. Derek Carlson also added his name. Cheryl will be contacting the members for three meetings to be held in July and May.

c. We will continue the use of Carlson SV for payroll management. They will now bill \$130 each month.

d. Tom Sheffel will again conduct water quality tests in 2023 at a stipend of \$300.

e. Regarding how to get the ramp fixed at Lincoln Landing, Dave Schleusner reported that Eric Wojchik at Polk County said there is a lake boat ramp grant due in October. We will ask Cheryl Clemens to pursue this idea. We would need to determine who would pay the additional matching costs of the grant such as Lincoln Township or Polk County.

f. The position of Secretary for 2024-26 is up for election. Angie Johnson will contact several people to see who would be interested. Dave Schleusner will contact Nancy Anderson to see if she is interested.

g. The date for the next Board of Commissioners' Meeting is set for July 15, 2023 at Amery City Hall, and the date for the ARPRD Annual Meeting is August 19, 2023 at Amery City Hall.

8. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angie Johnson, Secretary