**August 15, 2024 DRAFT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendees: Greg Bartley (Marie), Wes Boll (Augusta), Bill Langenbacher (Clearwater River) Rose Thelen (Clearwater Twp)**

1. Call to Order by Chair Rose Thelen at 7:03 pm
2. Adopt Agenda. *Motion by Greg, 2nd by Bruce to adopt agenda, all in favor.*
3. Adopt March 2024 minutes. *Motion by Rose, 2nd by Bruce, to adopt minutes, all in favor.*

4. Administrative Updates:
    a. Rose stepped down as chair and nominated Bruce to be the new chair, Greg seconded, all in favor. Bruce took over as chair.
    b. Bruce mentioned that it would be valuable to have a rep from the ag community on the CAC. To that end, he will be approaching Dennis Luebesmeyer to see if he is interested and to attend the next meeting.

5. Staff update to CAC – Rebecca and Kristine were unable to attend so Greg led the discussion about the following items.
    a. Budget- Discussion – the CAC reviewed the budget and has no changes to the budget as presented.
        i. A related discussion took place about the need for enhanced budget information for the public about where the money comes from /goes to. It was agreed this would be a good discussion for the Nov. CAC meeting. *See #8. Future Agenda Items*
    b. Carp Project- Greg talked about the value of the carp capture on Lake Marie; Wes discussed the value of the scientific advances in carp capture and though it is an expensive project it is worthwhile. Bruce talked about the value of preventing the carp spawning. There is a good video of carp capture on the website, but Greg is not sure that it is understandable by the general public. Members encouraged to look at it.
    c. Chloride Update – Bruce discussed the value of the MOU between the CRWD and the MPCA to provide education to County maintenance workers about responsible application of chloride for ice and snow removal to reduce environmental impact. His student monitoring project has found that chloride levels have gone up but that point sources can be identified where the problem is most evident. He suggested it would be good to have CRWD identify point sources in CRWD and then they might be posted as chloride free zones, so that snow plow operators would know where to eliminate or reduce the load. Rose and Bill brought up the use of chloride for dust control in the townships. That the MOU might be expanded to include township plowing and also chloride use for dust control. Also to put effort into educating public about the impact of chloride on the environment. Bruce wondered if there were chloride products that are better for the environment than others. Rose talked about a new granular product from Canada that is supposed to be more effective and less harmful to the environment. She will get the name of the product.

Need to check whether funding for county maintenance to attend course on salt mitigation. Bruce thought it had been approved and the MPCA should be rolling it out.

Bruce suggested that once the budget process is through that we could revisit this issue with the CRWD board. *This will be added to #8 future agenda items*.

d. Clear Lake Update - Bruce didn't have anything to update, he thought that Rebecca might have had something specific she wanted to report on this.

6. Old Business – The group discussed the following topics with updates from staff.
    a. 2024 Tour – everyone thought it was great. Thought it was not cost effective, but good for bringing us up to speed. Thinking that perhaps a virtual tour would be more effective to reach more people.

7. Member Reports
    a. Rose talked about the series on MPR about lake shore management. Wondered if a link could be posted to the website.
    b. Greg shared a power point that he put together for his lake association. Rose suggested that this be put on the website with his audio comments. Bruce said that this was a perfect example of a virtual tour.

8. Future Agenda Items: Thursday, November 14th in person .
    a. New member discussion: What is our role (legislatively)? How should we achieve that?
    b. Are there three or four things we want to do next year that fits with that? Possibilities, include:
        i. Revisit where tax money goes. What are the timelines? What's going on with the project, what are the steps, when will they be accomplished, need to get this out to the public. Good information to post on the website.
        ii. Possibility of virtual tour of CRWD projects.
        iii. Revisit ways to best manage our shorelands for climate change.
        iv. Lakeshore restoration – effort to enlist and support property owners to manage their lake shores. Stearns County Watershed and Stearns SCWD put up a virtual lake shore management video.
        v. Further discussion re chloride – expanding MOU to include township maintenance departments and summer use of choride for dust control
        vi. Flood storage – Wes said there is a lot of money being thrown at that right now. Might be a good time to take advantage of funding ability. Years like this with lots of run-off create more erosion. Related to this, good idea for DNR to look at what are high water marks and flow rates now? How have they changed? How are they affecting our lakes individually?

9. Adjournment motion by Greg, 2nd by Rose, Chair Hall adjourned the meeting at 8:37 pm.