Clearwater River
WATERSHED DISTRICT
Promote | Protect | Preserve

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING - AGENDA
Thursday, December 7, 2023 – 7:00 PM Via Zoom

1. Call to Order by Chair Rose Thelen
2. Adopt Agenda
3. Adopt minutes of Outstanding Meetings
    a. March 2023
4. Administrative Updates:
    a. CAC Members;
        i. Ron Graham Retirement
        ii. Doug Tripplet
        iii. Recruiting additional CAC members from the Ag Community and beyond
    b. Office Space/ Location
5. Staff update to CAC
    a. Rough Fish Management Update
    b. Annual Summary 2023
    c. DRAFT Lake Report Cards
    d. Chloride Update
6. 2024 Planning
    a. Finalize/ approve proposed dates for upcoming CAC meetings
    b. AIS Forum- CAC input on next AIS forum
    c. Feedback on May 2023 CAC Tour
    d. CAC input for 2024 Planning scheduled for February 2024
7. Member Reports
8. Future Agenda Items: (discussion)
    a. Climate impact discussion (matrix)
    b. Website updates
    c. Nano Bubbles – any interest?
9. Adjournment

Proposed Upcoming CAC Meetings:	**Upcoming Board of Manager Meetings:**
Thursday December 8, 2023, 7pm Via Zoom	December 20, 2023, 6pm
~~Thursday April 11, 2024 7pm Via Zoom~~ Thursday, March 7, 2024 7pm	January 17, 2024, 6 pm ** WQ Presentation Tentative- WITH CAC?
Thursday, August 15, 2024 7pm Via Zoom	February 21, 2024, 6 pm** 2024 Annual Plan Meeting Scheduled – WITH CAC?
Thursday November 14, 2024, 7pm Via Zoom	March 20, 2024, 6 pm

Packet Materials:

- Draft minutes from the March 2023 CAC meeting
- Ron Graham Letter
- Staff Memo to CAC
- DRAFT Lake Report Cards

Clearwater River Watershed District

12/7/2023 CAC Meeting Minutes

7PM – via ZOOM

Present: Rose Thelen, Bruce Hall, Ron Graham, Greg Bartley, Kristine Jenson

1. Chair Thelen called the meeting to order at 7:03pm
2. Motion by Bartley to adopt agenda, second by Hall, all in favor.
3. Motion by Bartley to adopt minutes from March 2023, second by Hall, all in favor.
4. Administrative Updates:
    a. CAC Members;
        i. Ron Graham Retirement – CAC expressed that the letter was very kind. Add the CAC to the letter please.
        ii. Doug Tripplet – Rose said she would send a card to his family on behalf the CAC
        iii. Recruiting additional CAC members from the Ag Community and beyond Rose said she knows someone who lives on Clearwater River in Clearwater Twsp that she will ask. He is an engineer. Hall said Libbesmier would be a great addition and Bruce will reach out to him too.
    b. Office Space/ Location – Bartley said the lake association meets at the new Fairhaven township building is nice. He isn't sure if there is storage but it is a nice place for a meeting. They charge $75 per meeting.
5. Staff update to CAC
    a. Rough Fish Management Update
    b. Annual Summary 2023
    c. DRAFT Lake Report Cards – Members stated that the report cards are really useful and valuable and appreciate them.
    d. Chloride Update – Hall has students monitoring Chloride at Clear Lake and other lakes and the levels are going up over the years and has been discussing with his students how to stop this trend. His students have located point sources and would like to approach the Board to see if they would be interested in sampling at those point sources and work with the highway departments to see if they could change their road salt practices. Kristine mentioned that a first step might be reaching out to the departments that lay road salt and ask if they have any strategies or plans for this sort of thing.
6. 2024 Planning
    a. Finalize/approve proposed dates for upcoming CAC meetings – CAC thought the proposed dates look good. Discussion about having the April meeting on March 7th so that they could talk more about planning a tour. CAC members agreed and stated to change the first meeting of the year to March 7, 2024. And then have a tour possibly in June rather than May.
    b. AIS Forum- CAC input on next AIS forum - Hall said spring 2025 would be a great time to do another AIS Forum. Hall said they found they have Eurasian Water

Milfoil weevils in the lake and they are attacking the milfoil. They may adjust their harvesting to work WITH the weevils and do the mechanical harvesting in other areas.

c. Feedback on May 2023 CAC Tour – Rose and Greg both were there. Rose felt more people would be great and suggested advertising and making it a bigger event. Felt the presentation and information as excellent. Greg stated he really appreciated it – especially as a new CAC member – to really see the work that is being done. He then used the website to get more information and then presented at his lake association. Rose took pictures and audio. Rose thinks it a valuable thing and maybe the CAC could be more invested in getting the word out. Greg feels that if the CAC gets two new members, the tour would be really interested. Hall said folks on his lake are really interested. Hall also said it doesn't have to be the burden of the District. Hall said people could pay a fee to cover the lunch fees. Rose said the CAC could meet and talk about this and try to plan a tour. Maybe they should have their next meeting in March. Greg said he might be traveling in mid-March. Rose said they could possibly do it in early March. Rose proposed the first Thursday in March rather than April. See notes above.

d. CAC input for 2024 Planning scheduled for February 2024 – Rose asked if the CAC should meet ahead of time. Bartley said that doesn't seem needed. So they would like to be there to be part of the discussion at the Board meetings as part of the planning process.

7. Member Reports

Bartley stated the Marie Association is going to put a tool station at the Fairhaven Mill launch for clean-drain-dry. Tools would be grabbers, brushes to help with getting AIS off boats. Bartley stated their AIS surveys found 13 spots with EWM in 2022 and they treated it and only had 3 sites in 2023. Bartley said they used a new chemical to attack it. It is a chemical that treats curly leaf too so maybe it was a double hit for the EWM. Hall said there are new chemicals coming out that look to have better effects on invasives.

Hall said their lake association found a couple of swans with lead poisoning from lead fishing tackle. They rescued the swans and got them down to the Wildlife Rehab and they have survived and are hopefully on the mend and will be released again in the spring.

8. Future Agenda Items: (discussion)

a. Climate impact discussion (matrix) – Hall said hasn't much has been invested in this for awhile so it might be worth looking at again as the drought has continued. It should be part of the planning process.

b. Website updates – Would still like to see information about where the money goes in the watershed. They feel a visual would be good to share that information. Rose thought it would be worth having some promotional

c. Nano Bubbles – any interest? They hadn't heard about it but now they are interested in it. Kristine said they could look up some info and if they wanted to have on the next agenda.

Rose mentioned that Clearwater Township is trying to stop Xcel Energy from putting in big power line to bring renewable energy up from the south. One of the proposed

routes cross the Clearwater River and Rose wonders if there is something the watershed could write about the environmental impacts of this. They are pushing for it to be routed where there is already a corridor. She asked for input and any help about this.

9. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm