

**CLEARWATER RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT  
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, November 10, 2022 – 7:00 PM Via Zoom  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86271274108>**

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Rose Thelen called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

Members Present: Bruce Hall (Watkins Sportsmen Club), Ron Graham (Clear Lake), Keith Sadowsky (Lake Augusta), John Sedey (Pleasant Lake), Rose Thelen (Clearwater Township Supervisor/Nixon Lake)

Members Absent: Greg Bartley (Lake Marie), Doug Triplett (Albion Township Treasurer)

Also Present: Kristine Jenson (Resilience Resources/CRWD)

**2. Adopt Agenda**

CAC Motion 2022-11-01 by Graham, seconded by Hall to adopt the agenda as presented. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**3. Adopt minutes of July and August 2022 Official Meetings**

Thelen pointed out a small correction is needed to the July minutes. During her report regarding Muck Maid, the minutes say the "DNR approved" it. She wanted to clarify that what the DNR said is that a permit is not needed to use it and that the DNR doesn't believe they work well but they don't harm anything. Sadowsky stated that he has used it and it has worked great. Kristine will make clarification in July minutes before posting to the website.

CAC Motion 2022-11-02 by Sadowsky, seconded by Graham to approve the meeting minutes of July and August with correction to 7/14/2022 minutes as discussed. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**4. Staff update to CAC**

a. Set meeting dates for 2023

CAC agreed that the dates for meetings in 2023 works for them. Kristine will update the website with these dates.

b. Staff Update for CAC

c. Pertinent Board updates – review/ update 2022 CAC motions (See staff report)

i. Update on CAC Motion 2022-04-04 to Support the CRWD more aggressively managing rough fish through survey and other means of migration barriers or physical removal.

ii. Update on CAC Motion 2022-04-05 to bring back the tour- which may be just CAC first.

Discussion regarding what the CAC would like to see on a tour. Hall stated he would like to see the diversity of projects CRWD has installed to address various issues such as carp management and nutrient reduction. Thelen stated she would love to see ALL the sites. CAC agreed that May would be a good time to have the tour. *Staff will present some dates and stops at the February CAC meeting.*

- iii. Update on CAC Motion 2022- 04-06 to prepare checklist on P projects.  
Hall stated that he appreciated the checklist prepared by staff. He asked if one could be made that is more of a general timeline rather than one focused on the Clear Lake project. Other CAC members agreed that having a checklist with a general timeline (knowing timing varies on each project) that can be on the website would be very helpful.
- iv. Update on CAC motion 2022-08-02 to post CRWD budget summary and how funds are spent  
Hall liked the pie chart Kristine presented showing where expenses went in October. CAC asked if a general chart like that could be put on the website so taxpayers understand better where their funds go. Kristine stated that the annual audit is posted as well as the annual report submitted to the Board of Water and Soil Resources. CAC acknowledged that but asked if a simplified chart could be put on the website so the public can more easily see this information rather than combing through reports.
- v. Update on CAC motion 2022-08-03 to develop and provide collateral to support CAC members capacity to fully articulate benefits of CRWD  
Hall stated that the Lake Report Cards produced annually are great. Consensus among the CAC to produce some printable pdfs that can be housed on the website with general information about the watershed, including items discussed at this meeting so they have a toolbox of material they can direct people to and use themselves to represent the District better.

d. Web Site Working Meeting

CAC brought up several items that they'd like to see on the website and/or be more easily accessible on the website. Items included:

- "Where does your dollar go?"
- "What is a watershed?"
- CRWD History
- "How many watersheds are in MN?"
- Better maps that can be blown up and printed if wanted
- A list/map clearly showing which lakes are in which counties
- Add Nixon Lake to list of lakes in CRWD
- Educational pdfs
- StoryMap
- Project map has errors – taking people to "404" (error pages). This is likely because they links are trying to go to the old website rather than the new one.
- Some project pages are not very informative. Example given for "Annandale Treatment Wetland" that states the project is in two locations but doesn't state WHERE they are.
- Graham has an issue with the mailing address not being in the District. He said it looks as if there is no office within the watershed. Kristine explained why there is a separate mailing address and explained that at the bottom of the home page, it states that the physical address is in Annandale but all mail should be sent to the mailing address. Hall indicated that it should be made more clear because the lake

association mailed a check to the physical address and has never been seen again. It is lost somewhere. Graham stated that an arrangement should be made with the post office in Annandale where mail addressed to the physical office would get forwarded automatically.

- Graham also stated that there are too many abbreviations within the website and that we should spell out things repeatedly because most people have no idea what things like "BWSR" mean.

The CAC would like to have another working meeting about website updates.

Kristine suggested a shareable worksheet where people could enter things they want updated or errors they have found so that she can keep track of these needs and be able to address them and/or check them off as they are corrected

CAC Motion 2022-11-03 by Graham, seconded by Sedey to recommend the Board allot funds for staff to provide updates to the website. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

## 5. Member Reports

- a. Possibility of CRWD and lake association collaboration to address drought impacts on lakes – review of matrix created to discuss.

The CAC praised the matrix and found it very useful to begin discussions and work through ideas. Hall moved the spreadsheet into a sharable Google spreadsheet so that people can enter ideas.

- Discussion regarding the fact that the CRWD doesn't have a stance when it comes to individual AIS projects. The CRWD stance is that lake associations work with the DNR and counties regarding permits and funding support. Hall asked whether the District SHOULD have a stance. Thelen feels this could be a good topic for the next AIS Forum. Hall agreed. Thelen requested that we make sure that a CAC member is on the planning committee for the next AIS forum.
- Graham discussed AIS grant funds and how they are difficult to get when there is a "weak" lake association because they cannot come up with matching funds. He would like the CRWD to waive all administrative fees associated with managing specific levies so that ALL funding goes to those who are paying into the levy. Kristine asked if this was something he had heard from the other lake associations in CRWD who currently have AIS levies set up. He conceded he did not know if this was a specific issue in CRWD. He asked staff could show an example of how the funds are spent for other lake association AIS accounts – show the total levy and what was spent on the actual project vs. other fees. If he can go to the Clear Lake Association and show that all of their levied funds will be going to their specific projects, he could hopefully get more people to agree to an additional levy.
- Sadowsky asked about removing cattails and if he is allowed to do so. Hall stated that the DNR allows 50' of removal on a private shoreline, otherwise it needs to be taken to the SWCD to determine if it is allowed.

## 6. Future Agenda Items: (discussion)

- a. February: Present 2022 water quality + hydrology data and annual report summary for 2022 (less financial data which will be completed by June 2023);
- b. May: Tour- set date & stops

For February's meeting: CAC requested that a draft of tour stops be prepared for them to review, along with possible dates; an example of how AIS levies are spent, AIS Forum topic discussion.

**7. Adjournment**

CAC Motion 2022-11-04 by Sadowsky, seconded by Hall to adjourn at 8:26pm. Vote: all aye. Meeting adjourned.

<b><u>Upcoming CAC Meetings:</u></b>	<b><u>Upcoming Board of Manager Meetings:</u></b>
<a href="#"><u>Thursday, February 16, 2023 7pm</u></a>	November 16, 2022 6pm
<a href="#"><u>Thursday, May 11, 2023 7pm</u></a>	December 21, 2022 6pm
<a href="#"><u>Thursday, August 10, 2023 7pm</u></a>	January 18, 2023, 6pm
<a href="#"><u>Thursday November 9, 2023, 7pm</u></a>	February 15, 2023, 6pm