



P.O. Box 822
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Monthly Board Meeting Minutes, January 17, 2023

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81796139565>

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Board Member Attendees:

Board Members in Attendance via Zoom: Steve Roe, Tom Kuschel, Ron Meyer, Sheila Boldt, Jim Brandt, Jim Chamberlin, John Forney, Clay Schulte, Kirk Soldner, Jodi Eberhardt

Other Attendees: Tasha Lauer

(1) Agenda Approval

There was a motion by Tom Kuschel and seconded by Clay Schulte to approve the 1/17/2023 PRWA Board Meeting agenda. Motion carried.

(2) Approval of Previous Minutes

There was a motion by Clay Schulte seconded by Tom Kuschel, to approve the 12/20/2022 PRWA Monthly Board Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

(3) Committee Reports

- Finance: Balance of \$91,167.62
- Land and Waters: \$18,000 in grant, application process on website. A LID from Emily asked about applying. I gave them the requirements.

Website/Facebook

Project review coming soon.

- o Please share events, project updates with Tasha@cswgcd.org for the website and Sheila-boldtpinehaven@gmail.com for Facebook

- Land and Ag: CW Forage Basin Winter seminar. Info will be sent out.
- Conservation/Enbridge: Decommissioning process for Line 3. Friends of the Headwaters has asked people to comment. Connection info below.

Friends of the Headwaters, Sorry to disturb the peace of a lovely wintry afternoon, but Minnesota's PUC has just posted the comment period on Enbridge's proposal for DECOMMISSIONING LINE 3. Friends of the Headwaters has listed some of our concerns in the comment section below the post.



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Question for comment: WHAT ACTION SHOULD THE COMMISSION TAKE WITH RESPECT TO THE DRAFT DECOMMISSIONING TRUST FUND AGREEMENT FILED BY ENBRIDGE ENERGY, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP ON JANUARY 3, 2023?

To submit comments: *Online: mn.gov/puc/consumers/public-comments

*Email: publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us

*U.S. Mail: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101

Please include the docket number (21-823) in all communications. Initial comment period closes March 13, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

A link to the PUC order for comment:

https://friendsoftheheadwaters.org/.../puc_decom_trust...

- Membership
 - o Thank you letter is a good chance to ask a simple question: What one thing/suggestions does PRWA needs to do better to come in contact/meet with members? What can PRWA do for you?
 - o Need to increase membership and/or donations with an increase in expenses. Working to get membership ideas for next year. Would like a larger percentage of watershed residents as members. There are approximately 18,000 residents in the watershed.
 - o Newsletter: electronic newsletter coming soon.

(4) Grassland 2.0: John is doing interviews. Funding is USDA through the U of Wisconsin-Madison, supporting the farmers in the area, food production, biodiversity, need for agriculture structure, innovative ways to farm, soil health principles. In process of interviewing farmers, SWCD's, and other groups, identify some other opportunities to have all pull in the same direction. Jim is the primary local contact. 2 years left in present grant, but want to keep working in the area. Getting farmers to talk to each other and discuss what works and what does not work. The practices that are environmentally sound also have the possibility of increasing profits for farmers. The right practices are usually more efficient, but change can be difficult.

Optimizing Soil Fertility Workshop on 2/7/2023 9am to 6pm, at CLC in Staples, MN. Sign up at www.sfa-mn.org.

(5) Loon Center and Crosslakers: Crosslakers are focused on decisions on how to handle intersection of CR 66 and CR 3. Meeting is tomorrow with Corp of Engineers, still moving towards 2024. Will probably need to finalize plans in the next few months.



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The loon center, CWC on Big trout situation, the wetlands are under development, the land services has published their recommended changes. Tony Coffey is working on that with the county. Hard to comprehend what the changes will be. They didn't comment what the state or Fed govt requires for protection. What happens if the habitat is destroyed? Boardwalks with moratorium? No grant through DNR, so that makes it an expensive property to protect. Question was asked on how a plat can be through public waters? Is more funding available for protecting this area? The wetland does not score high enough for any additional funding. Still developing plans for the Loon center, targeting 2024 for opening. Jodi is working on providing info on wildlife triangle on edges on landscape/buffer. WAPOA and loon center might want to fund wildlife triangle because of their benefit to Loons.. Will be sent to Natasha at the loon center.

(6) Back to the Basics: Barb is handling the PRWA booth: keynote speaker is a geologist that will speak at 9:00. We are Waters event kickoff, vendor spots open, 48 workshops available, looking for 300 people, 100 so far. Feb 11, 2023 is the date. No cost for speakers and vendors. Soil health tunnel will be there.

(7) Discussion of PRWA Future: any other comments? Comments from last meeting were documented and sent to Board. These will be used as the membership effort is rolled out. We will also ask help of current members through questions in their Thank You letters.

(8) Legislative Connections: Articles around-new legislators, need to find a way to connect. Maybe go to Legislative Days at the Capitol.

(9) Board comments

Steve Roe – should be back to participating next month, getting better. We should broaden our communications, understand what the issues are. Get it out to the public.

Jim Brandt – no comment

Jim Chamberlin -John-Good to hear all this information, need to expand the net for communication, education, making people aware of issues-societal shift needed to get knowledge out there. Jim-welcome Steve, its good to see you again. Back to Basics meeting, Forage council meeting.

Ron Meyer -Kirk has accepted to be a member of the PRWA Board. Will be formally approved at Annual Meeting.

Tom Kuschel – I got my winter workshop flyer, plan to be there. 1W1P Crow Wing River, its getting closer, Wadena county article was seen.

Kirk Soldner – Northern Waters, I own 3 properties in MN. Got a survey of NWLT- how interested are you as a land owner of carbon sequencing. Not just managing property for 1 thing. What is my forest doing as a carbon standpoint? Activity in fields with heavy equipment, Battle Lake/Wadena, people putting in central pivot irrigation, top soil is not very good. DNR permitting? Will that move to other areas of bad soils in MN? Not sure it's good for the water. Working on nitrogen leaking out of the pivot irrigation. May have negative results if used incorrectly.



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Clay Schulte –

Jodi Billy –

Jodi Eberhardt – Loon section, send out new projects and new topics, Welcome back Steve, using Quickbooks, but having issues. Is using quickbooks online.

Barb Courneya- Not here

Darrill Wegscheid– Not here

John Forney- There may be something in our communications, should be doing something similar to the Loon Center communication, AZ is being affected by lack of water in Colorado River. Miss River was so low, the barge traffic couldn't flow. Things are happening out there, you may not like it, we need to do something about it. It is great to see you Steve.

Sheila Boldt- digital newsletter, back to basics, photographing has been fun. Prepping for spring with Bonnie-sunshine gardens. NWLT partnering for projects. Talk with Jodi about PR.

Lloyd Thyen- Not here

Scott Lucas- Not here

Adjourn: 5:22 PM.



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PRWA 2022 Meeting Schedule

3rd Tuesday of each month from 4:00 to 6:00 PM Central Time (established 12/29/2020)

January 18 th	No Meeting	-
February 15 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Zoom Meeting
March 15 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Zoom Meeting
April 19 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Ideal Corners
May 17 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Ideal Corners
June 21 st	3:00 to 4:00 PM - Annual Meeting 4:00 to 6:00 PM - Regular Board Meeting	Ideal Corners
July 19 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Ideal Corners
August 16 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Ideal Corners
September 20 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Ideal Corners
October 18 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Ideal Corners
November 15 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Ideal Corners
December 20 th	4:00 to 6:00 PM	Ideal Corners

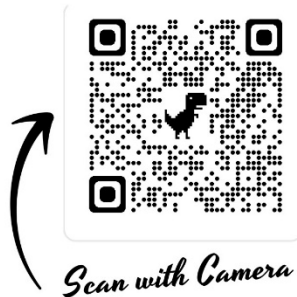
Reoccurring Zoom Meeting Information:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81796139565>

Meeting ID: 817 9613 9565

Mobile Call-in: 1-312-626-6799

*In-person meetings will typically have the option to join virtual as well, call 218-828-6197 or email Sheila@cswgcd.org for log-in questions.



Join The Zoom Virtual Meeting by Scanning this Image Using Your Smartphone Camera!

Updated: 02/09/2022