

## ISCCW BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 15, 2013 - Draft

USFS CONFERENCE ROOM, WATERSMEET, MICHIGAN

Board Members Present: Will Buergey, Army Domanus, Fred Duerkop, Jim Floriano, Margaret Marrs, Jeff Pytlarz, Bill Rehling, Bob Turnquist, Ken Wendt, Steve Wilkinson, Robert Zelinski.

Visitors: Ian Shackelford (USFS), Barb Gajewski & Bill Artwich (ISCCW Biologists), Matt VanTuyl (DNR Lake Gogebic State Park), Greg Wenzel (CCROA), Dave Lamoreaux (LVDLA), Jim Ninfeldt (Lake Gogebic Improvement Assoc), Jim Donlan, Tom Church, Linda Hammer, Linda Doscotch, Diana Mehlhop & Daniel M. Straszewski,.

The Meeting was called to order by Vice President Ken Wendt at 9:04 A.M.

1. President's Report: In the absence of Dudley Pierce, no report was presented.
2. Vice-President's Report: Mr. Wendt reported on correspondence from Lori Sargent, (DNR Endangered Species Specialist), advising us on problems associated with the presence of Farwellii Milfoil (a Michigan Endangered Species) in Langford Lake, stating that there are only 16 occurrences known to DNR in Michigan. She stated that our request for a permit was not acceptable unless and until ISCCW addresses this problem in a positive way. This matter will be addressed on the agenda under Old Business, Item A.

Mr. Wendt reported a \$1,300.00 bill from Mr. Frank Chudy, CPA, of Marquette, MI covering work he did on the on-going IRS issue contending that ISCCW boat washers and educators could not be classified as contract workers and had to be re-classified employees. After discussion and review of data ISCCW provided Mr. Chudy appealed the claim under "Section 530 Relief" on October 17, 2012. He has since informed us that the IRS agent he talked with has accepted our relief claim and the matter is apparently closed, thereby averting any back tax liability and/or fines to ISCCW. Since receiving the initial IRS notification of findings ISCCW has been treating boat washers and educators as employees.

3. Treasurer's Report: Mr. Steve Wilkinson reported a balance as of December 31, 2012 of \$87,062.90, with added receipts from memberships and contributions of \$9,505.00 and disbursements as follows: Frank J. Chudy, CPA for \$1,300.00; year end tax services for \$258.00; Langford Lake permit fee for \$1,500.00; quarterly state and federal withholding taxes for \$164.69; annual unemployment taxes for \$77.07; membership in Michigan Waterfront Alliance for \$200.00; and, miscellaneous postage and printing costs for \$469.67; bringing the total disbursements to \$3,969.43. The Bank Balance as of January 14, 2013 was \$92,598.47. Mr. Wilkinson said that all W-2's and 1099's have been mailed, as have 2012 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and annual payroll/unemployment tax filings. Also, a final reimbursement request has been submitted for the balance available (\$1,094.60) under a RAC grant which will expire January 31, 2013. Mr. Wilkinson emphasized the receipts were larger from membership contributions due to the generous gift from the Jean B. and E.T. Juday Foundation in the amount of \$5,300.00. A Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Army Domanus, seconded by Bob Turnquist. Motion passed.

4. Finance Committee Report: There was no report at this time.
5. Membership Committee Report: Diana Mehlhop reported that, as of December 31, 2012, membership was 357 with total dues and contributions of \$28,325.00. 2013 year to date figures show a membership of 296, with total dues and contributions of \$24,730.00. There remain 139 - 2012 members who have not renewed, however 6 of those are in and not recorded. Diana stated that an analysis of 2011 totals versus 2012 totals reflect a lower dues/contribution amount despite more membership. She stated that was due to two significant donations: in 2011 a donor contributed \$5,000.00 but in 2012 the donation dropped to \$1,000; secondly, in 2011 \$2,062.00 was received from The Community Foundation of the U.P but in 2012 the donation dropped to \$0. Diana commented that the Jean B. and E. T Juday Foundation has donated more than \$20,000.00 to ISCCW to date. The Board unanimously acknowledged their generous support and asked that a special letter of thanks be written to them. A motion to accept the Membership Committee Report as given was made by Steve Wilkinson and seconded by Army Domanus. The Motion carried.
6. Education/Public Relations Committee: Bob Turnquist stated that at their January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting they reviewed their 2013 assignments and projects. Bob reported that Barb Gajewski attended the recent meeting and presented a few ideas for the committee's On Water Training Program. Barb suggested two levels of experience and interest: Level One—a basic level, wherein participants learn to identify AIS with live material and an on water portion; Level Two—Advanced Level, wherein participants learn how to use GPS tools, develop a lake monitoring program and receive more specifics on surveying. A third component would be diver training, wherein certified divers, and/or aspiring divers learn techniques for pulling AIS. Barb Gajewski also brought to the attention of the Committee what she considers to be the biggest “threat” to the spread of AIS. After drawing matrices of affected lakes, she surmised it is through lake “hoppers”, i.e., fishing guides, resort guests, and locals, who have their own boats and trailers and constantly move from lake to lake without checking or cleaning their equipment. The Committee, with the help of Barb, will work on different approaches to educate and engage responsible usage of lakes by certain subgroups of fishermen.

Tom Church said the State DNR in Michigan has a five year strategy plan for “fishing jumpers”. He said that comments are due by February 10, 2013 to the DNR. One can find that information on the Michigan DNR website. Ken Wendt stated that he called Tom Loseet regarding the February meeting in Lansing. Tom will check to see if we can have a representative there. Bob Turnquist, then asked to be added to the agenda under New Business, Item A.
7. Biologists' Report: Bill Artwich had nothing to report since the season was over for this year. Barb Gajewski is working on a PDF file to put on the ISCCW website to show Bill's surveying work. Barb also reported that she had received word from LVDLA President Rob Anderson that they had been awarded a Clean Boats/Clean Waters grant. There will also be an upcoming meeting of LVD recognized partners to discuss the WDNR AIS EDR Grant that has been made available to LVDLA.

8. Approval of December 18, 2012 Minutes: With the addition of a few spelling changes, a motion to accept the minutes was made by Bob Turnquist, seconded by Fred Duerkop. Motion passed.
9. Public Comments: Mr. Matt VanTuyl reported on his job description and responsibilities at the Lake Gogebic State Park. He said he was responsible for Porcupine Mountain State Park in winter, and fifteen different boat access sites, as well as the park in the summer. He also named the lakes in ISCCW area that he has in his jurisdiction, e.g., Clearwater Lake, Tamarack Lake, Cisco Lake, Thousand Island Lake, Duck Lake, and Lac Vieux Desert. He thanked ISCCW for the invite to the meeting and him, or his boss, would be attending future meetings.

Ian Shackelford, USFS, reported he was working with the Iron County Conservation District on providing a coordinator for WePIC. He continues working with ISCCW and the Langford Lake Eurasian Water Milfoil Association on the planned spring treatment. He said the Forest Service has made the final payment to ISCCW for boat washing from the 2011 RAC grant. ISCCW may still invoice boat washing expenses from the GLRI agreement. He asked ISCCW to provide the final data from the 2012 boat washing.

Greg Wenzel, CCROA, reported from the meeting with State Senator Casperson, that the AIS Bill in the State Legislature died. Senator Casperson will be resubmitting the Bill with changes in 2013. Ken Wendt commented that the Bill never got out of Committee and that is the reason for the changes prior to resubmission.

10. Agenda Changes/Approval of Agenda: Addition under Old Business, Item B. "LVD Approved Education Program." Addition under New Business, Item A. "Educator, Boat Washers, etc." Motion to amend the agenda was made by Steve Wilkinson, seconded by Will Buergey. Motion passed.

#### 11. Old Business:

A. Langford Lake Permit Update A draft of the TES Permit that will be required to treat Landford Lake was submitted to Lori Sargent (DNR-Endangered Species Specialist). Ian assisted in writing this per suggestions from Lisa Huberty. The draft application was reviewed and a letter sent to ISCCW stating that the current version was not acceptable, but there were recommendations that could be taken to make the permit acceptable. The suggested remedies are; (1) to consider our application a research project and resubmit as such, or (2) to change the proposed treatment method from a whole lake fluridone treatment to a selective herbicide treatment. It was noted that many of the *M. farwellii* sites in Gogebic County have not been updated in the Michigan Natural Features Inventory, and that more sites exist than what Lori had stated in her letter.

Ken Wendt made a suggestion that Barb Gajewski work with Lori Sargent to draft a new permit proposal that will be acceptable to the MDNR and the MDEQ. Steve Wilkinson made a Motion to accept Ken's suggestion, Army Domanus seconded. Motion passed.

Ian Shackelford mentioned that John Skogerboe will retire; he may stay on a Contract basis or as a consultant and perhaps John could be of help to ISCCW on this matter. Continuing on the subject of Langford Lake, Ian Shackelford advised that the permit to treat was administratively incomplete and that it required the signatures of thirty-nine riparian owners. Board discussion followed: Option 1 – contact all residents and hope for a positive response from all. Barb Gajewski emphasized that we would need all

signatures since a non-reply could not be considered passive agreement. Option 2 –have the Township assume the treatment authority. Ken Wendt will discuss this option with the Township Supervisor.

Jim Donlan, Langford Lake resident, stated their riparian's association President was drafting a letter to all Langford Lake property owners regarding the treatment to be mailed as soon as possible. Linda Hammer, a resident on the Chain, suggested using a USPO return receipt on any mailings to residents regarding this permitting issue.

- B. LVD Education Program As reported earlier the CBCW grant for this has been received by LVDLA. A discussion ensued concerning ISCCW's commitment to provide an Educator for up to a total of 300 hours. Since Thunder Bay boat landing is the most active it would seem to be the landing of choice. We will begin to look for a person to fill this spot.

12. New Business:

- A. Education/PR Committee Proposal Bob Turnquist and Bill Rehling, Co-Chairs of the Committee reported the Committee strongly recommended the following: (1) That the ISCCW Ed/PR Committee draft a comprehensive job description for the ISCCW Educator/Coordinator, Educator(s), and Boat Washers; and (2) That the ISCCW Ed/PR Committee be responsible for the search, interview and recommendation to the Board of persons filling the these position, and be responsible for the supervision of them. They also stated that they were considering a pay increase for the positions and a change from the current pay schedule of once per month to every two weeks. Ken stated that, while the committee could recommend new wage amounts it is the Board's responsibility to set and approve wages. Steve Wilkinson, Treasurer, stated that the suggested pay schedule change would incur additional expenses in reporting to state and federal agencies and would not be conducive to his schedule. After a brief discussion Arny Domanus recommended we retain the current pay schedule, adding he felt that Steve Wilkinson has done a superb job for ISCCW and further complications for that position be withdrawn. After withdrawal of the pay schedule request the discussion moved to the subject of sources for hiring and some names were suggested of local persons who may be qualified and interested.

13. A Motion was made by Bob Turnquist to approve the recommendations (1) and (2) of the Ed/PR Committee, seconded by Bill Rehling. Motion passed.

14. Ken Wendt reiterated the following needs: an Education Coordinator, an Educator specific to Thunder Bay paid for with funds from the LVD grant, and 4 boat washer employees. Ken also said he would forward to the Committee the "Job Descriptions" for all employee positions. Bob Turnquist stated the Committee would be meeting on January 29 to address these responsibilities.

15. Adjournment: Fred Duerkop moved adjournment, seconded by Jeff Pytlarz. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M. Next meeting of the Board will be February 19, 2013.

(Note – Due to location problems **next meeting will be February 20, 2013**)

Respectfully submitted, Margaret Marrs, Acting Secretary