

## ISCCW Board Meeting Minutes

Approved – September 16, 2014

Ottawa Forest Visitor Center, Watersmeet, Michigan

Board Members Present: Arny Domanus, Al Kanipes, Jeff Pytlarz, David Sherrill, Dan Straszewski, Ken Wendt, Steve Wilkinson, Bob Zelinski, and Greg Wenzel

Others Present: Diana Mehlhop (Membership Chair), Christine Scott (Ed/PR Coordinator), Barb Gajewski (Many Waters - Biologists), Ian Shackelford (USFS), Ruth Bozdeck (Langford Lake), Yvonne and Greg Clark (Long Lake), Linda Hammer (Thousand Island Lake), Mike Rogers (Watersmeet Township), Roger LaBine (LVD Tribe), Bill Rehling (Allen Lake), and Waltraud Brinkmann (Friends of Sylvania).

Special Guests Present: Jim Novitski and Chris & Liz Quinn (Perch Lake Owners Association - Iron County Lakes and Streams Partnership)

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by ISCCW President, Ken Wendt

Quorum was verified by Mr. Wendt.

### 1. President's Report: Ken Wendt reported on three items:

- There is an upcoming meeting for the Iron County Conservation District on October 18, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, at the Windsor Center. Ken Wendt and Christine Scott are scheduled to attend. Ken invited other ISCCW members to also attend.
- Ken went to the CLMP meeting in Iron County and reported that that SECCI, Phosphorous, Chlorophyll, and Plant Watching are among the items that are of current interest and are being tracked in many lakes across the state. Training is required to properly perform these tasks. Training videos will be available by April 15, 2015. Also webinars will be available. Sign-ups will begin in October. Go to [www.MIcorps.org](http://www.MIcorps.org)
- There will be changes in the DEQ aquatic nuisance permit program. Preview the proposed changes at [www.mi.gov/anc](http://www.mi.gov/anc). To register for the meeting, go to [www1.gotomeeting.com/register/78402992](http://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/78402992)

#### 1.1. "Boat Landing Containment Area" strategy Presentation:

Ken introduced our guests from the Perch Lake Owners Association. This group has been inspecting boats going in and out of Perch Lake. They presented a plan to contain aquatic plant life being dragged into lakes from boat landings. The plan consists of a porous net like barrier being suspended from floats at the lakes surface and weighted to extend to the lake bottom. Ideally this setup would contain offending plants dragged into the lake by boats using the boat landing area. The object would be to provide around the clock protection from the introduction of weed fragments into the lake by boat traffic. If this proved to be a viable tool it would be an in-expensive way to help control the spread of invasive weeds. A good, spirited, discussion followed concerning how it would work and the method of gauging and evaluating success. A request was made for a letter of ISCCW support. This will be taken up under "New Business?"

2. Vice President's Report: No Report
3. Treasurer's report: Steve Wilkinson reported the bank balance on August 18, 2014 was \$48,877.94; since then Membership/ contributions deposited were \$1,225.00; Boat Wash contributions were \$28.00; Juday Gift was \$30,000. Disbursements totaled \$7,054.32  
Bank Balance on September 15, 2014 is \$73,076.62.
  - A. Greg Wenzel asked if there was some way the Juday donation could be allocated in such a way that some of the money would be available for use in later years. The consensus was that expenditures are governed by the oversight of the Board of Directors and the annual budget needs. This process is designed to put all monies to their best use, where and when needed, in accordance with the Annual Operating Plan.
4. Finance Committee: Mr. Wendt reported
5. Membership Committee Report: Diana Mehlhop reported that we have 423 paid members through 2014. Donations from members paid through 2014 total \$70,110.00. We have 59 members paid through 2015 with thirteen of those being renewing member. This places the total membership as of 9/16/2014 at 469. Diana reiterated that any person renewing between now through October for 2015 will save us on our annual mailing expenses.
6. Education/PR Committee Report: Jeff Pytlarz reported \$249 in fish tape sales. Christine Scott reported on the status of boat washing activities. Roger Labine asked about the noise issue at Thunder Bay. Mr. Pytlarz said that there have not been any additional complaints heard since it was first reported.
7. Many Waters/Biologists Report: Barb Gajewski reported that Beaton's Lake and Crooked Lake surveys still need to be completed
8. Approval of Reports and Meeting Minutes:
  - A. Arny Domanus moved that approval of all reports, with second by David Sherrill. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.
  - B. Motion by Jeff Pytlarz to approve the minutes as amended with support by Steve Wilkinson. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.
9. Public Comments
  - A. US Forest Service, Ian Shackleford reporting:
    - i. The Western Peninsula Invasives Coalition (WePIC) MOU is complete, all partners have signed. The ISCCW is now, once again, a signatory to WePIC, a Cooperative Weed Management Program that covers Gogebic, Ontonagon, and Iron Counties. Ian will post the MOU at [www.wepic.org](http://www.wepic.org)
    - ii. The USFS contract for lake AIS surveys is complete. Tiffiney Kleczewski (Flambeau Engineering) found no new AIS sites, but did document more Eurasian Water Milfoil in Paint Lake (Iron County), and found some rare plants.
    - iii. I recently learned about and participated in a conference call with other organizations doing boat washing in Michigan. I recommend that ISCCW participates in future calls and will forward contact information.

- iv. The USFS has a DEQ groundwater discharge permit that allows boat washers to discharge wash water on the ground. This permit covers the USFS, ISCCW, Lake Gogebic, and Iron County. The permit expires this year. For next year new permits would probably require wash water to be contained due to contamination issues. All the other Michigan portable boat washers use ground mats.
  - v. I remind all of you of the October 9 DEQ meeting about the new aquatic nuisance control permitting.
  - vi. The USFS is hosting a public EW milfoil snorkeling event in Crooked Lake this afternoon. We would like to offer a contract next year for someone to help us snorkel-pull EW milfoil in Crooked Lake.
  - vii. The USFS is still looking for applicants for the Gogebic Resource Advisory Committee. We especially need applicants representing labor, developed outdoor recreation, energy/mineral/commercial, tribal representative, schools, elected officials, regional/local environmental organization, and the timber industry.
- B. MDNR: No Report
- C. CCROA: Greg Wenzel reported that new signs are available for boat landings. Hand pulling and DASH operations are on-going. There is a grant agreement with Wisconsin for the Wisconsin side of the lakes. The Clearwater AVS is completed and found three aquatic invasives that were in "bad shape". Overall the lake looks to be in good shape.
- D. LVD Tribe:
- i. Roger Labine thanked ISCCW for its involvement in the youth program. The program was well received by the BIA. There exists a strong possibility that the program will be repeated or expanded next year. Roger asked if the program could be more efficient by minimizing the travelling.
  - ii. There is an upcoming survey on nonpoint sources of pollution and how to protect natural resources and watersheds located near or affected by Watersmeet waters. The tribe is applying for 319 funding from the EPA (Non-point Sources of Pollution). Roger is looking for input as to areas he could address in his plan to the EPA. Applied Ecology Services is going through the Watersmeet area to look for potential non-point sources of pollution. Perhaps look at Bonifas Creek
  - iii. Greg Wenzel thanked Roger for his involvement in the youth program.
- E. Others:
- viii. Arny Domanus shared information from the August 2014 Michigan Waterfront Alliance Newsletter, see their website, [www.MWAI.org](http://www.MWAI.org) for more information
  - ix. Arny Domanus brought the proposed changes to the Watersmeet zoning requirements to the board's attention. Arny read aloud a request for information from the governances Watersmeet which were purported to support any changes. This request was made under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. Ken Wendt commented that the focus of ISCCW, by charter, is on the control of invasive species. Information regarding zoning changes is not pertinent to the focus of the ISCCW meetings.
10. Agenda Changes/Approval of Agenda: Ken Wendt requested to items be added to the agenda under "New Business". Item B. - Perch Lake Owners Association Request and Item

C. - Dissolved Oxygen Testing Equipment. David Sherrill placed a motion before the board to approve the agenda as amended with support by Jeff Pytlarz. The motion was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

11. Old Business:

- A. LVD Stakeholders: Barb Gajewski reported that diving continues about one day per week. They will return to each EWM site to determine the impacts of harvesting. Native vegetation is starting to die back which is allowing better access to some areas. Pledges are starting to come back from lake stakeholders who pledge to abide by a list of conducts designed to help preserve the lake. About 30 residents have replied thus far.
- B. Bass Lake: Barb Gajewski reported that AVAS did not show any EWM rooted or floating. The M. farwellii monitoring showed that M. farwellii is present in Bass Lake after the Fluridone treatment. It was observed that the recreational use on the lake is much greater this year than in previous years. The signage at the boat launch that discusses AIS is in poor condition and should be improved.
- C. Langford Lake: Barb Gajewski reported that the AVAS is complete. No EWM was found. No farwellii was found. At the end of 2015, a discussion with the MDNR on how to approach the restoration of M. farwellii in Langford Lake may need to take place, in the event it is not found in 2015.

12. New Business (For discussion only, lost quorum.)

- A. Postponed Officers Election: Without a quorum the election of a President and Vice-President are again postponed.
- B. Perch Lake Owners Association Request: A discussion evolved around the presentation by Perch Lake Owners Association representatives. Most notably; to what degree should ISCCW support the efforts of the Perch Lake owners to place a barrier at the boat landing to contain the spread of invasive aquatic plants? Board members were curious about the current condition of Perch Lake and how the effectiveness of any barrier would be gauged. Ian Shackleford noted that it has been documented that EWM often is found first around boat landings. It was stated that a survey of the lake will be made prior to the project and at various interval as the project continues. By consensus, Ken Wendt will sign a support letter on behalf of ISCCW.
- C. Dissolved Oxygen Testing Equipment: This type of testing is very indicative as to the health of a lake and also its ability to support aquatic life. Ken Wendt suggested that this was a very good idea for the lakes, particularly since it does not have to be done every year. However, the equipment to properly do this testing is expensive. The question is; should ISCCW purchase this equipment and make it available for use by lake associations and individuals? Roger Labine added that some 319 funding may be available for equipment. Action on this item will held over until a quorum is present.

13. Adjourned at 11:12

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Daniel Straszewski, Secretary