

MINUTES
ISCCW BOARD MEETING January 16, 2018
USFS District Office, WATERSMEET, MICHIGAN

Board Members Present: Jeff Pytlarz, Dave Sherrill, Ken Wendt, Eugene Clark, Jim Donlan, Jim Marrs, Joe LoMastro, Steve Wilkinson, Arny Domanus and Dan Straszewski. Guests Presents: Denise Fauntleroy, Barb Gajewski, Bob McGuffin, Greg Wenzel, Dave Lamoreaux.

Meeting was called to order at 10:03am by Jeff Pytlarz, during which a quorum was confirmed by Jeff.

1. President's Report: Jeff acknowledged the receipt of a \$10,000 donation from a person who wishes to remain anonymous.
2. Vice President's Report: None.
3. Treasurer's Report: David Sherrill reported a Bank Balance as of December 19, 2017 of \$101,799.41. Receipts: Membership and contributions of \$4,425.00 and Interest of \$53.44. Disbursements were as follows: Many Waters, LLC- Contract Services \$9,317.42; Auto Owners Insurance, \$1,495.00; and Postage \$Golden Sands RC&D Acrylic Blocks, 108.65. Total Disbursements were \$10,921.07. The Bank Balance as of February 19, 2017 is \$95,356.78.
4. Finance Committee Report: None.
5. Membership Committee Report: Eugene reported this membership activity since the last report in November 14th: first of all a giant thanks to Diana Mehlhop who did all the work on the hundreds of contributions, thank you letters, and re-mailings that came in from the mass mailing in November. Since the November 14th date, she processed 312 family renewals, 15 corporate members, and 18 donations. Total proceeds processed in this period are \$38,737.00. Total proceeds to-date are \$38,958.00. We continued to get donations for the Joe Jania Memorial. Diana kept Sandy Jania apprised of the Joe Jania donors. A new member who wishes to remain anonymous contributed \$10,000. Total memberships for 2018 are 339: 324 Class A and 15 Class B. Non-Member Donors are 23. New members total 62, contributing \$13,575 (remember this includes the anonymous \$10,000 donor). Last year at this time we had 325 members (compared to 339), no donors, and collected \$24,600. So, our memberships are up year-over-year. We have 130 un-renewed members at this date. We will have a reminder mailing in March. Diana also came up with a good idea in maintaining our annual mass mailing list. We are editing the mass mailing list as we get returned letters and new memberships that were not on the original mailing list. We mailed 2,269 letters in November. Fifty-three (2.3%) came back undeliverable, no forwarding address; these addresses were deleted from the database. Twenty letters were returned with forwarding addresses, Diana corrected the database and resent the letters. Twenty-six addresses were deleted for various reasons: duplicates, requests from the people not to be contacted, etc... Right now our total annual mailing list stands at 2,119, down a net 50 addresses and we are feeling pretty good about the list. More people are signing up for volunteer activities, the volunteer list has more than doubled. Jeff is reviewing the list and will come up with next steps. Lastly, we are running out of the 6" Invasive Species ruler that we send to new and renewing members. The group wants us to come up with another token gift idea.
6. Education Committee Report: Denise Fauntleroy, ISCCW Educator, turned in her budget. She will give some thought to a new gift token for donors. MI Lakes and Streams Conference will be held April 20 and 21; we will not attend this year. Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference will be held October 15-18th in Rochester, MN; there was not a decision made but we may attend; they were looking for sponsorship but the Board was not in favor. Our 3 boat washers are all returning. There was discussion about Ted Boksa returning as our sub; Still waiting to hear if this has the final OK. David Sherrill is looking up the insurance issues.
7. Many Waters Biologist Report. Barb Gajewski reported:
 - a. LVDLA requested and received an additional \$8,599.00 from the WDNR under their existing AIS grant.
 - b. MDNR Threatened and Endangered Species Reports are submitted for Bass Lake and Langford Lake for *M. farwellii*.
 - c. Remaining items for the MISGP have been submitted to Jen with WePIC with electronic copies going to Jeff and Ken. If anyone wants copies, contact Jeff or Ken.
 - d. Received an email from Mark Fedora with USFS Ottawa National Forest that USFS funds that Ian was working on for diving on Crooked, was not awarded.

8. Motion to approve the minutes as revised after corrections are made and sent to the board was made by Ken Wendt and seconded by David Sherrill. Motion carried.
9. Motion to approve the amended Agenda by David Sherrill and seconded by Arny Domanus. Motion carried.
10. Public Comments:
 - a. USFS Wildlife Biologist, Alex Beaver, reported the following: Not Present.
 - b. MDNR representative, James Peace: Not present.
 - c. CCROA: Discussion on CCROA creating a Special Assessment District is covered in New Business.
 - d. LVD Tribal, Roger LaBine: Not present.
 - e. Other. None.
11. Old Business:
 - a. 2018 Budget: The draft budget was discussed and amended to carry \$157,457 in spending. We created a reserve for new/repaired equipment and amended other accounts. Motion to approve the amended budget was made by Ken Wendt and seconded by Arne Domanus. Motion carried.
 - b. Annual Meeting Committee: Denise Fauntleroy, Jim Marrs and Yvonne Stone have been brainstorming for annual meeting ideas. They are looking at inviting a speaker, one of the speakers from the CLMP program was suggested. Also looking at offering food & beverage and a raffle prize. How do we get young people involves: a scuba /dive scholarship? This idea will be discussed in New Business.
12. New Business:
 - a. Bob McGuffin & Greg Wenzel, CCROA, spoke on setting up the Cisco Chain as a Special Assessment District (SAD) with the Township of Watersmeet. The Cisco Chain has 7 of the 14 lakes infected with EWM. The CCROA is facing 2 issues: sustainable funding and higher administrative/approval burden. The volunteer activity will decline and some grant money is going away. They also have a "free rider", as just over 50% of the ~600 lake lot owners on the chain are contributing members. The approval process is getting burdensome as more people are withholding approval to treat AIS, or want special conditions attached to their approval. The first step is to get all lake lot owners on the Michigan side in a SAD using Public Approval Act 188 of 1954. Then next year, set up the Wisconsin side. The majority of the owners are on the Michigan side. They have retained an attorney who has experience in setting up SADs in Michigan and are will meet with Watersmeet Township Town Board to discuss the steps to setting up the SAD. They want to charge a flat \$50.00 per lot owner and estimate that should yield some \$20,000 in annual funds in Michigan. ISCCW board members recognized the issues the CCROA faces and also mentioned that this can significantly change our relationship with the CCROA. David Sherrill mentioned that if a SAD is set up this may effectively cede the owners' riparian rights to the Township. David also mentioned that there are other sources of funding they can investigate. Ken Wendt suggested that they can approach the Township under the Noxious Weed Act to avoid the individual approval burden they face. There could also be some blow back from the owners.
 - b. Scuba Scholarship: This idea was developed to generate interest in our lakes among younger people. We would pay for scuba certification and/or scuba equipment, or the participant could use someone else's equipment. They would then volunteer to dive for EWM. We talked about the cost of this: training could be \$500+ and scuba equipment could cost \$2,000+. David Sherrill also brought up potential liability issues. More thought will be given to this idea.
 - c. 2018 Operating Plan: the Operating Plan was reviewed and approved.
13. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:47am with a motion from Joe LoMastro, seconded by Jim Marrs. Motion carried.
14. **NEXT BOARD MEETING, February 20, 2018 USFS DISTRICT OFFICE AT 10 A.M.**

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Eugene Clark
Secretary