



## MINONG FLOWAGE ASSOCIATION

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DATE: January 23, 2016  
TO: Minong Flowage Association's Board of Directors and Members  
CC: Board meeting file - Dan Maxwell  
SUBJECT: MFA's Winter Board Meeting Minutes: Rev. C

**Date:** January 23, 2016  
**Time:** 9:00am  
**Location:** Minong Town Hall  
**Meeting Type:** MFA Board Meeting

**Attending Board Members:**

Bruzda, Peggy / Johnson, Wayne / Maxwell, Dan / Moline, Dave

**Absent Board Members:**

Budden, Bob / Johnson, Steve / Peck, Bill

**Guests:**

Dave Blumer

**Call to Order: Dan Maxwell**

**Secretary's Report: Dan Maxwell reporting for Bill Peck**

- No activity to report.

### **Treasurer's Report: Dave Moline**

- Finance reports
  - Starting balance (10-3-15) = \$33,274.09
  - Ending balance (1-23-16) = \$30,338.91
  - Expected grant refund income is roughly estimated at \$10,000
- Long term finance discussions
  - Washburn County Forestry will review EWM control donations and boat-launch fee management.
  - Benevity, a donation funds management company, gave us \$114.84. The benefactor was noted as Ameriprise Financial. Dave will investigate to see who generated the donation, so we know whom to thank.
  - Bruzda motioned to approve the report.
  - Wayne Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.
  - Voice vote approved.

### **MFA Membership Report: Peggy Bruzda**

- The quality of the membership list, and potential new members, continues to improve.
- Peggy will continue to work with Bob Budden for her dues-renewal efforts.
- The number of snail-mail members continues to decline.

### **MFA Website Report: Dan Maxwell reporting Bob Budden**

- The quality of the membership list, and potential new members, continues to improve.
- Bob will continue to work with Peggy Bruzda for her dues-renewal efforts.
- Dan Maxwell noted that individual messages will be sent soon regarding:
  - The Governor's Fishing Opener.
  - Fish-stick projects.

### **Newsletter Report: Dan Maxwell**

- The next Newsletter will likely be targeted for early April.

### **Governors Fishing Opener: Dan Maxwell**

- On January 19<sup>th</sup>, Craig Roberts (DNR Fishery Mgr. for Washburn & Burnett counties) advise me that the Governor's Fishing Opener will be held on The Minong Flowage on May 7<sup>th</sup>! I thought it was new news, but the Forestry Dept. has known for months...
- Dan and Wayne Johnson met with the Washburn Tourism Director, Michelle Voight, on January 20<sup>th</sup>. She is excited and plans to play this up big. Details are still evolving:
  - Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> = Heartwood Resort is the base of activities
  - Friday evening banquet = 250 VIP's and media;
  - Total weekend event about 800 people;
  - Craig Roberts will be featured speaker on fishery stuff.

- Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. The Governor's boat will likely launch Saturday morning, but details are still sketchy.
- Media focus ??
- Proposed Shore-lunch at Pogo's?
- Governor likely departs the area after lunch?
- "Fishing & Outdoor Expo" at Heartwood
- 10x10 both is free for non-profits; \$60 for vendors
- MFA's primary role is to recruit pontoon escorts for VIP's, media, etc. Approximately 6 to 12 needed.
- MFA should evaluate lake amenities upgrades? Buoys, signs, \_\_\_\_\_?
- Constant Contact announcement should go out to MFA membership ASAP.

#### **Aquatic Plant Management Plan (APM: 2015-2019): Dave Blumer**

- DNR approval of APM plan is close... real close...
- 2016 EWM treatment discussions
  - 26.9 acres in the "DNR Public Landing Bay", is the only qualified EWM target area for 2016 treatment discussions.
  - The AEPP grant application, if approved, will cover most of the related expenses for 2016 & 2017, except for the actual herbicide and contractor application costs. Those costs would likely come to \$8,000 - \$10,000 in 2016, which would come from the MFA's Lake Mgt./EWM control fund.

#### **Individual Property Owners AIS control options. Dan Maxwell**

- The DNR is unlikely to approve any individual property owner's requests to use herbicide along their shoreline.
- Current options include:
  - Personal hand-pulling
  - Contracted hand-pulling
  - "Let it grow".
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#### **Washburn County Forestry Funding: Dan Maxwell & Wayne Johnson**

- Dan & Wayne attended their monthly meeting to discuss amounts and methods for funding EWM control efforts on January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Their general consensus is that they wish to continue to support our efforts to control AIS issues. This support stems directly from their Totogatic Campground Program and they want it to be clear that AIS control funds will not be offered to any other regional lakes.
- Their funding support could = \$3,000 to \$5,000 per year.
- Next step: Dan Maxwell needs to summarize this subject in a letter to Mike Peterson to enable him to issue of a letter to the MFA that confirms their financial support plans. Such a letter of support is very important to current & future grant applications.

### Grants Status:

- AEPP-431-14 (Aquatic Invasives Education): Steve Johnson
  - Steve is gathering information to submit our request for final reimbursements.
  
- CBCW24516 (Clean Boats / Clean Waters): Wayne Johnson
  - A \$3,600 grant (#CBCW24516) was awarded from the DNR as part of the \$4,800 CB/CW project for 2016. This grant is based on an estimate of 300 monitoring hours, at a \$12/hr rate. The MFA will be responsible for \$1,200 of the total \$4,800 project. This can be accomplished either by direct payment, providing in-kind volunteer hours, or a combination. This is an increase from the 2015 grant (which was a \$3,000 grant on \$4,000 CB/CW project) due to a higher hourly re-imburement rate (from \$10/hr to \$12/hr) applied for on this year's application. This is the maximum hourly rate allowed under the grant.
  - DNR landing: Boy Scouts of America Troop #97, from Minong, will once again, provide 2016 monitoring at the DNR Landing on Flowage Road.
  - Property owners and the general public are encouraged to donate hours to the project, too. These hours are very important to our "local share" (\$1,200) of effort requirement. **Every hour of recorded volunteer-monitoring-time reduces the \$1,200 expense by \$12!**
  - Totogatic Campground public landing: the Minong Town Lakes Committee manages the effort via DNR grant #CBCW25816.
  
- LPT-499-15 (Fish-Sticks): Dan Maxwell
  - Dan needs to get hustling on this project!!!
  
- 2016/2017 AEPP Grant Application
  - At the time of our January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, this grant approval was still pending.
  - If this AEPP "education" grant did not gain DNR approval, a viable backup plan was to submit the same basic data as an AIEC "control" grant. This would provide the same basic funding for education programs, plant survey work, consulting fees, etc. and additionally, it would cover the cost of a herbicide treatment in the DNR bay. Recent indications implied that an "AIS control" grant approval would not be likely, but it would be easy to prepare and submit before the Feb. 1 deadline. Discussion concluded that it was "worth a shot" as a back-up plan to the AEPP "education" grant application.
  - Dan Maxwell moved that: The MFA board approved the submission of an "AIEC control" grant application for the 2016/2017 two-year period.
  - Wayne Johnson seconded the motion:
  - Voice votes approved the motion.

### **AIS Control spending approval: Dan Maxwell**

- Dan noted that we approved a maximum "AIS control" spending limit of \$18,000 last year for 2015 efforts. This worked well by allowing flexible spending decisions on a timely basis. Actual spending was under \$10,000.
- It was noted that the AEP "education" grant, if approved, would still not cover the cost of a herbicide treatment in the DNR bay, which would like run to total costs of about \$10,000.
- Following discussion of the subject, Dan moved that the same \$18,000 spending limit be approved for the 2016 season.
- Peggy Bruzda seconded the motion.
- Voice votes approved the motion.

### **Minong Flowage Stakeholders committee: Dan Maxwell**

- Recent discussions with Pamela Toshner concluded that management of the Minong Stakeholders Committee needs to move off of her desk on onto ours. Discussions to this effect are also noted in our 2015-2019 Aquatic Plant Management plan.
- A plan is yet to be formulated, but we are likely to try to invite the various Stakeholders to a portion of the April & October Board meetings.

### **On-lake activities: Dan Maxwell**

- Assort topics were discussed briefly as items of on-going subjects.
  - Citizen Lake Monitoring.
  - Ice fishing contests and similar events promoted via MFA database.
  - Buoy placement and management.
  - On-lake hazard markers.
  - Shoreline Regulation legislation.
- GLIFWC performed the annual young-walleye survey last fall.
  - 2015 year-class tallied 136.2 walleyes per mile of lakeshore. 20/mile of lakeshore is considered "satisfactory" for most regional lakes, but our numbers usually run considerably higher than that and this year continues that tradition.
  - 2014 year-class tallied 7.4/mile. 2/mile is considered "satisfactory" for most regional lakes, but our numbers usually run considerably higher than that and this year continues that tradition.
- Full-lake fish survey is set for this spring and summer, per Craig Roberts - DNR.
  - Specific/complete plans have not yet been formulated.
  - Ice-out, weather issues and competing projects on other lakes will all factor in to the process.
  - Spring walleye survey will occur shortly after ice-out.
  - Pike survey plans remain fluid.
  - Bass, pan-fish & pike survey will occur in mid-summer.
  - Annual young-walleye survey will occur in the fall, and it is the DNR's turn to perform it in 2016.

### **Drawdown Topics: Dan Maxwell**

- The subject of future draw-downs as an AIS tool continues to arise from various stakeholders.
- No draw-downs are planned at this time, but the board will continue to gather key information regarding this issue so as to be able to competently debate the subject at stakeholder meetings and as an AIS control planning option.

**Regional Associations: Dan Maxwell**

- We will continue to informally expand our communications and interactions with other regional lake associations.
- Our primary focus will be nurture our interactions with Cranberry Lake and The Cranberry Flowage property owners.

**MFA Board Membership: Dan Maxwell**

- Dan needs to get hustling on this project!!!

**MFA Board meeting tentative calendar: Dan Maxwell**

- \*\*\*\*\* 2016 \*\*\*\*\*
- April 16, 2016 - MFA Annual Meeting & Governors Fishing Opener planning
- June 11, 2016 - MFA Annual Meeting
- August 27, 2016 - AIS Education Event (tentative date)
- October 1, 2016 - End of Season Review & look towards 2017 (tentative date; changed back from October 8th)
- \*\*\*\*\* 2017 \*\*\*\*\*
- January 28, 2017 - AIS planning (tentative date)
- April 22, 2017 - MFA Annual Meeting planning (tentative date)
- June 10, 2017 - MFA Annual Meeting
- August 26, 2017 - AIS Education Event (tentative date)
- October 7, 2017 - End of Season Review & look towards 2018 (tentative date)
- \*\*\*\*\* 2018 \*\*\*\*\*

**New Business:**

- None.
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