

Tainter Menomin Lake Improvement Association, Inc.

(TMLIA)

Monthly Meeting

Dunn County Community Services Building, RM101

Date November 8th 2016

6:00pm

Introductions and review of the agenda

People in Attendance – People in Attendance – Ron Verdon, Mike Tomasek, Sarah Freeman, Nels Paulson, Ryland Erdman, Mike Kneer, Amber Georgakopoulous, Liz Osborne, Ben Hartenbower, Dick Lamers

Negotiate Agenda

No changes made to the agenda for tonight.

Approval of Minutes

Ron asked for a motion to approve the minutes, motion made by Ryland and seconded by Sarah. Minutes were approved without further discussion and unanimously carried. Ron also took time to congratulate Liz Osborne and Lindsay Olson on their Lake Leaders Institute training and successfully completing that training.

Nominations for TMLIA Officers – Nels Paulson

Nels spoke about the executive committee and the four positions that are open for next year. Nels nominated Liz Osborne for President of the TMLIA, second by Amber, the floor had no further discussion. A vote was taken with unanimous approval with an abstention by Liz.

The second position for Vice President was up for discussion as Nels is term-locked and unable to take a position for a full term. Nels did offer that he would fill in the position as an interim if need be. Dick Lamers nominated Amber Georgakopoulous and second by Ryland Erdman, with no further discussion or nominations, Amber was approved as VP on unanimous approval.

For the Secretary's position, Nels Paulson nominated Mike Tomasek with a second by Ron Verdon. No further discussion was had along with no further nominations and Mike Tomasek was approved as Secretary on unanimous approval minus abstention by Mike Tomasek.

For the Treasurer's position, Nels nominated Ben Hartenbower for Treasurer with a second by Amber. No further discussion was had and Ben was approved as Treasurer with unanimous approval minus abstention by Ben.

Ron congratulated the new executive team and reminded the team that we can do a celebration for the December meeting at Lucette. Sarah recommended a Wednesday since they will be open that day, if possible. The team decided we would try to keep Tuesday first and Wednesday as an alternative day with respect to the normal meeting evening.

Preliminary Budget requests

Ben reminded the group to please return budget request items by Sunday the 13th. Amber requested that a copy of last year's budget be sent to board members to help refresh what funds are available. Ben reminded everyone that we are operating off of the 2015 budget as it was approved as-is for 2016.

Report on Activities by Attendees

City of Menomonie – Ryland Erdman – Ryland just updated on a few items including the City of Menomonie is still awaiting results on how much [P](#) and soil was officially removed from the dredging of Wolski Bay. Also, the stormwater retention pond West of the Fairgrounds on [5th and 17th](#) should be done by next month. Finally, the quotes for Jarrett Creek feeding into Lake Menomin for sediment removal should be available by next City Council meeting. Dick Lamers asked if the City had a way to monitor and test if the Water quality got better or worse since the dredging, Ryland replied that testing was one of the key pieces of dissent for the dredging because there isn't an official sample pre-dredging and post-dredging to follow-up on along with no plan to test going forward. The board as a whole noted that many citizens have been doing testing and samples that might help provide some data samples.

Dunn County Board of Supervisors – Mike Kneer – Mike recapped some items including the Dunn County Land and Water resource plan for the next 10 years has been finished. Also, some zoning changes have been made to allow for more breweries in Dunn County, especially near the Downsville area. Environmentally sensitive areas have had descriptors standardized for inter-department communication amongst state agencies. Mike then discussed two items that were emailed out ahead of time regarding "[Right to Farm](#)" and "[DATCP options](#)". Mike and the Dunn County Land and Water Board have received feedback from citizens asking what they can do to make an impact to water quality and with state laws, it impacts the amount of work that the County can do to make an impact to water quality as many state laws and statutes control what the County can enforce or attempt to do. Dick asked if Mike felt that if the County passes laws, can the state government just toss it out. Mike felt that it is a possibility that if something is passed here that the state can just pass a law to throw it out. Liz and Mike Kneer spoke around ground water testing including testing for Bovine E-Coli as opposed to just chemicals like Nitrate and Nitrogen since it can't directly tie livestock as much as Bovine E-Coli. Mike

encouraged everyone to read the information that was included in the emails. Dick asked Liz if Nitrate and/or Nitrogen levels are higher than safe levels, can someone compel the state to resolve the issue. Liz speculated that Dick could not in that example. Dick then gave feedback about pushing for moratorium before for high capacity wells unless we know what is in the water, in the aquifers, and more as far as volume, chemicals, etc.. Mike noted that with respect to state laws, there are limits to what the County can do as moratoriums seem to be pre-empted by state law. Dick's final question was surrounding enforcement of rules around high capacity well use. Liz responded that repairs are 70/30 cost shared with the state leading the way on funding and monitoring funding isn't included in the money allotted. County budgets need to have money for monitoring and that funding comes from County budget. Mike mentioned that after the study that the information will be shared with the state if they feel that budget money isn't there to provide monitoring. Liz mentioned that the only monitoring that she is aware occurs is when a neighbor files a complaint and the County can't do random inspections without being fair and inspecting randomly everywhere as opposed to targeted inspections. Ron noted that when an issue emerges that causes health and safety issues, the county can intervene with approval from the DNR

Education/Outreach – Kate Edenberg – Kate was unable to attend the meeting tonight due to a personal event. The newsletter will be out later in November.

Environmental/Legislative – Dick Lamers –

Dick attended the [Save the Hills](#) event and was also in Madison for [DATCP](#) offices, he brought back some information to share with the board. Dick then moved on to Legislative issues for discussion. Dick noted that the Joint Finance committee may continue to be anti-environment in their budgeting needs. Jim Vandebrook, executive director of the Wisconsin [Land and Water](#), had a discussion last year with Dick Lamers to potentially create an umbrella organization to help coordinate the wetlands, river, and lake issues through one organization when it comes to lobbying. In April, a steering committee meeting was held to start speaking about coordinating efforts from these three major groups for lobbying and to create key points to drive in Madison. Four subcommittees, including surface water, have been formed and have met in Stevens Point in August. The group will meet this month in Marshfield to review data and set goals for a strategic plan. Dick is on the board for the surface water and the other groups are ground water quality, ground water quantity, and farm/land preservation. Dick is going to request more expense budgeting dollars as long as TMLIA is willing to continue that process. Ron asked if Dick had gathered an estimate as of yet, Dick thought about it and didn't have a firm number other than to quote just one trip for fuel to give a baseline. Mike suggested adding lodging, food, and fuel to the budget, at least to discuss for budget needs rather than just fuel. The board will discuss how much they can give during budget discussions. Ron, Nels, and Mike voiced support, generally speaking, for this because it acts as a lobbying arm.

K-12 Education – This report was unavailable at the meeting

Membership Report – Liz Osborne – Liz recapped that renewals have started coming through from the 60 day email blast. We have a 30 day and post expiration email lined up, too. Liz then noted that Mike Kneer has brought in some new members. Liz took some time to share her thoughts from the Lake Leaders events and trainings, some additional links will be added at the bottom of this section. Seeing that other lake associations attending, learning, and sharing their issues/solutions was great to hear. It was good to see that our lake association has developed a lot of connections for support and help when the need arises.

[Citizen Lake Monitoring Reports – Wolske Bay](#)

[Citizen Lake Monitoring Reports – Tainter Lake](#)

[Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey \(Groundwater\)](#)

[US Geological Survey \(Groundwater\)](#) and an [alternate link](#)

Treasurers Report – Ben Hartenbower/Mike Tarr – Ben went over the financial report and broken down some of the numbers including restricted and unrestricted income. Motion to approve the report was made by Nels, second by Amber. Question by Mike about where the smile.amazon.com income is and where it is going, Ben will reach out to Dick Rueckl to gain access to that. Dick Lamers thanked Ben for the work on making the data very easy to read. Unanimous approval by all after no further discussion.

Website – Michael reported that the webserver was patched and upgraded this month. Also worked on fixing a bug from changing the email account for payments from PayPal. He will also continue to work on board profiles this month.

Other

Sarah volunteered for planting in the rain garden if needed, Ron noted that it is all done as of yesterday afternoon. Nels continued to speak to interested parties about continuing the “outdoor museum” concept and will continue to work on design plans to help start gathering money for the concept. Dick asked if the signage grant was used and Ron responded it was used for the rain garden.

Lindsay Olson’s report was provided by email as shown below:

Our final Land and Water Resource Management Plan is complete and available on our county website homepage. The PR&D Committee has recommended its approval. It goes before the county board on Nov. 15 and the WI Land + Water board on Dec. 6.

- Have been working on designing and implementing BMPs with a growing number of landowners in the Wilson and Annis Creek watersheds.

- New FSA director for Dunn County - Heather Kuchera. Looking to expand the CREP and CRP program in our area as CRP acres are now available for our county.
- Rain to Rivers recently held a 5hr winter road maintenance training workshop in Dunn County. The workshop focused on training road salt applicators how to determine the proper chemical and quantity for the conditions and how to calibrate machinery for the safety of people as well as water quality. Over 65 attendees, including 16 from Dunn County Highway and several from the City of Menomonie attended.
- Next week I will be attending the EPA listening session in Eau Claire.

The EPA Water Listening Session will be held on 11/15/16, some information about it can be found [here](#).

Meeting Evaluation

This was skipped tonight due to time constraints.

Upcoming events –

Tuesday, November 15, 5:00-7:00pm, EPA Region V Listening Session (Robert Kaplan, Administrator), Room 30, Chippewa Valley Technical

College, Business Education Center, 620 West Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire WI 54701

March 9th 2017 Red Cedar Land, Water, and People Conference

Next Meeting: TBD