

February 27, 2025, 4:30 pm West Iron District Library Minutes of the Iron County Watershed Coalition

"ICWC works to ensure the highest possible water quality in Iron County lakes, streams and wetlands by educating and engaging our communities in projects that will restore and preserve our watersheds for future generations."

Call to Order at 4:30

Attending: Bette Premo, Rich Sloat, Doug Felger, Dave Martwick, Maggie Scheffer, and Melody Klink

Review and Approval of Minutes: July 18, 2024. Doug moved, and supported by Dave to approve the minutes; motion passed.

Agenda: Amended; Doug moved to approve; seconded by Rich.

Treasurer's Report: Dave moved; supported by Rich to accept and all approved.

Correspondence: Angie Stine billed for the website and asked if another member could take it on. Doug offered to do so.

Old Business:

- **Wild River Road Project Update:** Bette applied to Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration and was turned down. Feedback was given. Another grant was submitted to NOAA Fisheries Restoration Programs, specifically for culvert replacement, to be dispersed in 2026 if granted. (See attachments).
- **Miskwagamiwizibi Park Shelter Improvements:** Dave and Rich constructed an outhouse. The Girl Scouts visited the park and were enthusiastic about starting on trails, but there has been no follow-up; Rich will contact them to inquire about their intentions. The canoe/kayak launch is 70% completed. The sign at the launch will be paid for by the township, but the post still needs to be constructed. A visitor log will be placed in the shelter. The remaining pile of cordwood will be removed and the space leveled for a tent site.
- **Signage at Apple Blossom Trailhead:** Maggie will talk with Kevin Johnson about the condition of the removed signage to see if it can be installed on the back side of the new sign.

- **Status of Cooks Run Property:** MEF monitoring has been done and the data will be reported at the next general membership meeting in May. The County Commissioners have contracted Brock VanOss to mark timber for harvest. Stream crossings would be necessary, though the steep grade may prohibit harvesting. Rich has drafted a letter to the commissioners asking for a public hearing and will attend the County Board meeting on March 11 at 4:30. Recent MEF water quality monitoring could be disrupted by logging equipment. There is currently discussion among concerned citizens of forming a non-profit 501(c)(3) in order to allow preservation work to be performed within the parameters of the property deed.
- **Dober Pit Cleanup:** Sara Basso has expressed concern and suggested working with legislators to get funding into EGLE's budget to resolve the problem of the Dober pit and cleaning up the settling ponds. Bette will summarize the current status for Sara.
- **E-waste:** Search for disposal facilities. No report. Suggested facilities in Eagle River and Rhinelander be contacted.

New Business:

- **ICWC Scholarship Program:** Doug has arranged implementation through Connor Bjorkman at WIC High School. The \$1,000 scholarship from ICWC will be made available to students in WIC for application this year, and Forest Park next year to continue on an alternating schedule. Consideration will be given to students intending to pursue careers in environmental policy, government, natural resource management, environmental engineering, education, and outreach.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 26th, 4:00 PM. Adjournment at 6:10 PM Bette moved, supported by Maggie; motion passed.

Submitted by Secretary, Maggie Scheffer