

## POWELL MARSH LISTENTIG SESSION COMMENT NOTES – 10-29-13

Ken Anderson – WCC Delegate – Access to the Marsh in important

**A question: Do we have similar managed dike and dam management regimes elsewhere in WI? Is Powell similar to Horicon?**

Laurel Anderson – Local Resident – Would like to see a “Friends of Powell Marsh” formed to promote birding and tourism; Powell Marsh is an excellent classroom – mid-way between two strong NR schools in UWSP and Northland College.

Fran Raduege – Dead Pike Lake Resident – Water quality has decreased on DPL due to Powell Marsh, fishing has gotten worse and they don’t believe it is safe for swimming.

Dr. Bill Raduege – Dead Pike Lake Resident – They have watched a clear sandy bottom lake become a lake that has a film and scum on the sand. Barr and Associates study shows that inflow from Powell Marsh decreases water quality. The Lake (DPL) is sick. The marsh isn’t doing what it is supposed to do...it isn’t increasing water quality.

Mary Dassler – DPL Resident – A resident on DPL since 1993. Lake is sick and dying due to the mismanagement of Powell Marsh. Sited the Barr Study...why wasn’t it included as a reference in the draft MP? Would the DNR have allowed the what is going on at DPL, if it were industry (wetland disturbance and manipulation)?

**A request was made for expenditures, budget and operating costs to date, and what the costs of future management scenarios would be under various scenarios. I committed to look into that...stated that as part of the MP we need to be able to address those questions.**

John Hanson – Manitowish Waters Town Chair – Written Statement

Kathy Wolf – DPL Association – Lack of the use of science in decision making at the DNR, this is another example. Nutrification study (Barr) should be included in decision making. Concerned about safety (phosphorous and bacteria), partial restoration in the best solution, current management is too expensive and has cost too much.

Gale Wolf – DPL Resident – Read the DNR’s NR wetland policy, why isn’t the department following its own rules? How can the wildlife division do what is being done on Powell, simply by changing the classification from wetland to wildlife area? Believes the DNR designated Powell Marsh as a Wildlife Area to avoid the restrictions associated with the *Clean Water Act*. What is being done with the minimum follow is flushing the ditches, but the bacteria is still present at the same levels...”the delusion solution”.

Geraldine Long – DPL Resident – Lived on DPL since 1945...seen a steady decrease in water quality (unsightly and odor). Do partners like DU have more clout than private citizens? Please be objective in your decision making.

Duane Meinders – DPL resident – glad to see that the DNR is considering water quality in all the alternatives, but it will be important to define what that number is and how it will be measured. Wants a clear lake, but wants a health Powell Marsh too...likes to walk and hike at Powell. The

Marsh should be used as an educational classroom and managed for a variety of users (hunters, bird watchers, hikers, etc.).

Pauline Witty – All our responsibility to care for the earth; likes to walk the marsh.

**Where does the iron Floc come from?**

Karen Kappell – Clear up the water in DPL, and improve the water in Powell Marsh as well.

Rene Jonas – Late husband was passionate about Powell Marsh, gave money via DU to restore and manage the marsh, was concerned that DU did not attend the meeting. She recently lost a child who also loved to hunt the marsh. Wants to find a way to keep the marsh open and also at the same time deal with the water quality issues at DPL.

**What is DU's relationship with the Marsh today? Is there any? Viable? Was there something about a \$75,000 payback to DU?**

Brian Rayala – Powell Marsh should be enhanced and use the DPL association research to increase duck numbers, hunting has been better. Both Powell and DPL need help.

Chuck Rayala – The marsh is valuable, the DNR needs to find a win-win.

Pete Gazzette – The DNR encouraged us to get involved in our lake, so they did, been taking secci disk readings for a long time. We did reaserch on the lake, applied for a grant to do research. Saw the lack fluctuate from 17' clarity to 4' clarity. DNR refuses to accept the Barr findings that was audited by Hey and Assoc. DNR still works with Barr, why won't they accept the findings and use it as a basis for their decision making?

**Need to be able to respond to concerns that the DNR dismissed the Barr Management Plan and the Hay Review.**

Bunny Reisendinger – DPL Resident – Written testimony...not present

Gale Wolf – Presented DPL association alternative...Tom Watkins has a copy of their proposal. Want's to find a win-win solution that improves the marsh but also increases the water quality at DPL.

In a nutshell we heard that locals want the floc removed, the marsh restored, greater access, continued hunting/trapping and silent sport activities as well.

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