

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

Air, Waste and Water

Meeting Minutes



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| ORDER OF BUSINESS | 8/25/2012 | 9:00 am | Meade Visitor Center |
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

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| MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY | Andrew Limmer at 9:13am |
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B. ROLL CALL

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| ATTENDEES | Eric Wojchik Mike Lane Gene Reineking Meade Grim Edgar Harvey- Chairman Ronald Fassbender Craig Raschein Andrew Limmer- Secretary |
| EXCUSED | |
| UNEXCUSED | Dale Chrisler- Unexcused Ervin Peitersen- Unexcused Larry Ziltener- Unexcused |
| GUESTS | Tom Krsnich- DNR Liaison Greg Pils- DNR Liaison Eric Ebersberger- from drinking water and groundwater |

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

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| DISCUSSION | |
| ACTION | -Motion to accept by Meade Grim - 2 nd by Gene Reineking -Motion carried |

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

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| DISCUSSION | |
| ACTION | - Motion by Andrew Limmer to accept as is - 2 nd by Meade Grim -Motion carried |

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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| DISCUSSION | none |
| ACTION | |

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. WAUKESHA WATER DIVERSION

ERIC EBERSBERGER- WDNR

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| DISCUSSION | -Eric explained the process that Waukesha has undertaken to apply for a Great Lakes diversion -Waukesha must go through an application process due to the Great Lakes Compact which prohibits water diversions to areas outside of the Great Lakes basin. For more information on the Great Lakes Compact please visit this website: http://www.glc.org/about/glbc.html -Waukesha states that it needs a new source of water because of quantity (deep aquifers have dropped more than |
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| | <p>500 feet and continue to drop at 9 feet/year) and quality issues (water from deep aquifers contains high amounts of radium)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Waukesha is seeking to divert 10.9 million gallons of water per day for public use. -Eric also noted that is obviously a time sensitive matter, however, there are a number of steps involved including public hearings, DNR technical review, Compact council review and the states final decision. -Concerns were raised over the possible expansion of more diversion permits from other cities -Andrew Limmer stated he thought the committee did not have enough information to take a position on the issue yet and should wait until further information is provided. -For information on the current status of the permit process or simply for more information please visit: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wateruse/waukeshadiversionapp.html | |
| ACTION | None taken | |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | | DEADLINE |
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B. WATERWAYS AND WETLAND EMERGENCY IRRIGATION AND WITHDRAWAL

GREG PILLS

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| DISCUSSION | <p>-Greg Pils explained the executive orders (75 & 76) that took place this year when the state of emergency for drought conditions took place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Executive Order 75, issued July 9th, declared a 60-day state of emergency in 42 counties Executive Order 76, issued July 18th, extended the state of emergency to all counties -124 Emergency Water withdrawal permits were received. Of those 65 were approved, 3 were denied and 56 were withdrawn or dismissed. | |
| ACTION | None taken | |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | | DEADLINE |
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C. AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES WORK GROUP UPDATE

GREG PILLS

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| DISCUSSION | <p>-An AIS work group (Jim Heim, Roger Wilson and Douglas County Association of Lakes and Streams) met to focus on two items.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Streamlining administrative process 2. Consider alternative funding for AIS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lean Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -process improvement model -cost benefit analysis -Goal is to add/reduce staff administration and costs of certain processes along the way if possible | |
| ACTION | None Taken | |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | | DEADLINE |
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D. DAM REOMVAL AND ABANDONMENT

ED HARVEY

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| DISCUSSION | <p>-Dam Removal and Abandonment by Ed Harvey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Should the DNR be held to the same standards for habitat degradation as other government agencies? -Is habitat degradation acceptable if the net impact is positive? -If it is, who gets to decide of the net impact is positive or negative? <p>What can we do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Nothing -Work with DNR to examine DNR dam removal process and recommend changes -Request a communication to authorities -Compose a question for the questionnaire <p>-Ed read letter from a DNR employee. Letter outlined that river siltation was actually a good thing (according to the author). It also stated that dam removal processes are all different and setting up a general set of rules for every dam removal would be very difficult and not feasible. It also noted that the DNR has done over 100 successful dam removals.</p> <p>-Ronald noted that when he was a part of drawdown tasks. Their group only drew down at a rate of 1" per day rather than the current model of 6" or 12" per day. This allowed for far less sediment to be washed downstream; whereas the water behind the Gooseville dam was released in a very short amount of time.</p> <p>-Greg Pils said he will attempt to follow up on the DNR manual that exists as a protocol for damn draw downs and will contact Ed with his findings.</p> <p>-Ed suggested waiting until more information could be found and to bring the discussion back up at next year's meeting.</p> | |
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| ACTION | None taken |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |
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E. WESTSHORE PIPELINE SPILL

GREG PILLS

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| DISCUSSION | <p>Westshore Pipeline Spill by Greg Pills - On July 17th, 2012 55,000 gallons of gasoline were spilled from a ruptured gasoline line in the town of Jackson in Washington County</p> <p>-An advisory has been put out to a specific area of homes and they have been asked to only use their tap water for flush-only. They are not to use water for and drinking, cooking or washing. Bottled water is being provided to them</p> <p>-Point-of-Entry water treatment systems have been installed (70), and sampling is continuing to be done.</p> <p>-The town of Jackson approved the DNR permit with 3 stipulations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three consecutive tests done to ensure the water being discharged has been cleaned prior to discharging into the ground. 2. The Mill Rd. culvert be lined with plastic to reduce damage from flowing discharge 3. West Shore will promptly address any future town right of way issues directly related to the project. <p>-Updates are available online with the DNR at dnr.wi.gov/topic/spills/Jackson.html and at West Shore Pipeline Company at www.jacksonwisconsinresponse.com</p> <p>-If you would like email updates you are able to register on the DNR's website.</p> | |
| ACTION | None taken | |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE | |
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F. CITIZEN RESOLUTION-440412-- MAKE SHORELINE LANDOWNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR WEED REMOVAL

GREG PILLS

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| DISCUSSION | <p>Citizen Resolutions 440412- Make Shoreline Landowners Responsible for Weed Removal (Insert question)</p> <p>Greg Pills noted that placing weeds back into the lake is currently illegal, that the DNR may not have the current statute delegation to enforce the proposed rule change and that local ordinances usually cover these types of nuisance abetments and may be an area to explore for this type of request. Eric Wojchik mentioned that this is more of an education issue than a rule change proposal. 29.601 is the state statute that prohibits depositing any noxious substance into the lake. This statute carries a penalty of hundreds of dollars.</p> | |
| ACTION | <p>Motion to reject the resolution Motion by Meade Grim 2nd by Gene Reineking Motion carried unanimously</p> | |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE | |
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III. MEMBERS MATTERS

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| DISCUSSION | <p>Gene Reineking spoke about the Saratoga CAFO. They are planning to clear cut and use 6,000 acres of land for the CAFO with approximately 6,000 heads of cattle. They plan on sinking 47 wells to grow food for the cattle. He and others have concerns for the local trout streams and other environmental impacts. Gene thinks this is an egregious act to take out forest land for this purpose. He also thinks the state and nation need to take a good look at pumping large amounts of water for these purposes.</p> |
| ACTION | None taken |

IV. ADJOURNMENT

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| MEETING ADJOURNED | 1:30 |
| SUBMITTED BY | Andrew Limmer |
| DATE | 8/25/2012 |