

**Rock River Coalition Annual Membership Meeting & Election of Board Members  
Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 CamRock Café- Cambridge, WI**

**Board Members Present:** Jane Carlson, Suzanne Wade, Eric Compass, Jim Kerler, Dave Hoffman, Joe Zakovec, Patricia Cicero, Tabby Davis, Jim Koepke

**Absent:** Dan Lynch

**Others Present:** Joleen Stinson, Greg Farnham, Frank Scheir, Greg Boysen, Joe Parisi, Rick Eilertson, Linda Reid, Scott Taylor, Marsha Vomastic, Lisa Curler

**1. Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:**

RRC board and employees introduced themselves to all members.

**2. Approval of 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes:**

Suzanne covered minutes from 2014. Dave motioned to approve minutes; seconded by Eric; motion carried.

**3. Activity Reports:**

A. President's Report:

President Patricia Cicero discussed the past year and how eventful it was. The RRC celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Koshkonong Mounds C.C. The "Send Your Legislator Down the River" proved to be another important program that connects our local/state legislators with water quality issues first hand. There was a Rock Lake water tour with local dignitaries and stakeholders. Nancy Sheehan coordinated a "Confluence of Monitors," which she continues to progress with her great work. Rock River Coalition was a part of DeForest's Yahara River Fest and continues to partner with communities basin wide. Lastly, there were several Rock River Recovery meetings that took place to discuss the how the TMDL will affect MS4's and other municipalities.

B. Chapter- Friends of Badfish Creek:

Marsha Vomastic mentioned their group has done a lot in the last year. They are working with the DNR on a canoe/kayak launch near the South end of Badfish Creek. They are continuing eradication of invasives species like Japanese knotweed, garlic mustard, and others. They've held volunteer work days with Stoughton H.S. to remove brush along the creek. Their expansion of social media use and promotion has brought in new members from diverse backgrounds.

C. Chapter- Maunasha River Alliance:

No one in attendance, but Patricia reported they are continuing to monitor sites and have river clean ups. They reported a total of \$927 in membership donations.

D. Chapter- Johnson Creek Watershed Alliance:

They reported plans to hold a river clean-up day in the near future. They continue to work with local citizens like the Boy Scouts to plan a trail system along the creek. Also, held a contest to for the high school to submit ideas of logos for the group and presented the new logo.

**E. Citizen Stream Monitoring:**

Through RRC's and Nancy's efforts 71 stream sites across the basin were monitored by 75 volunteers and these numbers continue to grow. In addition to collecting baseline water quality data, nutrient samples were collected at 19 stream sites. The stream monitoring committee partnered with the Kettle Moraine Land Trust to educate future generations of stream ecologists from Whitewater H.S.

**F. Testing the Waters: A Paddle and Probe Adventure**

Suzanne Wade discussed this remarkable event that will test the water quality from Horicon Marsh to Beloit, WI in this 12-day event in 2016. This will involve community outreach programs and hiring several college students to help with coordinating and running these programs.

**5. Election of Board of Directors:**

Jim Koepke has planned on retiring and this will be his last meeting. A big farewell to him who's been a great board member representing the farming community. Voting proceeded on 3 board members (Dave Hoffman for secretary, Eric Compass, and Jim Kerler), Student Board Member (Tabby Davis), Joe Zakovec for President-elect, Jane Carlson for President, and Dan Lynch for Treasurer. Lisa Curler moved to close the elections; seconded by Eric; motion carried. Suzanne moved to for unanimous consent to elect all board members; seconded by Jane; motion carried.

**6. Adjournment:**

Joe motioned to adjourn the 2015 Annual Meeting at 6:30; seconded by Marsha; motion carried.

**Annual Meeting continued with the presentation of the Rock River Coalitions Awards:**

Individual Category: Rick Eilertson, Environmental Engineer for City of Fitchburg

Elected Official: Joe Parisi, Dane Co. Executive

Organization: City of Beloit- Greg Boysen, Director of Public Works to accept the award.

Educator: Linda Reid, Director of the Institute for Water Business & UW-Whitewater professor

Rock River Coalition Friend Award: Joleen Stinson, Scott Taylor, Jim Koepke.

**Keynote Presentation:**

Scott Taylor of Taylor Conservation LLC- "Identifying Actual Restorable Wetlands in Sub-watersheds of Horicon Marsh and Lake Sinissippi."