

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Waters Committee Meeting Minutes
November 21st, 2024
Wood County River Block/Online

Attendees: Joe Tomandl (Taylor); Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Andrew Senderhauf (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Chris Hamerla (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jared Mader (Marathon); Gary Beastron (Member-at-Large); Shane Wucherpennig (Wood); Nancy Eggleston (Portage); Reesa Evans (Member-at-Large); Mara Lince (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Tomandl called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Wucherpennig, to approve the September 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW PROJECTS: None.

COUNTY AND STAFF UPDATES:

Senderhauf: He and Hamerla participated in AIS outreach to waterfowl hunters at Mead Wildlife Center. Over 100 contacts were made. He participated in some 4th grade conservation field days. Green Lake is dealing with the invasive marsh pennywort. He presented AIS info to elementary school kids from Princeton in their Forest Farm Demo Day.

Hamerla: He was again part of a pet surrender day in Rothschild, where people could turn in unwanted pets like fish, sugar gliders, bearded dragons, etc. He helped Harper Lake try to deal with their invasive Japanese Knotweed. Chain O' Lakes is still dealing with starry stonewort. He and Thorstenson presented information on EWM weevils. He also participated in the WCCFD.

Gurklis: The Waupaca Conservation Field Day (WCCFD), which was in late September, had 350 kids. She had to turn one school down. She has been training Jenna Tuma, a new Golden Sands staff member. She is preparing to start AIS lessons in January.

Lince: She went to a couple of bait shops to talk about AIS issues. She participated with some students in a mussel rescue at the Necedah Wildlife Refuge. She also was part of the Master Naturalist fall color paddle. She and Thorstenson gave a presentation on EWM weevils at the fall state AIS meeting. She also participated in a conservation meeting in Juneau County.

Mader (Marathon): The county installed several grassed waterways this year. Winter spreading restrictions are being discussed, as well as buffer installations. About 1000 private wells were tested this year.

Wucherpennig (Wood): He and Leichtnam will be presenting the revised Wood County SWRM plan to the Natural Resources Board next week. Counties are required to present such plans every 10 years to maintain state funding. It will go before the Wood County Board in December. Over 40% of farmland in Wood County didn't get planted this year due to wet conditions. This provided an opportunity for his office to encourage cover crop planting instead of having fields left bare. A solar-powered watering system was installed on one grazing farm. There are several

Multiple Discharge Variances requested in the county with several violations to address. There is still some pandemic money left.

Eggleston (Portage): The Land & Water Conservation Committee is hoping to get some rules about CAFO in place before any CAFOs move into the county. The Committee has also asked for a moratorium on any CAFO installations until county operations plans are in place. The Committee will be looking at the issue again in January 2025. In the Nelsonville area, 7 out of 21 wells scored high in nitrate contamination.

Tomandl (Taylor): Three manure pits are planned. Taylor County has offered an incentive of \$25 per acre for planting cover crops. If two or more species are planted, the incentive rises to \$40 per acre.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Reesa Evans
Temporary Recording Secretary