

The Pine River Watershed Alliance  
Board Meeting Minutes August 21, 2018  
Ideal Community Center  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

**Board Member Attendees:** Ron Meyer, Sheila Boldt, Barb Courmeya, John Forney, Tom Kutshel, Gordy Reller, Jodi Billy, Jodi Eberhardt, Jim Chamberlin & Jim Brandt.

**(1) There was a motion by Barbara Courmeya seconded by John Forney , to approve the 8/21/2018 agenda with the addition of the salt workshop.**

**(2) There was a motion by Barbara Courmeya seconded by John Forney , to approve the 7/17/2018 Meeting Minutes.**

**(3) Committee Reports**

*- Finance*

**A. There was a motion by Jodi Billy seconded by Gordy Reller , to approve bills for The CW SWCD & Shopping receipts (The Office Depot).**

*- Land and Waters*

A. Need new ideas to raise funding and committee members are busy etc. It would be helpful if people that are not a member of WAPOA or PRWA etc. to join Land & Waters to bring in new applicants to utilize the grant funding.

B. administratively Jodi Eberhardt helps to place the applicants on the Initiative Foundation grant system.

*- Website/Facebook*

A. To set-up online payment would be \$.74 per membership. If they use a credit card The PRWA would get charged 2.9% + .30 for each transaction.

**B. There was a motion by Barbara Courmeya seconded by Gordy Reller , to approve starting online membership applications including credit card payment on The PRWA website.**

\* Note to offset CC charges, would they like to add additional dollars to offset these costs.

\* If possible, add a check-box to auto-renew via credit card.

*- Conservation/Enbridge*

A. multiple agencies were called to meet by Dayton because they did not agree together on details of Line 3. None of us here have heard the outcome of that. There are several lawsuits currently fighting Line 3.

*- Land and Ag*

A. The Forage Council Tour is this Friday (AG Day at CLC, Staples) & The Harvest Dinner Saturday.

**(4) Board Book Additions**

A. An updated calendar of events will be e-mailed out.

**(5) Candidate Forum sponsorship**

A. The Brainerd Lakes Area Audubon Society (BLAAS) & LARA are holding a Candidate Forum on October 24, 7:00pm at The Northland Arboretum. Ron let them know that we will be a sponsor, including posting information on our website and facebook.

**(6) LLAWF**

A. They need comments from organizations or people that have worked directly with them (LLAWF) who can provide examples where LLAWF has been accountable and done their due-diligence etc.

B. LLAWF would like to meet with PRWA, they work in a 6-county area and are requesting more contacts and presence in the southern region of their area in order to perform more conservation work there. Ron will set-up this meeting.

**(7) Harvest Dinner**

- *Tickets*

**A. There was a motion by Barbara Courmeya seconded by Jodi Eberhardt , to cover the cost of the shrimper's tickets (\$100.00).**

- *Booth presence* (Container for donations)

- *Gulf Guest Presentation*

- *Friday Dinner:* Ron will be hosting and making reservations at Bites.

\* In the future could we do a mini silent auction either at The Harvest Dinner or elsewhere?

**(8) 1W1P**

A. Policy committee meeting tomorrow (Wednesday)

B. Conservation Corp. Crews to assist moving cattle, fences set-up, water set-up etc.

**(9) Civic Governance**

A. Generally once you get a group of people together for an issue and then after the issue is resolved or dissolved, these groups often dissipate. The Civic Governance Group is meant to continually pick-up new problems or suggestions from locals and they continue community improvement. The MN Design team helped to give them focus and then the community getting behind the ideas.

B. Projects going on in Crosslake that were mentioned: Loon Center, The Crosslake Charter School, Weevils that eat the milfoil down lower than the surface for boating ability etc.

### **(10) Ground Water Seminar**

A. Might be canceled, will send a notice on Thursday if it will be canceled.

### **(11) WRAP efforts**

#### *- Lower Hay*

A. There is a family that the lake association and Ron has been working with to do project on their forested land.

#### *- Upper Hay*

A. Landowners are experiencing flooded basements. They are working with The Corp. of Engineers to regulate the levels.

#### *- Arvig*

A. Planning to do cover cropping on agricultural property.

#### *- Willow*

A. Beth and the CW SWCD Engineer are working on the project.

### **(12) Salt Workshop**

A. Monday at The County Highway Dept. Contact The CW SWCD for more info.

### **(12) Board Comments**

Jodi B. – Pelican is unique, compared to some of the local high-water lakes, low water level, Sechi Disk 27+ feet.

Barb – Has started snorkeling, no zebra mussels on Hand Lake (By Ada & Hay). Attended Potato Farming Seminar this past weekend, currently is West of our region.

Jim – The Importance of Soil Health and that if you don't have soil health, you don't have the other resources. It was mentioned how micro-organisms from different trees can have a mutualistic relationship beneath the surface and be working in tandem.

Jobi B. – Looking forward to attending the harvest dinner Saturday. Recommended to her by a plumber was to purchase a Maz filter (\$200 for filter but it cleans iron and minerals).

John – Listening to problems with Upper Whitefish water quality, will people be more willing to join right now while there is a visual problem to-be-addressed? There were plans to hold a local seminar to invite landowners to this summer but that hasn't happened?

Gordy – toured The Crosslake Charter School, they are planning to have Hydroponics, Aquaponics and a soil health program.

Tom – The DNR could limit well sizes when they issue well permits.

## Upcoming 2018 Events

1. Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>, CLC AG Day in Staples (tour).
2. Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup>, Sun-up Ranch in Pillager.
3. August 28<sup>th</sup> 10-4pm, Groundwater in The PR Watershed Event (**Pending Cancellation**).
4. August 28<sup>th</sup> 4:20-6:30 (**This event will be held, 10 ppl registered as of 8/22**)
5. Candidate Forum - October 24, 7:00pm at The Northland Arboretum

\*Please let [Sheila.boldt@crowwingswcd.org](mailto:Sheila.boldt@crowwingswcd.org) 218-828-6197 know if there is anything to add.

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**NOTICE      Save This Date      August 28th, 2018**

## **UNDERSTANDING GROUNDWATER in the PINE RIVER WATERSHED**

**Brainerd's Northland Arboretum, Lower Level**

**For Local Government Staff (lunches for 30)**

**9:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**For Locally Elected or Appointed Officials (refreshments for 20)**

**4:20 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

***Will the Pine River Watershed where you live and work in have enough good quality groundwater to support the well-being of local communities in the watershed into the future?***

This **free** informational event on groundwater is tailored for local government staff and officials in the Pine River Watershed whose jobs involve planning for or implementing local water and land use practices and/or policies. Knowing why and how to protect your invisible groundwater resource, that might be shared in the watershed, could influence the availability and quality of this essential, life-supporting resource.

Each groundwater informational event will provide 1) a basic, scientific understanding of groundwater and its interaction with surface water, and 2) various perspectives on why, who, and how to protect this essential, shared resource.

Pre-registration is necessary for both audiences.

LGU staff register for the morning event by emailing <https://mngts.regfox.com/groundwater>

Local officials register for the late afternoon event by emailing [sharon.pfeifer@state.mn.us](mailto:sharon.pfeifer@state.mn.us)

## GROUNDWATER IN THE PINE RIVER WATERSHED

Northland Arboretum, 14250 Conservation Drive, Brainerd, MN

August 28, 2018 10:00 – 4:00

### Workshop Objectives

- ✓ Share current information on local hydrogeology, groundwater quality, and supply
- ✓ Develop a better understanding of the connection between groundwater and surface water
- ✓ Explore the impacts of land uses or Best Management Practices on groundwater quality and quantity
- ✓ Better understand the importance of drinking water management

10:00	Registration and coffee	
10:30	Local Government Survey Findings on Groundwater	Pfeifer, DNR
	Introduction to the GRAPS	
11:00	Hydrogeology of the watershed	Walker, DNR
11:30	Groundwater dominated lakes	Berg, DNR
11:45	Pollution Sensitivity of Groundwater	Berg, DNR
12:15	<b>LUNCH; view geology maps on wall</b>	
1:00	Public Drinking Water Issues	MDH
1:20	Private Well Groundwater Quality Issues	Broberg, MWO



1:45	Stakeholders in Groundwater Management - panel presentations	
	Pine River Watershed Alliance (20)	?
	Forever Green	Wyse, U of M
	Happy Dancing Turtle	Chamberlin
	Local Government Role(30)	Souter, Washington C
	CAMP*: Community Approach (30)	Gieseke, DNR
3:05	*Community-based Groundwater Management Partnership interactive exercise	
3:35	Report outs on CAMP talking points from groups;	4:00 Conclude

## Register today for the 2018 Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research and Management Showcase!

Join us on campus on Wednesday, September 12 for a selection of talks about the latest MAISRC research on starry stonewort, zebra mussels, spiny waterflea, invasive carp, harmful fish diseases, and much more. Breakout sessions will be released soon!

Interact with faculty and researchers over lunch as they share the latest about their work, get an inside-peek at the newly renovated AIS Lab and Holding Facility to see research projects in action, and enjoy a poster session reception.

**Please note:** There will be four identical lab tours this year. Space is limited and pre-registration is required!

### To get your tickets:

1. Click on the bright green "Tickets" button on the top-right of your screen
2. Select how many tickets you would like to purchase, whether you'd like the lab tour option, and whether you'd like to pre-pay for a parking spot
3. Click "order now" and complete your check out
4. See you on September 12!

Ticket cost includes on-campus talks, lunch with researchers, a tour of the newly renovated lab (if you wish), and a post-event reception.

### DATE AND TIME

Wed, September 12, 2018

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM CDT

[Add to Calendar](#)

### LOCATION

Continuing Education  
and Conference  
Center

1890 Buford Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55108

[View Map](#)

### REFUND POLICY

Refunds up to 1  
**day** before event





## 2018 Summer Series Tim Hendrickson Farm

July 12 | 6-8 pm | 51453 Co Hwy 75 | Sebeka

Where are the weak links in your livestock system? Spend an evening with your peers touring the Hendrickson farm, where



integration of fencing, watering systems, grazing, legume interseeding and May calving have worked together, both with natural systems and cycles, and with the needs of a producer to sustain a livelihood. Hendrickson's Farm is 240 acres, supports 120 cows.

## Grand View Ranch Neal and Don Gaalswyk

Aug. 24 | 1- 4:30 pm | 13092 51st SW | Pillager

This tour is part of **Central Lakes College Ag Day ~ 50-year celebration** – starts 9 a.m.

**CLC** CENTRAL  
LAKES COLLEGE  
1830 Airport Rd, Staples

Includes: agronomic research, drone demonstrations, horticulture projects and water quality research done on the campus. Lunch is provided, bus will leave campus for the ranch at 1 p.m. Participants may go direct to the ranch, tour starts 1:30.

Featured in this tour is the opportunity to compare long-term managed pastures to newly managed pastures. Pastures on this site have been frost-seeded, both watering and fencing systems have been installed. Portions of this grass system are rented or custom grazed. **RSVP for the bus tour at:**

[tinyurl.com/fcsummerstaples](http://tinyurl.com/fcsummerstaples)

## Mark the Dates 9th Annual Lakes and Farm Harvest dinner

August 25 | 3:30 pm

**Sunup Ranch** | 12316 Co Rd 18 SW | Brainerd

Now in its 9th year, the Harvest Dinner brings community together around an interest of stewardship and friendship. The event features a locally produced dinner; live music, live demonstrations, horse-drawn wagon rides, wine and local brew tastings. This year, the Harvest Dinner is excited to welcome Gulf Coast guests, who fish for a living. They will give a presentation on the health of the waters they fish. Oh, yes, there will be seafood on this year's menu.

for ticket information:

Cass County Farm Bureau: 218.587.4604.

The CWRBFC is pleased to sponsor / support these events as part of our commitment to supporting educational events

A Network  
Group of



Sustainable  
Farming Association /  
[www.sfa-mn.org/forage-council/](http://www.sfa-mn.org/forage-council/)

**CROW WING  
River Basin  
FORAGE  
Council**

Information on  
these events  
contact:

Kent Solberg  
844-922-5573, Ext. 701  
[kent@sfa-mn.org](mailto:kent@sfa-mn.org)  
Jim Chamberlin  
218-831-0528  
[bjc3020@gmail.com](mailto:bjc3020@gmail.com)



9th Annual Lakes and Farm

# Harvest dinner

**Saturday, August 25, 2018**

**Connecting Waters**

*Join us in a celebration of community and bounty, bringing together the diversity of our region in the interest of stewardship and friendship.*

**Join us to share a vital connection with *Shrimpers from the Gulf Coast*,  
And, YES, there is shrimp on the menu.**

**The dinner-bell rings again at Sunup Ranch** 12316 Co. 18 SW, Brainerd, MN  
with an authentic chuckwagon-style meal prepared from locally-grown food

**4:00 pm Farmer's market opens**

**Live demonstrations | displays**

**5:00 pm Social hour, cash bar, presentations**

**6:00 pm "Come and get it" dinner served**, local foods, Gulf Coast shrimp  
prepared by **Pit master Mike Sams - Y4 Ranch; Chef Kim Gibbs - KC's Saloon**

**PLUS: Horse-drawn wagon rides**

**Local Brew tasting & Wine tasting**

Roundhouse Brewery

Cash Wise Liquor

**Dress casual for the ranch~ Watch live cattle demonstrations**

**Enjoy the music of Hans Blix and the Weapons Inspectors**



**Tickets: \$25 adults, \$10 children** 15 and under.

Ron Meyer – 218.543.6246 | cell 218. 831. 0509 rnsmeier@tds.net  
Cass County Farm Bureau 218.587.4604

**Proud Sponsors:** Cass County Farm Bureau, Whitefish Area Property Owners Assoc. (WAPOA); Pine River Watershed Alliance (PRWA), Happy Dancing Turtle, Sunup Ranch, Sustainable Farming Assoc. Central Chapter, Minnesota Beef Council, Bell's Rawhide Ranch, Y4 Ranch, Roundhouse Brewery, Cash Wise Liquor

