

**WASHINGTON COUNTY  
AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) STRATEGIC PLAN  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Public Agency Center – Room 3224  
West Bend, WI

August 23, 2012  
3:00 p.m.

Members present<sup>1</sup>: John Jung (Chairperson), Ardell Zimmer (Vice Chairperson), Dick Baumann, Kenneth Hebbe, Bill Hilgendorf, Mark Rodenkirch, David Berganini

Absent: None

Excused: Deb Sielski-Deputy Administrator

Staff present: Paul Sebo-County Conservationist, Paul Klein-AIS Coordinator, Joshua Glass-Planner, Fay Fitts-Administrative Secretary

Also present: Heidi Bunk-Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)<sup>2</sup>

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER / REVIEW AGENDA – JOHN JUNG**

Mr. Jung called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Glass stated that Heidi Bunk (WDNR) will be joining the meeting via conference call at approximately 3:45 p.m. and requested that the Committee temporarily suspend discussion on whatever agenda item we may be on at that time, address agenda items #7 and 8 when Ms. Bunk calls, and then continue discussion where we left off after the call. The Committee agreed with the request.

**AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING – JOHN JUNG**

Mr. Jung read the affidavit of posting.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL – MINUTES 07/24/12 – JOHN JUNG**

Mr. Berganini noted that he did not receive any of the July 24, 2012 meeting information which was sent via email and therefore was unaware of the meeting. He requested that he be listed as excused rather than absent for that meeting. Due to this instance, staff will be sending hard copies of meeting materials via postal mail as well as emails.

**Motion by Mr. Hilgendorf; seconded by Mr. Rodenkirch to approve the minutes reflecting the change requested by Berganini with no other additions or corrections. Motion carried unanimously.**

**DISCUSSION OF DNR FISHING LICENSES AND REGISTERED BOATS – PAUL SEBO**

Mr. Sebo explained that the information obtained from the WDNR regarding the total number of fishing licenses and registered boats in the County, as displayed on a map that was presented at the last meeting, only includes people that did not opt off of the WDNR mailing lists. Since the

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<sup>1</sup> *Tod Maclay (Big Cedar Lake Property Owners Association) is not a member of the Committee but will be reviewing draft chapters as they are developed and providing recommendations.*

<sup>2</sup> *Heidi Bunk (WDNR) joined the meeting via telephone to address Agenda items #7 and 8.*

last meeting, Sebo learned that approximately 75 percent of people do opt off of the list; therefore, the countywide map that was presented is only representative of approximately 25 percent of the fishing licenses and registered boats in the County. Despite the 25 percent representation as shown on the map, the committee concurred that patterns shown on the map were still valuable and the map should remain in the plan.

### **REVIEW REVISIONS AND CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT CHAPTER 3 - JOSHUA GLASS**

Mr. Glass reviewed the minor text edits that were made to the chapter per the Committee's request at the last meeting and explained that some photos were added.

Berganini requested "boaters" be changed to "watercrafts" in the last paragraph on Page III-1. Berganini also requested that the second paragraph on Page III-2 be modified to more clearly explain that the CBCW program has been enhanced from 2004 to 2011.

**Motion by Mr. Berganini; seconded by Mr. Zimmer to preliminarily approve Chapter 3 along with the changes that were discussed. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **REVIEW DRAFT CHAPTER 4 – JOSHUA GLASS**

Mr. Glass reviewed Chapter 4 with the committee members in its entirety, noting that he tried to keep the chapter and the AIS issues, goals, and planned actions as concise as possible.

Mr. Zimmer stated that he would also like to see "pet stores" and "garden centers" added to the list of stakeholders on Page IV-1. Glass will make the addition.

Mr. Berganini would like to see the plan differentiate between local governments, lake districts and lake associations in terms of volunteer or nonprofit versus tax funded. He noted that taxing organizations do have the authority to leverage against budget line items. Mr. Berganini recommended a planned action be added to Chapter 4 recommending tax authorities to consider adding water quality as a line item within their budgets.

Mr. Berganini also stated that Roger Walsh (of the Big Cedar Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District) may have been associated with a committee sponsored by the State of Wisconsin that managed state grant funds and allocation. He requested that staff contact him to find out more information on grants being offered. Mr. Klein stated that he would contact Mr. Walsh to explore the possibilities of any grant funds currently available.

The Committee questioned if the Washington County budget reflected any funds available for lake management. The Committee also asked how County boat launch revenues are expended. Mr. Baumann stated that boat launch revenues generated should go back to the lakes or to AIS causes, suggesting that language may be reflected in the State Statute which identifies where the funds should be allocated. Staff indicated that they would research this information and report back to the Committee.

**(AGENDA ITEM #6 WAS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED)**

*At this point in the meeting, Heidi Bunk (WDNR) called in and joined the meeting via telephone. Agenda item #6 was thereby suspended until the phone call was complete and Agenda items #7 and 8 were addressed.*

**STATE AND FEDERAL FUND ALLOCATION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR AIS –  
PAUL KLEIN / HEIDI BUNK**

Ms. Bunk gave a brief overview of the different funding mechanisms and grants available for lake groups being offered through the WDNR. Ms. Bunk noted that the following State aquatic invasive control grants were available for lake groups and explained them in detail:

- Contracts to support Citizen Networks and Projects
- Research and Development Grants
- Early Detection and Response Grants
- Established Infestation Control Grants
- Education, Prevention and Planning Grants
- Maintenance and Containment Grants

Ms. Bunk indicated that there are not any grant funds available for annual routine maintenance of AIS. Mr. Sebo questioned if there were any federal grants available. Ms. Bunk noted that any federal funds available are funneled through the WDNR grant programs. She also noted that at times there are private grant funds available and explained that the specifications and scoring process requirements are very strict and have tight restrictions.

Ms. Bunk indicated that years ago there used to be funds available for lake groups through the Wisconsin Waterways Commission for boat launch improvements, parking lots, fishing piers, chemical treatments for lake navigation, but unfortunately those funds no longer exist. Ms. Bunk indicated that AIS State grant program funding is derived from a portion of fees generated from fishing licenses, boat registrations, and a motor boat fuel/gas tax formula. She noted that more than half of the 72 counties in Wisconsin have AIS Coordinators noting that not all positions are grant funded.

Ms. Bunk explained that there is a Motor/Gas Tax/Fuel Allocation in place which utilizes a formula to determine how much money on the gas tax is used by motorboats. That allocation is then used for a number of purposes including writing planning grants and AIS grants.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING IMPROVING AIS SIGNAGE AT BOAT LAUNCHES –  
PAUL KLEIN / HEIDI BUNK**

Ms. Bunk stated that standard boat launch AIS signs are now black and red. The former green and red stop signs have been removed and discontinued. She indicated that, at a minimum, providing garden tools such as stiff-bristled brooms at public launch sites is a very effective way to stop the spread of AIS.

Ms. Bunk noted that with the upcoming fall season and the unfortunate increase in zebra mussels, she recommends that lake groups provide brooms, bleach, extra garbage disposal units and additional temporary AIS signage at boat launch sites.

Ms. Bunk expressed that she is very glad that this AIS planning group is meeting and is looking forward to the Washington County Board of Supervisor's review and approval of the Strategic Plan.

*At this point in the meeting, Ms. Bunk ended the phone call, but discussion among the Committee ensued.*

Lake signage was further discussed. The Committee concurred that a separate reflective sign with large lettering to magnify the fine violation of NR40 should be attached atop all State-issued AIS signage. The WDNR hotline (1-800-TIPWDNR or 1-800-847-9367) should also be publicized at launch sites to encourage people to report AIS violations.

Mr. Klein noted that he will be conducting two workshop training sessions regarding Citizen Lake Monitoring and Clean Boats Clean Waters at the Erin Town Hall on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The target audiences are Druid Lake, Friess Lake, Pike Lake, Amy Belle Lake and Lake Five property owners. Mr. Klein noted that approximately 660 people will be receiving a post card in the mail inviting them to the workshops. He indicated that two more workshops will be conducted for lakes in the northern half of the County with times and dates to be announced.

**AGENDA ITEM #6 RESUMED)**

*At this point in the meeting Agenda item #6 was resumed.*

Mr. Glass continued review of Chapter 4 beginning with AIS issues, goals, objectives and planned actions on Page IV-3.

The AC recommended the following changes to the remainder of the chapter:

1. Page IV-3, 1<sup>st</sup> objective:  
Inform boaters so they are fully aware of AIS related laws, finest, and penalties, and their potential ability to spread AIS.
2. Page IV-4, as a new action listed under the 1<sup>st</sup> objective for Prevention:  
Enforce existing regulations and encourage waterbody users to report violations.
3. Page IV-5, 5<sup>th</sup> objective:  
Change "coast" to "shoreline".
4. Page IV-6, as a new action listed 2<sup>nd</sup> under Monitoring:  
Utilize fishing forum websites such as LakeLink.com to promote AIS awareness.
5. Page IV-7, as a new action listed 4<sup>th</sup> under Control:  
Publicize the WDNR hotline at boat launches and encourage launch users to report any illegal AIS activities they may witness.
6. Eliminate "etc." as much as possible throughout the chapter.

Mr. Hebbe stated that he would like to see more AIS signage in retail stores, marinas and other related businesses and also recommended TV hosts broadcast AIS segments on outdoor hunting / fishing programs – i.e, Outdoor Wisconsin. Mr. Klein stated that he would look into possibilities on how to make this happen.

It was noted that AOA (As the Opportunity Arises) and PRD (Protection & Rehabilitation District) should be addressed on the acronym list.

Mr. Glass noted that he would make the recommended changes and additions to Chapter 4 and it will be reviewed and considered for preliminary approval at the next meeting. Mr. Glass also noted that prior to the next meeting, the AC members will be asked to prioritize and rank the planned actions listed in Chapter 4. He stated that upon completing the task, the information will then need to be mailed back to the County before the next meeting.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING UPCOMING MEETING AGENDAS AND DATES –**  
**JOSHUA GLASS**

The next meeting of this AIS Advisory Committee is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 19th at 3:00 p.m. at the Washington County Public Agency Center.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Rodenkirch; seconded by Bauman; to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.**

Debora Sielski  
Deputy Planning and Parks Administrator

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_  
John Jung, Chairperson

Date \_\_\_\_\_