

CITIZENS (WOOD COUNTY) GROUNDWATER GROUP MEETING

DATE: Monday September 25, 2023

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Teleconference via WebEx

Present (In person or via WebEx): Bill Leichtnam, Ben Jeffrey, Tim Wuebben, Dave Joosten, Rhonda Carrell, Bruce Dimick, Tamas Houlihan, Lance Pliml, Sue Smith, Shane Wucherpfennig, Gordy Gottbeheut, Jill Ibarra, and Cecile Stelzer-Johnson

1. Chair Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Carrell/Gottbeheut to approve the minutes from August 21st, 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Correspondence/Updates/Handouts/Reports on Meetings Attended
 - Leichtnam mentioned the "PFAS News" that was attached to the agenda for this meeting. Leichtnam further shared detailed information that he learned from the new Secretary of the DNR, Adam Payne, at the Wisconsin Counties Association meeting last week.
 - Leichtnam shared information about the Land & Water Committee from Juneau County. He talked about Chris Zindorf, the chair of the Land & Water Committee. He added that they have a new Health Department Director, Jean Schultz in Juneau County who is very enthusiastic about clean water. Finally, he spoke of Dustin Ladd, the County Conservationist in Juneau County who is also very active on the Land & Water Committee.
 - Bill mentioned the work of the Central Sands Groundwater Counties Collaborative. Ed Hernandez from Waushara County is the chair of the Golden Sands Committee. The collaborative has just finished with gap analysis and is moving on to "next steps".
 - Bill spoke about five ideas he was given by Sue Smith on what can be done in regard to PFAS.
 1. Literature review to learn more about the risks of human involvement with PFA contamination.
 2. Case study. Students go out into communities that are experiencing PFA contamination.
 3. Interview three leaders from municipal water departments.
 4. Compile publicly available PFAS data in locations in Wood County.
 5. Infographic that would tie all of this together and make available to the public.
5. "WCCGG Next Steps" discussion took place.
 - Changing the name of the group was part of the discussion. Motion Dimick/Gottbeheut to alter the name of the Wood County Citizen's Groundwater Group to "Citizen's Water Group" (of Wood County). Motion carried unanimously.
 - Creation of an "Events Subcommittee".
 - Leichtnam asked the participants of the meeting to give some thought as to getting the word out when the committee has speakers so citizens can hear what they have to say.
6. Plans for an Off-site, Large Group Presentation were discussed.
 - Who is the target audience? Discussion took place.
 - When would we want to have this presentation? March/April 2024 was suggested.
 - Who would moderate? Discussion took place. Peter Manly was suggested. Pliml will follow up.

- Speakers/Panel #'s. Four panelists is preferred.
- Message/Title of presentation. Discussion followed.
- Outcome-who do we want to influence.
- Suggested action by attendees. Discussion followed.
- Q & A length & procedure. Need more time for Q & A.
- Follow-Up (mailing, another meeting).
- Other. Pliml stated the meeting needs to have a focus and a desired outcome. Possibly have a meeting title such as: "Should I drink it?" to garner people's attention.

7. No upcoming meetings were mentioned.
8. Discussion took place on future speakers. Leichtnam called for volunteers for an "Events subcommittee". Carrell, Dimick, Stelzer-Johnson and Gottbeheut volunteered.
9. Next Meeting – Mon., October 16, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.
10. Motion Carrell/Leichtnam to adjourn the meeting at 3:33 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Notes by Victoria Wilson, Planning & Zoning Office