MINUTES: Yahara WINs Executive Committee meeting:

DATE: 10/15/2019

TIME: 2:04 PM (approx.)

LOCATION: MMSD – Maintenance Building

SUBMITTED BY: Greg Fries - Secretary

Executive Committee:

X Martin Griffin, President
X Greg Fries, Secretary
X Jeff Rau, Treasurer
X Tom Wilson
X Gary Huth, Vice President
X Kyle Minks, Amy Piaget - Dane County Representative
X Bob Uphoff, Yahara Pride Farms Representative
X Dea Larsen-Converse, Clean Lakes Alliance Representative
X Kathy Lake - MMSD

1) Griffin called the meeting to order at approximately 2:04 PM, welcoming all present.

2) Review and acceptance of September 17, 2019 meeting minutes.

    Motion made by Wilson to accept the minutes.
    
    2nd by Huth
    Voice vote – unanimous

3. Rock River Coalition Continuance of Monitoring – Some discussion was had on the work that is proposed in this year’s agreement. There is an increase in funding to the group largely for new/replacement equipment and for creation of a better system of data tracking and availability of the data to the public/visualization. The Coalition will be working with MMSD staff on this new data system.

    Griffin indicated a new monitoring gauge will be implemented by the USGS this year but a location has not been selected at this time. A gap analysis will be completed by the USGS to determine the best location for new station.

    Motion made by Wilson to approve the agreement
    2nd by Rau
    Voice vote – unanimous
4. Discussion

Solar farms and P reductions – a company contacted Griffin to enquire whether we would be interested in a TP reduction as part of a proposed conversion of farmland to solar generation and the P reduction occurs by land use conversion. The question is whether we would consider a funding opportunity and/or they could they apply for an innovation grant?

Discussion was had regarding whether we would be forcing a tradeoff of land use by taking some land out of production and force remaining areas to be pushed harder for manure disposal.

No action taken.

5. Other Business

a. Aerial Seeding payments – Griffin discussed that on 3/16/2017 the executive committee approved the use of WINS funds to support this and the payments are going out now 3 years after the work was initially approved.

No action taken.

b. Discussion had regarding how the MOU with the WDNR allows us to determine compliance with our TP reductions standards - we are able to use modeling and instream water quality measurements to determine compliance. Therefore, the discussion of the tradeoff under the solar discussion above is not a regulatory question for WINS but a practical one regarding P reductions and if the installation of solar farms, although a P reduction can be modeled for the solar farm parcel, would the overall nutrients be reduced at a watershed scale.

No action taken.

6. Future Agenda items - None

7. Adjourn:

Motion made by Wilson
2nd by Fries