

AIS Advisory Committee  
Wednesday September 20th 3:00pm  
Wright county Courthouse  
10 2<sup>nd</sup> St NW Buffalo, MN 55313 Rm 118

## MINUTES

In attendance: Luke Johnson, Mike Zieska, Alicia O'Hare: Wright SWCD; Greg Kryzer: County Attorney's Office; Chris Hector, Jim Gray: WRIP Lake Association Governance Council; Todd Hoffman: Wright County Sheriff's Department; Jefferson Bishop: Anchor Dock and Lift; Heidi Wolf (phone): MN DNR; Chris Wall – Transient Boater

Not Present: Christine Husom: County Commissioner; Darek Vetsch: County Commissioner; Jeff Herr: City of Annandale Police Department

Chris Wall has joined the group representing the interests of transient boaters.

Wall stated that public-buy in is needed and recommends outreach and public info. Also that some traffic has risen on adjacent lakes and that exit inspections are not doable for boaters with current hours.

Hector explained how traffic/load was estimated.

Wolf said that if asked she would look into the use of traffic counters at ramps.

Planned additional lakes.

5 lake associations have requested addition to the program (Bass, Granite, Cedar, Sugar, Moose). Wall asked if the Lake Associations represented more than 50% of the property owners. Hector responded that the ratio will vary by lake. Kryzer responded that there was no 50% criteria and that the decision to add a lake would be up to the County Commissioners.

Kryzer reported that 30 – day notice would need to be given.

Hoffman asked for an assessment of load with the additional lakes. Hector responded that the current 3 lakes have a load of just under 2 times Sylvania. With the additional 5, the load was just under 5. [Post Meeting: The load was 1.7 for 3 lakes and 4.4 for 8 lakes]

Other lakes that are candidates: Camp, Limestone, Maple, Ramsey, Mink, Indian, French, Mary, Millstone, Sullivan, Union, White and the Crow River

O'Hair stated that the Crow River site did not have a ramp and would therefore be exempt.

There was a broad discussion about why expansion was being considered.

Hector – this project presumes inspections are helpful and only seeks to demonstrate improved cost efficiency.

Wolf stated that the DNR would provide feedback, but it was a Wright County decision. The DNR has provided some feedback already but a final report would be issued after SWCD issues their final report.

Wolf asked if the project had demonstrated cost-effectiveness. O'Hair responded that SWCD had not yet provided that analysis to the DNR.

Bishop suggested that the goal of this body was to work in parallel with any analysis and to provide recommendations for improving the program in 2019. We should address known issues for boaters, Lake Service Providers and the County.

#### Discussion on Enforcement

Hoffman suggested that having rovers collect data and pass it on to the Sheriff for writing of citations was the approach preferred by his department. He stated that he was not interested in the variation where officers replace the rovers. Also, not interested in doing follow-up calls just to warn people.

Hoffman stated that the project must adopt a policy of when citations would be issued vs a warning. Only citations would be passed on to the Sheriff. The Sheriff could apply additional discretion depending on what they found when investigation a violation. The County Attorney also can apply discretion.

Bishop asked for Sheriff Department help in training the rovers in what to collect and how. Hoffman agreed.

Hoffman said that the Sheriff has sufficient resources to support adding 5 lakes.

First citation will be a test case. Kryzer/Hoffman agreed.

#### Next Meeting

There was agreement that the next meeting should be in 2 weeks. O'Hare will send an email to schedule.

Bishop recommend that proposed list of changes should be on the next Agenda.