

Wisconsin Wetland Study Council (WSC)

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 12, 2023 | 10:00am – noon | Zoom

<u>Agenda Topic</u>	<u>Notes/Follow-up</u>
Call to Order	WSC Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tracy Hames- Dan Helsel- Paul Kent- Tim Andryk- Matt Howard- Stacy Jepson- Carol McCoy Other participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Jennifer Western Hauser- Tom Nedland- Josh Brown- Allison Willman- Marty Dillenburg- Ryan Pappas
Public Comment	No public comments received
Agenda Approval	Decision: Agenda approved
Board Minutes Approval	Decision: Minutes approved
Council Vacancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No recommendations to the Council thus far• DNR staff interested in submitting a memo to Secretary's with a list of recommendations• Council to connect with Jordan Lamb of The Welch Group
Bill Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council process for providing legislative input<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Interest in providing 2023-24 legislature with summary of WSC role and actions, suggestion to write one-pager summary to share.○ Suggestion to meet with Environmental Committees during each legislative session.• Assured delineator bill<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Senator Cowles' Office planning to discuss at March WSC meeting. <p>Action Items</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule short WSC meeting in February to review draft one-pager for legislature.
<p>General Permit Efforts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP1 – wetland fill for res/com/ind development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At pre-public notice stage – DNR requesting Council review comments by end of January. • GP-1 surcharge fee proposal discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fees used for wetland restoration projects, chosen by DNR through an application process with project scoring and ranking ○ Fees only required for projects approved through GP1 that do not require mitigation. ○ Questions regarding whether the proposed fees would cover the cost of restoring wetlands impacted through General Permit 1 over time ○ Fees have not been updated annually because they are tied to the GP1 process, and DNR currently intends to update fees every 5 years when the permit expires or whenever GP1 is updated, if sooner than 5 years. ○ Council suggests revisiting the discussion after the GP1 public comment period. ○ DNR requesting Council review comments by end of January. <p>Action Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council members provide feedback to DNR on GP1 draft permit and fee proposal by end of January.
<p>Integrated Watershed Committee Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision – use information from veteran DNR staff interviews for DNR training, WSC recommendations, etc. • Suggestion to develop a pilot partnership between DNR staff and a municipality to determine how DNR Waterways, Stormwater, and Water Quality Programs could develop best practices. • Suggestion to identify work tasks to address the training needs and statutory changes identified through DNR staff interviews. <p>Action Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify work tasks for training needs and statutory/Council recommendations ○ Consider pilot partnership between a municipality and DNR water regulatory programs to develop best practices.
<p>New business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP16 for wetlands incidental to construction is a permit with very little use in the last 3 years, and artificial exemption may have taken most of the demand or need for this general permit. DNR to provide summary at next meeting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DNR Waterways Bureau planning a reorganization of staff and staff roles. DNR to provide update at next meeting.
Future business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Next meeting, 3/9/23, 9:00 – 11:00 am.