

LaPSI Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2015

- Motors – LaPSI will communicate to PPA Board that LaPSI does not require motors to accomplish its mission.
- LaPSI's position on motors – Board is responsible for enforcing bylaws. Motors for studies are OK if approved in limited extent by Board. More research is needed on effects of motors for general use. LaPSI members will read up on motor effects for discussion at next meeting.
- Equipment in PPA building – refrigerator, equipment, supplies. Equipment at Diane's house – Secchi, DO, printer, oven, other equipment.
- Weed and Fish Surveys – two candidates have been contacted: Aquatic Control (\$2700 for weeds 2X, \$2390 fish) and Cardno JF New. Cardno will do shock and netting for fish, but only one plant survey. \$6000 both studies. LaPSI recommends Aquatic Control for weeds and Cardno New for fish/water quality. Tony said Omicron will contribute \$1000 to assist. PPA Board should understand that surveys will need to be done regularly.
- Graphing software alternatives – Prism (\$600 PC or Mac) or Excel add-on (\$150). The group decided to start with Windows and Excel. LaPSI should purchase low-end Windows PC to hold data and software. Mark will look at computers.
- Lowrance – John Hart's Mac computer crashed, data non-accessible now but can be accessed from the Cloud if we transfer John's IP address to the new PC. Windows PC is more compatible with Lowrance. John is helping with transition. Start with Excel with extra module. May want to do depth soundings every 5 years. The team should check into new technology to do survey via satellite. Requires good resolution to detect small changes.
- Tech website - Developed by Tony to hold data, selected results, SOPs, reference info. Board was informed at last Board meeting.
- Hoosier Riverwatch testing – volunteers are needed to test fish/wildlife area. Tony's daughters may be able to help. Diane has kit. We can get an advanced kit that does total phosphorous, but would have to use acid.
- Turkey Creek Sewer District - \$6/sample in their 6 bottles. For total phosphorous. We can get soluble phosphorous with test kit that Tony purchased.
- Anthony purchased two different kits to test for nitrogen. Diane and Jody worked in lab at Notre Dame to verify results. One seems to be more accurate than the other. The one chosen cost \$8 per sample. Tony will buy 10 more low-range samples to be used this fall. More will need to be purchased over the winter to be ready for testing in the spring. Test comes with standard sample. Results will be verified at Sheri lab - \$50 per sample/3x per summer.
- Notre Dame student involved with real-time *E. coli* test (Chelsey Fattal) and fluridone literature survey.
- Weed disposal – Preliminary data shows dissolved oxygen levels were lower at weed dump sites. There may be an opportunity to buy another access site at the white block house next to the tube. Jan reported it would cost \$3200 to do site prep, including gravel and a culvert, and \$500/10 harvester loads to haul away. A neighbor may be interested in participating by buying part of the lot, but could not do it until next year. What is total harvested weight/season? With harvested weight, weight of N and P can be calculated. With lake volume, concentration can be calculated.
- Potential Speakers
 - Dr. Gary Lamberti – Biological sciences ecologist at ND. Is it best to remove weeds? Provide topics in advance. Tony will contact.

- Jennifer Tank – biologist. Developed 2-tier ditch system. May speak jointly to WACF and Lapsi.
 - Melissa Clark – we aren't in her watershed.
 - Consider pitch-in w/speaker after annual meeting to improve speaker attendance.
- Chemical treatment - Aquatic Systems – Jim Donahoe. May need documentation of how best treatment is determined.
- Board meeting – 10/10, PPA or YMCA? LaPSI will provide a written summary of weed removal status. Also provide a statement that LaPSI doesn't need a motor.
- Lake Association – Still a goal, but Hanna only established a list of lakes, association contacts, etc. No action on establishing the association.
- Jody suggested looking into core sampling? Tony mentioned a resource, Steve Carpenter – ND faculty, sediment expert. National Academy member, so he may be busy.
- Tony asked about DO calibration and SOP. Diane will work with Tony regarding calibration and will also review SOPs. DO probe should probably be replaced annually.
- Websites – Who maintains PPA website? Will Kendall maintain LaPSI component? Group will discuss with Kendall at next meeting. LaPSI does not intend to manage PPA website. We should have a backup for Kendall for LaPSI info.
- Next meeting 11/13, 7:00 PM.