

YAHARA WINS
GROUP MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, September 19, 2023

The meeting was held virtually. The meeting was called to order by Yahara WINS President Martye Griffin at approximately 1:31 pm.

Present: Yahara WINS IGA members, partners, and others

Previous Minutes: minutes from the June 20, 2023 meeting were posted on the Yahara WINS website prior to the meeting. Minutes approved, moved by Tom Wilson, Town of Westport, second by Judd Blau, Village of DeForest, passed unanimously

Presentations:

Marie Raboin, Dane County Land and Water Resources provided an update on the Biological Farming Friends (BFF) producer led group. Key points of this update include:

- Crop year 2023 was tough because of the drought but it crops bounced back after some rain. Planting in to cover crops was a challenge because of the extra competition for moisture.
- All the farmers in BFF appear to be staying involved with cover crops.
- Manure Composting Field Day at Sime Farm was successful.
 - 40-50 farmers attended.
 - Small scale composting operation.
 - Uses a skid steer attachment to turn the compost.
 - Interested in making their own seed treatments (biologicals?) using their compost.
- Several farmers a finding success with planting into green (cover crops).
- 2024 practices are expected to be mostly funded with NRCS EQIP and county funds.

Clifton Larson Allen (CLA) audit report, given by Shannon Small. CLA presentation slides will be available on the Yahara WINS website.

Executive Committee Update: provided by Martye Griffin.

- MMSD WPDES permit expires in 2025, therefore the permit renewal process will begin in 2024.

Other Business: Martye Griffin provided the following updates:

- 2024 budget approval process. Group members will get a copy of the budget for review before the October meeting.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Jeff Rau, Village of Oregon WWTP, Tom Wilson, Town of Westport. Meeting adjourned at 1:52 pm.

Submitted by Mike Gilbertson on 09/26/2023