

LAKE HELEN – Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District
4th 2017 Quarterly Commissioners' Meeting
Saturday November 25th
at 3040 E Lake Helen Dr

The Lake Helen P&R District Commissioners' meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Melissa Ferg at 9am

Commissioners Present: Glen Bersie, Melissa Ferg, Robin Novak-Nelson, Bill Pingel,
Fred Stoeger
Commissioners Absent: None
Guests Present: Cory Nelson

REGULAR REPORTS:

➤ **MINUTES FROM THE LAST COMMISSIONERS MEETING:**

Glen made a motion to dispense reading the minutes from the last Commissioners' meeting and to accept them as written. Fred seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

➤ **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Robin provided the Treasurer's Report. She included a listing of all of financial transactions that took place since the last meeting. The account balances are:

\$4,715.46 in Savings (+\$0.46 since the previous meeting)

\$ 480.23 in Checking (-\$662.29 since the previous meeting)

Bill made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. Glen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

➤ **PROPERTY TAXES:**

Bill stated that he notified the Portage County Treasurer's Office to include a ½ mill property tax assessment on the 2017 tax bill for all LHP&R District properties, as approved at the Annual Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE:**

○ Volunteer Hours:

Fred stated that he submitted a total of 94.25 volunteer hours to Golden Sands for use on their grant funding from the state. The hours covered all of the costs for using Golden Sands in 2017 for the treatment and removal of the EWM and the JKW, as well as for the plant survey.

○ Japanese Knotweed Treatment:

Glen stated that he, Cory, and Robin worked with Joe Weisbrod on the treatment of Japanese Knotweed in three spots on his property in September. Those areas will continue to be monitored along with the stand treated in August on East Lake Helen Drive.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **LAKE MANAGEMENT IN 2018:**

○ 2018 Lake Management Grants:

Fred noted that Golden Sands has applied for additional grants from the DNR for 2018. However, since the state funding has been reduced, they felt that funds may be more restrictive for next year. Consequently, they were asking the various lake districts that they are working with for a financial commitment.

Fred made a motion to partner with Golden Sands and to commit \$1500 to them for the 2018 invasive species removal and management efforts. Glen seconded. (Bill noted that \$2500 was approved in the budget for projects.) Motion carried unanimously.

- Boat Landing Monitoring:
It was noted that the District has had trouble getting people to volunteer to monitor the boat landing and to provide Clean Boat-Clean Waters information to those bringing boats into Lake Helen. However, it is extremely important that we keep people from bringing invasive species in from the outside. Fred noted that Golden Sands provides that service for a fee.

Fred made a motion to pursue having Golden Sands monitor the boat landing for invasive species detection and education on holidays and holiday weekends in 2018. Robin seconded. Motion carried unanimously. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**

- Boater Safety: Bill stated that he has seen and heard reports about a number of incidents this past summer where boats have come quite close to water skiers and swimmers. He said that we are very fortunate that someone has not gotten hurt.
It was reported that lake districts can request that the DNR or Sheriff's Department have officers monitor the lake during specific weekends or holidays.
Fred said that he would pursue access to boater safety information.
[Fred FOLLOW-UP]

- Winter Aerators:
The group discussed Del Anderson's desire to step down from leading the aerator installation effort. Cory and Fred said that they would contact Del and pull together a team to handle it this winter, following the January 13th Fisheree. **[Fred & Cory FOLLOW-UP]**

Cory stated that it is necessary to purchase a new 1100' rope that is needed for marking off the aerator area. It was also noted that one of the buoys was damaged and needs replacement.

Robin made a motion to authorize the purchase of a new rope for the aerators and new buoys. Seconded by Melissa. Motion carried unanimously.

- Lake Walk/Beautification project:
Everyone was encouraged to think about what ideas we should pursue in 2018 to continue our beautification efforts on the public areas. **[All to consider FOLLOW-UP]**

➤ **OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

- Plant Survey: Fred stated that Golden Sands did an extensive invasive species survey on the lake on July 7th. Fred is working with them to determine the best way to monitor and treat the plants that are in the deeper parts of the lake. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**
- Annual Meeting: It was noted that the next Annual Meeting will be on Saturday June 2nd.

➤ **NEXT MEETING:**

The group agreed to have the first quarterly meeting on Saturday Feb 10, 2018.

ADJOURNEMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 10:20am by Bill. Fred seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Pingel, Secretary

Note: "[FOLLOW-UP]" - indicates an action item that needs action. These items will be on the agenda for the next meeting.