

LAKE HELEN – Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District
1st 2018 Quarterly Commissioners' Meeting
Saturday February 10th at Northland Sports Bar & Grill

The Lake Helen P&R District Commissioners' meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Melissa Ferg at 1:10pm.

Commissioners Present: Glen Bersie, Melissa Ferg, Robin Novak-Nelson, Fred Stoeger,
Bill Pingel (via telephone)

Commissioners Absent: None

Guests Present: Cory Nelson

REGULAR REPORTS:

➤ **MINUTES FROM THE LAST COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

Fred made a motion to dispense reading the minutes from the last Commissioners' meeting and to accept them as written. Robin 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:

\$4,215.82 in Savings (-\$499.64 since previous meeting. Includes \$500 transfer to checking)

\$ 569.55 in Checking (+\$89.32 since previous meeting)

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

➤ **PROPERTY TAXES**

Bill stated that the Portage County Treasurer's Office reported that the 2017 tax assessment was \$7,235.10 as compared to \$6,283.55 collected from the 2014 assessment.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **Golden Sands Boat Landing Monitoring**

Fred stated that he received a letter from Golden Sands dated 12/4/17 outlining what they can do to provide boat landing monitoring services. The group noted that it has been very difficult to get property owners to volunteer their time to monitor the boat landing over the past few years, so that is why outsourcing is being considered. This job is highly recommended and is very important to help educate those bringing boats into Lake Helen and to prevent them from bringing any invasive species into the lake.

Robin made a motion to outsource the boat landing monitoring for the Clean Boats Clean Waters program to Golden Sands in 2018 for an amount not to exceed \$2000 for 11 days (the Memorial Day holiday weekend, the weekends before and after July 4th, Wednesday July 4, and the Labor Day holiday weekend.) Seconded by Glen. Motion carried unanimously. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**

➤ **Winter Aerators**

Fred stated that he Glen and a team of others installed the aerators with the help of Del Anderson on the day after the Ice Fisheree. It was a learning experience for those who did this for the first time. Fred noted that the motors need to be rotated every few weeks during the winter.

➤ **Invasive Species Removal Plans for 2018**

Fred stated that he will be talking to Golden Sands about setting up a work day in May that will include EWM pulling in the shallow areas and possible spot treatment in some of the deeper areas where EWM was discovered last summer. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**

Fred and Glen both noted that we will have to monitor the areas where the Japanese Knotweed stalks were treated last fall. Some treatment may be able to be done in May, but the most effective time for treatment is in August. **[Fred & Glen FOLLOW-UP]**

Fred was asked how many volunteer hours were recorded and submitted to Golden Sands. He stated that 94.5 volunteer hours were tracked and submitted for work done in 2017 for the removal of EWM and JKW. Golden Sands used those hours to provide support to the State in acquiring a grant to support their lake district work. These hours helped us to offset payment to Golden Sands for the work that they did for the District.

Bill noted that since we approved working with Golden Sands in 2018 for invasive species treatment and removal at the last meeting, he suggested that any payment that is required, be paid prior to May 1, so that it comes out of the 2017-18 projects budget. Fred noted that how much we have to pay will be dependent on whether Golden Sands is able to receive addition grant funding from the state. **[Fred & Robin FOLLOW-UP]**

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **2018 Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention**

The group discussed the benefits to having Commissioners attend this year's Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention that is being held from April 18-20 in Stevens Point. Fred noted that most of the workshops are on Wednesday. Fred, Bill and Glen stated that they are interested in attending. Robin is considering it as well. Fred made a motion that the LHP&R District pay for a one day workshop fee for any Commissioner that attends the convention. Seconded by Glen. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill to post the Convention information on the District's website to encourage interested property owners to attend as well. **[Bill FOLLOW-UP]**

➤ **Lake Management 2018**

Fred stated that he started work with Golden Sands and the DNR to install a fish sticks bed in one of deeper parts of the lake. The purpose of the bed is to enhance the fish habitat and fry survival. He noted that the design and approval process will take 12-18 months to complete. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**

➤ **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. None have been identified at this point. **[FOLLOW-UP All to consider]**

➤ **Annual Meeting Preparation**

- Robin stated that she will contact CWEC to reserve their conference room for our June 2nd Annual Meeting. **[Robin FOLLOW-UP]**
- Election: Robin stated that she will run again for another term. Melissa stated that she has not decided.
- Annual Picnic: The group agreed that Robin should see if she can reserve the Lake Helen Park shelter for either August 4th or 18th. **[Robin FOLLOW-UP]**
- 2017 Accomplishments: Fred stated that he will put together another presentation this year highlighting this past year's accomplishments and recognizing those who helped.
- Other topics will likely include: Invasive Species, Lake Management, Boat Landing monitoring, Boater Safety.

➤ **Other New Business** None

➤ **NEXT MEETING**

The group agreed to have the next Commissioners meeting on Saturday April 14th at 9am. The focus of that meeting will be to work through the details for the Annual Meeting.

ADJOURNEMENT

Fred made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2pm. Glen seconded. Motion 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.*