

**LAKE HELEN – Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District**  
**2018 Annual Meeting**  
**Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup> at CWEC Office Building**

The Lake Helen P&R District Annual meeting was called to order by Secretary Bill Pingel at 9:02am.  
Commissioners Present: Glen Bersie, Robin Novak-Nelson, Bill Pingel, and Fred Stoeger  
Commissioners Absent: Melissa Ferg  
Attendees: 29 property owners from 21 properties signed in.  
Three guests were present

The meeting started with a roll call, in which each of the attendees stated their name, lake address, and home town if not a full time Lake Helen resident.

**REGULAR BUSINESS:**

➤ **MINUTES FROM THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING**

Cory Nelson made a motion to dispense reading the minutes from last year's annual meeting and to accept them as written. Seconded by Lynn Cook. Motion carried with a majority voice vote. One Nay was noted. That person was referred to the website to read the minutes and given a copy after the meeting.

➤ **ANNUAL MEETING FINANCIALS**

○ **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Robin reviewed the Treasurer's Report that was mailed to all of the property owners. The account balances as of April 30th were:

\$1,216.03	in Savings
<u>\$1,372.55</u>	<u>in Checking</u>
\$2,588.58	Total

In addition, she reported that the total income received in the last twelve months was \$455.76; and \$4,687.50 was paid out in expenses.

○ **AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT:**

John Delie stated that the Audit Committee's review was done on 5-23-18. He noted that the accounts were up to date and matched Robin's records for the twelve months ending April 30th. Due to the timing of the review the savings had grown due to the receipt of \$7,235 from the 2017 taxes. The Committee also recommended that we keep the .5 mil tax for this next year.

A motion was made by Ray Oksuita and seconded by Al Hetzer to accept the past budget as read, along with the Audit Committee's report. Motion carried unanimously.

○ **2018-2019 BUDGET:**

Robin reviewed the budget for the next twelve months that was mailed to all of the property owners. This included \$8,200 in expenses, \$7,536 in income (including \$7235 from the 2017 tax assessment). In addition, the budget included a proposal to generate approximately \$7500 in additional income from another ½ mill tax assessment.

A discussion followed about electrical use and boat launch fees. Steve Cook cited Mission Lake's envelope/receipt process. Paul Seymour asked about boat launch monitoring and potential grants. Steve Patel suggested talking to the park department about a fee increase.

**[Follow-up]**

A motion was made by Tom Gerlikovski and seconded by Jerry Witkowski to approve the 2018-19 budget as proposed including the proposed tax assessment. Motion carried unanimously.

➤ **REVIEW OF PAST YEAR:**

Commissioner Fred Stoeger distributed copies of a review of the past year. He then walked through that review, expressing appreciation and acknowledging the hard work and help of a number of LHP&R District property owners and their families.

➤ **ELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS:**

Bill stated that the terms have expired for Robin Novak-Nelson and Melissa Ferg. He noted that Melisa has decided not to run and thanked her for her service and leadership the past six years. He also noted that nominations were received from Robin Novak-Nelson and Tyne Hoffman prior to the meeting. Bill asked for nominations from the floor, but none were received.

Tom Gerlikovski made motion to dispense use of paper ballots. Seconded by Patrick Cibik. The motion was carried unanimously.

Robin and Tyne were both elected to 3-year terms via a unanimous voice vote.

➤ **ANNUAL PICNIC:**

Robin noted that the Annual Lake Picnic is slated for Saturday, August 18th from Noon to 4:00 pm. A notice with detailed information was mailed out to the property owners with the Annual Meeting notice.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

➤ **LAKE MANAGEMENT:**

Commissioner Glen Bersie distributed and walked though 2018-2019 lake management plans, describing in in detail the battle with invasive species. He noted that the priorities are: boat launch monitoring (clean boats clean waters), monitor-remove-manage Eurasian Water Milfoil and Japanese Knotweed, ensure the lake is protected in the winter, and improving the lake habitat. A major change this year is that we have contracted with Golden Sands to place trained staff at the boat landing during some of the peak hours on holiday weekends. They will talk to boaters about clean boats-clean waters laws and to remind boaters about safe boating practices and the slow-no wake hours.

Chris Hamerla from Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council provided extensive detail on the current milfoil locations and the process needed to remove it, noting that scuba diver's assistance will be needed to remove EWM from the deep areas. He noted that the amount of EWM exploded this spring.

He also stated that there are DNR grants that we can apply for to hire boat landing workers for next year. The deadline is in early December. **[Follow-up]**

Glen noted that the proposed budget had monies built in to cover the projects reviewed in this presentation.

➤ **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

- To help remove Eurasian Water Milfoil (scuba divers, snorkelers, people with kayaks and nets)
- Someone to help with the plant survey
- Boat landing monitors (clean boats – clean waters)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business was on the agenda, so the floor was opened to the District property owners.

- **Lake Helen Road Culvert**  
 Someone wondered what the plans were to repair Lake Helen Road. Ray Oksuita stated that the culvert collapsed, so the road has been temporarily repaired with gravel. Concern was expressed about the culverts bringing farm runoff and other waste into the lake. Tom Brown made a motion to have the LHP&R District commissioners compose and send letter to Town of Alban Board recommending that the culvert not be replaced in order to prevent farm runoff from crossing under the road and entering the lake. Seconded by Pat Witkowski. Motion carried unanimously. **[Follow-up]**
- Tom Brown then mentioned adding concern about chemical spray to kill plants along the roadways to the letter, as well. **[Follow-up]**
- Jo Seiser encouraged all property owners to keep or change their lake frontage and shoreline into a more natural state to help the fish habitat.
- Patrick Cibik and Janine Gerlikovski suggested contacting Portage County Parks Department about increasing boat launch fees. **[Follow-up]**
- Wake-No Wake and Boater Safety
  - A number of people brought up the issue about boaters not obeying the no wake hours. When asked what can be done, the first approach is to remind the offenders. Cory Nelson noted that since the hours are regulated by a County ordinance, people seeing a violation can call the Portage County Sheriff or the DNR if people become uncooperative.
  - Bill Pingel reviewed some of the boater safety laws and asked everyone to be aware of the distance requirements and to make sure any guests know about them as well. With so many boats on the water, we need to keep everyone safe.
  - Chris Hamerla asked the lake district to provide 50 copies of a handout that can be given out at the boat landing telling everyone there about the no wake hours and boater safety. **[Follow-up]**
- Jan Jashinsky requested that the Commissioners have microphones for use at future Annual Meetings

### **ADJOURNEMENT**

Tom Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:45am. Seconded by Cory Nelson. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Bill Pingel, Secretary