



Draft to be approved at next Commissioner's Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners' meeting
Lake Helen Protection & Rehabilitation District
Date: 6.21.2023
Time: 4:30pm-6:07pm
Location: Zoom

Commissioners Present: Glen Bersie, Kara Boghossian, Bill Pingel, Justin Ehlenbeck, Jeff Rasmussen

Guests: Scott Provost

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Bill Pingel at 4:30pm.

Regular Business

Kara shared minutes from meetings to review

- May 1: Glen motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Motion was passed unanimously.
- May 17: Glen motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Motion was passed unanimously.
- May 29: Glen motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Motion was passed unanimously.
- June 3 Annual Meeting. Glen motioned to approve the meeting minutes' content and that Bill will change the formatting. Motion was passed unanimously.
- June 3rd meeting 2: Glen motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Motion was passed unanimously.
- June 3rd meeting 3: Glen motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Motion was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

- Glen presented and we reviewed the balances and the checks.
- Current Balances as of April 30, 2023

○ Checking	\$2,316.41
○ Savings	\$2,767.85
○ Non Lapsable Fund EWM	\$8,6223.59
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○ TOTAL	\$13,707.85
- Jeff Rasmussen motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business

- **2023 Projects –**
 - Blue Green Algae Issue
 - Small break out again 6/20/23. The clarity is still good.
- Status
 - Aerators are running.
 - There may be a restoration grant or surface water grant (due to agricultural land next to the lake) to cover the electrical. Pre-application is due early September. Likely a 70/30 split grant.
 - Culvert –



- Desire to learn if plugging the culvert is an option to protect the condition of the lake without harming the condition of the roads.
 - Glen to ask the county to do get surveyors to do simple elevations of Lake Helen Road, Lake Helen West Road, and Hwy 49.
 - Glen will lead the culvert issues.
 - Water sampling & testing
 - EWM control plans for this summer
 - DASH
 - Aquatic Plant Management pulled 200 cubic feet of EWM out of the lake in 2 days.
 - Over two days volunteers pulled and scooped up fragments totaling 18 five gallon pails.
 - Postponing the July 7th DASH program following the recommendation made by the Aquatic Plant Management group because no big colonies were identified.
 - July 24th Glen will connect with the Aquatic Plant Management group to determine if we will do diver hand pulling or another DASH Program pending our observations and whether we locate other large colonies of EWM.
 - Justin, Jeff, and Glen will work together to schedule future hand pulling with volunteers. Recommend 3 hour sessions due to the 30 minute training that is required for new volunteers.
 - An option we could consider instead of hiring divers is purchasing the equipment and having our own volunteer scuba divers or investing in snuba gear which does not require certification.
 - The lead diver from APM recommended considering using ProcellaCOR in 2025. Not recommended by Scott at this time because the company is challenging to work with, there are other options, and the EWM is under control at this time.
 - EWM DNR grant
 - Three year EWM Grant is coming to an end at the end of 2023. Glen will request an extension of the current EWM Grant through 2024 to Scott Provost who then will recommend an extension and then forward to Gina Keenan for final approval.
 - Education tasks (Newsletter, Rosholt Record article)
 - Newsletter received by lake home owners 5/22/2023
 - Volunteer tracking
 - Boat Landing monitoring/CBCW – going fine
- **Other Old Business**
 - Fishing Committee
 - Regulations changed to reduce the number of pan fish from 25 to 10 but the DNR made an error in the change date. Request that the fishing committee follow up on this.
 - Stocking recommendation, timing. There are issues with availability of Walleye.
 - Ongoing research
 - Learning if there are any grants to cover this in the future.
 - Healthy Lakes Grant



- Fish Sticks for next year – no update
- Native Plantings, etc. – no update
- Lake Management Plan update & next steps
 - Met 6/15/2023
 - Next meeting 7/7/2023
 - Goals:
 - Get information to residents: 7/24
 - Resident approval at the annual picnic on 8/5. Need to announce the annual picnic as a meeting along with the picnic.
 - Town: Get on the August Town of Alban meeting to seek town approval.
 - County: Tracy will get county approval.
 - DNR: Tracy will get DNR approval.
 - Social Event Plans
 - July 4th weekend: Kara will communicate via Facebook
 - Boat parade: Sunday, July 2nd at 4:30
 - Family walk/run: July 4th at 9am
 - Annual picnic: Saturday, August 5th noon-3pm
 - Justin will lead and Glen will assist.
 - Nitrate screening for well water will occur at the annual picnic
- **Annual Meeting Follow-up**
 - Views on how the meeting went
 - Good education on topics
 - Notice/Mailing, Location
 - Setup, Sign-in
 - Some residents had a hard time reading the addresses.
 - May want to consider splitting up steps into separate stations.
 - Meeting content, presentation, length. Great content, very educational, but a little long.
 - EWM training
 - Suggestions for next year
 - Resolution, new policy, old by-laws.
 - Dispose of the old by-laws. We are now running on Chapter 33 and the new policy page.
 - Bill to send the policy letter to everyone.
 - Left over materials (New property owners' binders, other materials). Kara and Glen have the materials.
 - Consider refining to welcome letter with electronic resources.

New Business: none

Schedule next meeting: mid/end of July/first week of August

Adjournment

Kara motioned to adjourn and was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:07PM