

**LAKE HELEN PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
APRIL 22nd, 2020
Zoom Conference Call**

The Lake Helen P&R District Commissioners' meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm
Commissioners Present: Tyne Hoffman, Glen Bersie, Robin Novak-Nelson, Bill Pingel, and Tom Gerlikovski

Commissioners Absent: None

Guests: Fred Stoeger, Chris Hamerla, Mike Ubl, and Ray Oksuita

Due to the current public health concerns regarding COVID-19 and the executive orders issued by the Governor and the Wisconsin Department of Justice, government organizations are permitted to conduct public meetings remotely in order to comply with the Safer At Home Orders. Lake Helen Protection and Rehabilitation District met via Video / Telephone Conference on April 22, 2020.

April 8, 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed and have some changes needed; A formal approval is needed at our next meeting.

➤ **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Robin received the invoice from Golden Sands \$3,183.75 for their work in helping us develop the Aquatic Plant Management Plan and the EWM grant application.

\$624.79 Checking Balance

\$10,844.22 Savings Balance

\$7,626.90 received for Tax Settlements

Tyne made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report. Glen seconded. All In Favor

➤ **OLD BUSINESS**

✓ **EWM TREATMENT**

- Bill sent out mailers / postcards on Monday April 20, 2020 Notifying property owners of the EWM Treatment
- Website was updated regarding the EWM Treatment
- Tyne will post a picture of the DOCK Signs to the Facebook page and send via email to all Commissioners; Tom and his family will fill in the blank dates on the Dock signs before they are put out on the property owners' docks and shorelines.
- Scott Provost should be supplying us with a Digital Thermo Probe used to take Lake temperatures. Tom purchased a unique device from 1970 for \$27.00 that will read the lake temperature but in Analog form. Taking temperatures are very important to find the Thermocline which will then help Schmidt's Aquatics measure out the proper liquid dosage of the 2D-4; The ideal Thermocline temperature is 55 degrees around 12' to 13'.
- Keith & Tyne Hoffman will monitor the lake temperatures. Robin stated she and Cory could help if needed.
- Bill and Tom noted that the DNR said that Water Quality Testing is not needed after treatment.

LAKE MANAGEMENT E.W.M. GRANT APPLICATION

Bill stated that Lake Helen did not receive the Grant, our score was 21 and the last receiving lake scored a 23.3. Average score was 24.6. Only 7 lakes out of 65 received the grant. The DNR was impressed with our Lake Management Plan. We will need to look ahead and plan to be more proactive on the lake in the coming years. DASH and manual hand pulling of the Eurasian WaterMilfoil are the recommended ways to treat. Over the next three years DASH can cost upward of \$20,000. Another option is to purchase our set-up. (DASH: Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting)

- Chris Hamerla stated that we will need to start manual pulling right away after treatment and he will help us train volunteers to identify the EWM species.
- Document our time and what type of boat whether motorized or non motorized when out looking for milfoil or any other volunteer work that is done on or around the lake. This will show the DNR that we are putting in an effort to improve our lake quality

➤ **ANNUAL MEETING**

Bill proposed we reschedule our Annual Meeting, it needs to be done in person. But due to the COVID-19 Pandemic we need to wait until May 26th to see what Wisconsin does as a State. Right now you cannot have large group gathering over 10 people and you need to follow proper social distancing and wear PPE (face mask) and use sanitizer or wash hands frequently.

- Our physical budget year will be done on May 1, 2020; a temporary authorization will be needed.

- Robin stated that the Electric Co-Op is not allowing meetings unless the CEO approves the use of their meeting room.

Many commissioners expressed concern and would prefer an outdoor meeting with a shelter if weather permitted. Another option is the Rosholt Fair Park where a loud speaker system is available

- Tom made a motion to tentatively postpone meeting until July 4th, 2020. Glen Seconded. All in favor.
- Robin looked into setting up a Non-Lapsable Fund, which is a sub account in our current checking or savings to set money aside for a specific project
- Glen's term expires on April 30th. A motion was made by Robin and seconded by Tyne to extend his term until the Annual meeting.

BOAT LANDING MONITORING

Tom noted that Golden Sands has hired Amanda Burzynski as our Boat Landing Monitor. Amanda will start as soon as COVID-19 orders are lifted. The Clean Boats Clean Water program is restricted due to COVID.

- The Grant for the CBCW Program covers 75% of the cost, out of pocket it will be roughly \$2,078.00
- The CBCW will address the Zebra Mussels with the boat launchers; Chris Hamerla reached out to Amherst Marine and they will help to monitor / check boats and trailers that they launch / install for property owners.
- Chris stated that zebra mussels can survive the winter in our lakes. A reminder that they can and will enter the intake of motors left in the water. This will void your motors warranty.
- Mike Ubl asked if we could introduce Drum Carp to eat the Zebra Mussels; Per Chris, drum carp will cause a big problem and destroy our native plants, turn up the muck. DNR does not look at introducing Carp to lakes as an option.

2020 PROJECT PLANS

- Glen stated that Japanese Knotweed seems to be under control and knocked back pretty good after a few treatments in 2019
- Bill stated that the 2019 Water Quality Tests cost \$165 for each of our two sites for a total of \$330. He noted that three tests were conducted last year at each site and that all came back normal with nothing unusual found.
- Per Chris Hamerla, all the Lakes Conventions topics that were discussed are available online. The UW Extension Lakes page has updated the presentations.
- Fish Management: Fred is leading the charge for this Committee and to date no fish stock or fish management has been planned.

Glen Made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:33pm. Robin Seconded. All in Favor.

**Next meeting date to be determined