

LAKE HELEN – Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

3rd Quarterly Commissioners' Meeting

Held at 5:00 p.m. on July 16, 2014
At the Lake Helen County Park Shelter

The Lake Helen P & R District organizational meeting was called to order by Chairman Melissa Ferg at 5:00 pm.

Commissioners Present: Mark Brandenburg, Lynn Cook, Melissa Ferg, Robin Novak-Nelson, and Bill Pingel

Commissioners Absent: None

Attendees: Kathie Grill, Cory Nelson

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer's report was read by Kathie Grill. The following balances were reported:

\$ 132.54 Boat Launch

\$1,562.01 Checking Account

\$2,746.55 Savings Account

(\$900.00 for general funds and the balance collected and designated for fish stocking)

\$4460.00 Was paid to Stantec for the Eurasian Water Milfoil treatment.

Mark Brandenburg made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Bill Pingel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW COMMISSIONER:

Kathie Grill's term as Commissioner ended at the Annual Meeting and a replacement was not elected, since no one volunteered to have his or her name added to the ballot. However, following the meeting Lynn Cook came forward and volunteered to serve. According to the By-laws "the chair shall appoint an elector to fill any vacancies until the next Annual Meeting." Melissa appointed Lynn to fill the open position. The Commissioners present unanimously accepted her as the new Commissioner, filling the open position.

POSITONS FOR THE NEW YEAR:

According to the By-laws the Commissioners are to set the positions for the new year at the first meeting following the Annual Meeting. After a discussion, the following were put forward as the new roles for this year:

Chairman: Melissa Ferg

Secretary: Bill Pingel

Treasurer: Lynn Cook with Kathie Grill continuing to keep the books and serve as bookkeeper

Commissioners: Robin Novak –Nelson and Mark Brandenburg

(Mark will continue to lead the Fishing/Fish Stocking Committee)

Since Bill lives out of the area, Robin stated that she would continue to post the meeting notices as required by the By-Laws and the Wisconsin open meetings laws.

Melissa Ferg made a motion to accept these positions as listed. Mark Brandenburg seconded the motion. Accepted unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Meeting Attendance: Kathie Grill noted that the attendance at this year's Annual Meeting was extremely low, with only 36 attendees representing 14 of the 124 properties. This was of extra concern since two of the meeting topics should have raised concern (the raising of taxes and the chemical treatment plan for controlling Eurasian Water Milfoil). She suggested writing a letter to all of the residents reminding them of the importance of the lake association and taking a survey to find out if the meeting should be moved to a different date. The Commissioners agreed with Kathie's suggestion. A

discussion followed about the items to include in the letter and survey. The survey will obtain the view of the property owners on three potential meeting dates: The Saturday of the Memorial Day weekend as well as the first and second Saturdays in June.

ACTION: Melissa will create an initial draft of the letter, emailing it to the other Commissioners for input. Bill will work with Robin to get the mailing labels from the Town Clerk, create a postage paid return survey card, and send out the final letter to all of the property owners.

Eurasian Water Milfoil Treatment Progress: Melissa noted the EWM treatment took place on Tuesday May 27th, with Stantec treating three areas on the lake as specified on the permit and reviewed by Scott Provst of the DNR at the Annual Meeting. Mark noted that the weed level is down considerably on the northwest end of the lake and that the treatment appears to have been effective. Lynn noted that she has been testing the water in the three spots as requested by the DNR. The final test will take place next Tuesday and the samples will be turned in for analysis.

ACTION: Melissa noted that Scott (DNR) and Paul (Golden Sands) plan to survey the lake in August and recommend next steps.

Cost: Melissa noted that the \$4460 cost was a little less than the \$5000 estimate due to the amount of chemical actually needed to treat the square footage affected. Bill asked for clarification of the Mill-rate process. Kathie stated that approximately \$6000 is expected to be raised through the 2014 taxes to replace the monies spent and help fund future control needs.

OLD BUSINESS:

Picnic: Melissa noted that the park shelter has been reserved for the Lake Helen Family Picnic that is scheduled for Saturday August 23rd. The picnic will take place from noon to 4pm. Melissa and Robin will be coordinating the event and the food with attendees asked to bring a dish to pass.

Mark stated that quite a few items have been donated to help raise funds for fish stocking. He will be selling tickets at the picnic for 50/50 raffle packages and drawings for a number of additional prizes.

Grant: Mark reminded the group that the LH P&R District applied for a grant that could reimburse the District for up to \$5000 for the treatment of the EWM. The grant was written by Rob and Anne Hvizdak, with the funds to be recouped based a number of criteria including volunteer hours. An extension was filed to give us until December 31, 2014 for the final submission.

ACTION: Mark to contact Rob to find out the status of grant and to determine what is needed to get the reimbursement.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6pm. Seconded by Bill Pingel. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES SUBMITTED: by Bill Pingel, Secretary