

LAKE HELEN PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT
2023 QUARTERLY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 09, 2023 4:30 PM
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS (VIRTUAL)

The Lake Helen P&R District Commissioners' meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM

Commissioners Present: Tyne Hoffman, Keith Hoffman, Todd Wierzba, Glen Bersie, Kara Boghossian

Commissioners Absent: None

Guests: Mark Lynaugh, Tracy Arnold (Portage County Lakes), Jeff Rasmussen, Scott Provost (DNR), & Bill Pingel

➤ **REGULAR REPORTS**

MINUTES: Glen made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 7, 2022. Todd seconded. All in favor.

TREASURER' REPORT: Glen provided the Treasurer's Report as follows and reviewed expenditures. Todd made a motion to approve. Seconded by Tyne, all in favor.

Boat Launch \$616.75, DNR Grant for 2023 EWM reimbursement \$547.50, & \$3,146.57 Fish Stocking Donations.

\$2,890.55 Checking

\$10,725.25 Savings

\$122.64 Non-lapsable Fund EWM

\$13,738.44

➤ **OLD BUSINES**

BLUE GREEN ALGAE: Scott Provost provided an update on the DNR sampling and it shows that the aerators have been a huge help keeping the numbers down; keeping the legacy phosphorous at the bottom of the lake by utilizing oxygen and keeping it settled. DNR Grants are available that assist in the cost of aeration, two years' worth of data needs to be collected to prove aeration works. Potentially 2024 for applying for Grant, the board would like to move forward the electrical grant.

- Possible treatments would be an "Alum Treatment" (aluminum silicate) that will bond the phosphorous keeping it at the bottom of lake. Also a treatment called Phoslock Lanthanum Chloride.
- DNR can fund Alum treatments which is a 3 year process over the course of three summers. 10-20 years of relief after treatment, if all external sources are cut off from the lake.
- Flowgate installation is doing what it is designed to do and holding back run off from entering the lake. Installed fall 2022, Glen has been monitoring.
- Todd will follow-up with the Town of Alban regarding elevation measurements done through the Portage County Highway Dept.
- Lake profiles have not been done; Tracy is getting the "dissolved oxygen meter" recalibrated.
- Tracy Arnold discussed the Healthy Lakes / Rivers Grant for Native plantings, 16 projects in the whole county approved.
- Fish sticks: Keith stated that Jesse Kuether and Todd Wierzba are interested and need pledge forms to move forward. Tracy will speak to Portage County Parks & Recreation to see if they would potentially be interested in pledging a second fish stick.
- Aerators were turned on February 4, 2023 by Dylan Abler & Keith Hoffman. Tyne Hoffman & Becky Abler assisting (moral support). Aerators will be shutdown when about 40% of ice comes off and turned back on in May.

INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL: Glen discussed Clean Boats Clean Water, grants have been accepted and all money will come back. LHPRD will be contracting with Golden Sands RC&D. Glen contacted Rosholt High School who may have a potential student interested in the CBCW position.

- Eurasian Water Milfoil: Tyne made a motion to approve DASH (divers assisted suction harvesting) budget of \$8,500.00. Kara seconded, all in favor. Mapping not needed for EWM removal this year.
- Japanese Knotweed: No update provided by Glen due to the winter season.

LAKE MANAGEMENT / AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT PLANS: Kara and Tracy discussed that the survey was ready to be sent out to property owners, survey may remain open for 2 weeks, Keith asked if it could be extended an extra week. Discussion had on whether to send out as an email, letter, or postcard with an online link to survey. Tracy & Kara will research the most economical way to send out the survey.

FISHING COMMITTEE: Mark Lynaugh provided pricing updates and availability of fish to stock. 6-8" Walleye are not available until fall (\$2.60 each); Spring time 3-4" Perch (\$1 each); 3-4" Crappies (\$0.90 each).

BOATING & ROAD SAFETY: to be discussed at annual meeting and information will be provided in the annual mailer.

NEW PROPERTY OWNERS: Tyne said the "Welcome Packets" are ready to go and will pass out when the weather is better.

WISCONSIN LAKES CONVENTION: April 19-21 New Commissioners' Kara, Todd, & Jeff will attend (in person or virtual); Glen will attend a few sessions also and Keith and Tyne will not attend.

LAKE HELEN BY-LAWS: Keith, Glen, & Bill Pingel to discuss eliminating the Lake Helen By-laws; Recommended by Eric Olson as Chapter 33 supersedes any by-law. A vote will need to be had at the Annual Meeting.

➤ **NEW BUSINESS**

- Keith & Tyne will be resigning due to relocation out of state.
- Appointee discussion: will need to elect one new commissioner and appoint two. Bill Pingel is willing to take one position for one year. Todd & Kara had some potential people and will reach out to them. A follow-up meeting will be had to appoint the positions.

PROJECT RESPONSIBILITY DELEGATION; Discussed in meeting, commissioners taking on these responsibilities

- Social events
- Annual meeting mailer; Bill Pingel will help, secretary ideal to help
- Welcome packet
- Website updates
- Web Services
- Water quality testing
- Lake profiles
- CBCW
 - Glen can assist in the grant process
- EWM management; Commissioners volunteer besides other property owners
 - Letters to paper
 - Glen can assist in the grant process
- Japanese Knotweed
- BGA; Guidance from Scott Provost
- Zebra Mussels
- Fishing Committee board member
 - Stocking permit approval needed by a board member; District to approve what fish get stocked
- Aerator electric grant; Glen can help with grant process
- Property listing / voter registration
- Others?
 - Newsletter; hand delivered and not required by law, but is part of the grant services / volunteer hours; Bill Pingel has the template
- **VOLUNTEERS** outside of the board are needed to help, possibly set up some small committees.

➤ **OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

- Annual Meeting June 3, 2023
- Family Picnic August 5, 2023

➤ **NEXT MEETING**

- Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 4:30 pm via Microsoft Teams (Virtual)

Meeting adjourned 5:57pm; Todd made a motion to adjourn, Kara seconded. All in favor.