

LAKE HELEN – Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

3rd Quarterly Commissioners' Meeting

Held at 5:30pm on Monday July 6, 2015
At 3009 W Lake Helen Dr (home of John Hopfensperger)

The Lake Helen P & R District organizational meeting was called to order by Melissa Ferg at 5:30pm.
Commissioners Present: Melissa Ferg, John Hopfensperger, Robin Novak-Nelson, and Bill Pingel
Commissioners Absent: Mark Brandenburg
Attendees: Lynn Cook and Cory Nelson

REGULAR REPORTS:

- MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING:

Robin Novak-Nelson made a motion to dispense reading the minutes from the Annual Meeting and from the last Commissioners' meeting and to accept them as written and distributed. John seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- TREASURER'S REPORT:

Kathy Grill (LHPRD book keeper) was not present at the meeting, so there was no Treasurer's report.

ACTION: **Robin** stated that she would contact Kathy and get the balances to the group.

OLD BUSINESS:

- EWM TREATMENT FOLLOW-UP:

Melissa stated that the DNR has not provided us with their official report following the 2014 treatment. Nor has anything been said yet about a native plant impact study. She is hoping that both happen soon.

Bill stated that he and his neighbors on the north end of the lake have noticed that the lake has had a lot of algae lately, with the water green and contains a lot of slimy growth that hasn't been noticed before. He was wondering if that may be related to the depletion of native plants and should be watched.

ACTION: **Melissa Ferg** to continue to follow-up with the DNR until we receive their post-treatment report and to encourage them to complete a native plant impact study as previously discussed.

- LAKE GRANT REIMBURSEMENT FOLLOW-UP:

Bill Pingel noted that at the Annual Meeting it was reported that the LHP&RD received \$2081.25 from the state for the Lake Grant. He stated that in previous meeting minutes it was said that we expected to receive approximately \$5000. He was wondering why there was such a large discrepancy.

Robin stated that she did not believe that the \$5000 expectation was accurate.

ACTION: **Bill Pingel** to contact Rob or Ann Hvizdak for clarification on the Lake Grant amount.

NEW BUSINESS:

- COMMISSIONERS' ROLES:

The by-laws require the Commissioners to decide who will serve in three officer roles for the next year.

Following a discussion the following was agreed:

Chairperson: Melissa Ferg to continue in this role

Secretary: Bill Pingel to continue in this role

Treasurer: Robin Novak-Nelson will contact Kathy Grill to transition gradually into this new role that Kathy has been handling for many years.

Bill Pingel made a motion to have Melissa, Bill, and Robin serve in the President, Secretary, and Treasurer roles for the next year. John seconded. Carried unanimously.

Bill suggested that Robin look into setting up a PO Box for the mailing address, so that we that district has a consistent mailing address that can be used no matter who is serving as Treasurer.

- ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOW-UP TO ITEMS DISCUSSED:

> Fish Stocking:

Since Mark was not in attendance this topic will be rolled over to the next Commissioner's meeting

> Boat Landing Monitoring:

* High School volunteers: Melissa noted that Fred & Erica Stoeger said that their son needs volunteer hours and may be interested in working at the boat landing.

ACTION: Melissa to contact Fred & Erica Stoeger and their son about potentially volunteering as a boat landing monitor

* Volunteer training session:

ACTION: Melissa and Mark to contact those who handled the previous boat landing monitor training session to get the materials and to help train any new volunteers quickly for this year.

* Video Camera:

ACTION: Melissa to contact Gary Speckmann, head of the Portage County Parks Department to determine if we could install a video camera at the boat landing to monitor for "clean boats" violations.

> Lake Management Plan:

Bill stated that Vicky Brandenburg was the only person who volunteered to help with updating the Lake Management Plan

ACTION: Bill to contact Ann Hvizdak and set something up to work on updating the Lake Management Plan this summer.

- PICNIC PLANS & DETAILS

Robin and Melissa said that they have made the arrangements for the picnic on Saturday August 8th. All of the LHP&R District property owners are encouraged to attend and should invite any guests that they have with them that weekend.

Bill purchased two 2'x3' double-sided signs advertising the picnic and gave them to Robin to put up.

- OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

> Slow-No Wake Hours:

During the Boat landing monitoring discussion, the Lake Helen "slow-no-wake" hours topic was raised and discussed. Melissa and John stated that local residents would like to see the time changed, so that they can boat and water ski after their normal work hours.

Bill stated that he spoke to Gary Speckmann, head of the Portage County Parks Department, noting that there is a county ordinance that specifies the "Wake" time for Lake Helen. Since it is a county ordinance, it can be enforced by the Sheriff's Department. However, any desire to change it would first need to be approved by the LHP&R District, then submitted to the County Parks Department. Final approval would have to come from the County Parks Department and subsequently from the County Board in the form of a change to the ordinance.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Commissioner's meeting will take place on Saturday August 8th at 10:30 am at the Lake Helen County Park shelter. The annual picnic will follow, starting at noon.

ADJOURNMENT:

Robin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by John. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm.

MINUTES SUBMITTED by Bill Pingel, Secretary