

Lower Spring Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

August 20, 2016 Minutes

Call to order: President Carol Dixon called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. Treasurer Vicki Bradford, Secretary Debby Bartolerio, and Conservation Warden Ryan Ellifson and Alex, a deputy from the DNR, were also present. In total, 19 Lake District members were in attendance.

Reading of the Minutes: Debby read the minutes from June 11, 2016 Lake District Meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Vicki reported that all tax revenue had come in. Our surplus is \$11,470.38 for the year. Our checkbook balance is \$25,142.95 which also includes \$13,856.57 which was our 2015 grant payment. She stated that the harvester operation cost was \$1,142.44 for June and July and that she expected a similar amount would be needed for August and September. The Treasurers Report was filed and approved.

2016-2016 Budget Review and Vote: Vicki reported the proposed budget amount is about the same as last year. The notable change is about \$1,000 added for the liability insurance policy, and \$300 for the harvester permit. The cost budgeted for the herbicide application has been reduced by \$1,350 which partially offsets the increases. Last year's budget was \$14,125 and the proposed 2017 budget was \$14,072. Questions regarding the lack of funds budgeted for harvester repair were voiced. Vicki said that over the past few years we've collected budget surplus funds held in a savings account which could be used toward a new harvester. The harvester is in very good condition after being refurbished in 2009. It is thought that the original motor is still available as a back up.

Bob Wielepski made a motion to approve the budget and Al Fehrmann seconded it. The motion was unanimously carried.

AIS Grant Extension: The grant was extended for another year, until December, 2017. An update for our 5-Year Aquatic Plant Management Plan will need to be done at the beginning of 2017 with Patricia Cicero's help. Chemical treatments will depend on the results of the weed survey.

Weed Harvesting Report: Al reported that 29 truckloads of weeds have been removed. In the past 4 - 6 weeks the weeds have been growing at a rapid pace. There are areas that need attention, including the East end. Al will ask Scott to work more hours, lower the cutter and try to skim for "floaters". Al stated that both wind and lightening/rain cause the cutting operations to cease. If there are any concerns about the weeds, contact Al Fehrmann at 262 495-8468.

Clean Boats/Clean Waters: Dorothy and Bob Chappell have talked to over 250 people this year about CBCW. Pam Oliver has offered to volunteer, and has expressed concerns about fishermen leaving garbage along the shoreline on Hwy 59. Dorothy reported that most boaters know and follow the rules.

Ryan Ellifson stated that litter is a problem at many lakes. He further stated that he will issue littering tickets if there are blatant offenders. The DNR hotline can be called 24 hours a day to report issues.

It was noted that in the past there were garbage barrels by the launch and bridge, which were emptied by the Village. These are not present any longer. Carol will talk with Josh to determine if these barrels can be put out again.

Dam Repair: Josh Gajewski from the Department of Public Works provided a memo with information about the progress on the dam repairs. A formal request for an extension has occurred. An "official" notice of the extension's approval has not been received. However, it is anticipated that this will not be an issue due to the extenuating circumstances with the ownership of the property. The extension will only move the deadline out a couple of months. Proper title and access rights need to be documented to move forward. Then the type of dam and cost will be determined and presented to the Village Board at an October or November meeting. The estimate for receiving bids is March. The construction of the dam is expected to start in spring/summer of 2017.

Lake District residents are encouraged to attend Village Board meetings.

Discussion regarding the Lake District's financial exposure, options and legal obligations occurred.

Vote For President: Linda Plennes nominated Carol Dixon for president. Carol was elected with 16 votes, 2 write-ins, and 1 abstention.

Appointment of Auditors: Linda Plennes and Debby Bartolerio agreed to perform the annual audit of the records.

Open Forum:

Ryan Ellifson asked that he be notified when the Lions Club meets regarding the Fisheree. He would like to attend the meeting. Linda Plennes stated she would contact the Lion's Club.

Bill and Beth Alveshire are organizing a group to clean up the river starting from Hwy 59. Greg Smith, Al Fehrmann, and Bob Chappel volunteered to help.

A discussion regarding the beaver dam occurred. Dismantling it without eliminating the beaver(s) will not be effective. Linda Plennes will contact Mr. Rohloff to see if he would trap the beaver(s).

To be determined. Once information regarding the dam is received, the date will be set.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made at 12:40 by Jim Dixon and seconded by Bob Wielepski.