

Lower Spring Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

January 14, 2017 Minutes

Call to order: President Carol Dixon called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. New members, Steve and Kathryn Verduyn were introduced. Treasurer Vicki Bradford, Secretary Debby Bartolerio, and Dave Turner, Village of Palmyra President, were also present. In total, 19 Lake District members were in attendance along with Patricia Cicero from Jefferson County.

Reading of the Minutes: Debby read the minutes from August 20, 2016 Lake District Meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Carol made several comments regarding additional information relative to the minutes that she gathered since the last meeting.

- The "extra" motor for the weed harvester became the property of Inland Lake Harvesters as a condition of the refurbishing contract and was disposed of. The age of the motor would have made it non-compliant with current regulations.
- Trash barrels on the shoreline on Hwy 59 and at the launch are not feasible. They are used for garbage other than what is being created by the fishermen and could end up in the lake. The DNR has a "carry in, carry out" policy. To discourage littering, the DNR has placed a sign at the launch advising that trail cams are randomly used to monitor activity and fines are assessed for littering.

Treasurer's Report: Vicki reported that the books are closed for 2016. Three categories were over budget:

- Harvester Operations was over by \$219.72
- Administrative Expenses was over by \$20
- Insurance cost was over by \$972

Herbicide Applications/Fees was significantly under budget by \$11,062.00 because there was no chemical treatment in 2016.

The treasurer's report was filed.

Weed Harvesting Report: Carol presented the harvesting report on behalf of AI. Weed harvesting operations commenced on June 3. Weeds were relatively slow to develop this past year. The warm temperatures in late summer caused rapid growth in the weeds and the cutter had a difficult time keeping up. Operations ceased on October 10. There were 48 truck loads of weeds, approximately 203,000 lbs., of weeds removed during the season.

Weed Harvesting survey results: Debby presented the results of the survey, which consisted of three questions:

- How satisfied are you with the weed harvesting this year?
- What do you think about the amount of time spent harvesting weeds this year?
- Do you have any suggestions for improving the weed harvesting on our lake?

18 members responded: 2 were satisfied, 8 somewhat satisfied, and 8 not satisfied with the harvesting. 15 responded we don't cut enough and 3 did not provide an answer. Suggestions included cutting deeper, concerns about "floaters", and applying chemicals to control the weeds.

Reading of the October 21, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes:

Debby read the minutes from the October 21, 2016 Special Meeting.

Carol made several comments regarding additional information relative to the minutes that she gathered since the meeting.

- Scott, the 2016 harvester operator has resigned - he wants to move out of the area.
- The position will be posted in early Spring.
- Al Fehrmann has stepped down to take a break from these duties.
- Therefore, we need another person to oversee harvester operations.

August Aquatic Plant Sampling Results:

Patricia Cicero provided the survey results; in May she found 18 instances of Eurasian Water Milfoil, in July/August she found 104. In May Curly-Leaf Pondweed was found at 22 sites, and 10 in July/August. Historical data and graphs were provided. A chemical treatment discussion occurred with the DNR during a recent conference call. Several key people were not available, therefore a decision could not be provided. A discussion regarding the prolific occurrence of milfoil, including in the bay by the beach, ensued.

Clean Boats/Clean Waters: Dorothy reported that she will be resigning from the CBCW program, that she is moving out of the area. She further stated that this is a great volunteer opportunity, citing you can work whenever you have time.

Dam Repair Update: Dave Turner reported that the Village has been working on the Dam project for 4 years. The recent developments are:

- The DNR has placed us on a priority funding list.
- The grant extension has been approved.
- The Village is still working on the property boundaries.
- The Village is working with the engineers on a conceptual alternative for a 500 year flood event rather than a 1,000 year flood event. This would save a considerable amount of money.
- The Village has committed to moving forward, but has not committed to taking absolute responsibility for the dam.
- Design plans are anticipated in Fall 2017.
- Construction is anticipated in Spring 2018.

Open Forum:

Bill Alveshire asked if Mr. Rohloff was contacted to trap the beavers building dams upstream. There weren't any found, so he was not contacted.

Linda Plennes followed up regarding DNR's request to attend the Lions Club Fisheree planning meetings. There has been DNR representation at the Lions Club meetings other than Ryan Ellifson.

Next Meeting Date: Either April 1 or April 8 to update our Aquatic Plant Management Plan.

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