

Lower Spring Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

Special Board Meeting July 27, 2018 Minutes

Call to Order: President Carol Dixon called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Treasurer Vicki Bradford was present. Secretary Debby Bartolero, along with 2 WI DNR Water Resources Management Specialists, Susan Graham and Heidi Bunk attended via telephone.

Aquatic Plant Management

Alternative methods for controlling the invasive aquatic plants are being explored based on the limited effectiveness and availability of chemical treatments in the past several years. This was a recommendation in our Plant Management Plan drafted by Patricia Cicero.

Presentations relative to drawdowns have occurred at meetings over the past two years, however these provided results from lakes that were not nearby and had different circumstances. An opportunity to hear the experience of Little Muskego Lake directly from Heidi Bunk presented itself.

During the meeting/call, we learned that there are a number of types of "drawdowns" that vary in both duration and depth. Other factors, including the weather, number of springs that contribute to the water level, and groundwater flow create challenges in maintaining the low water level. Actively pumping the water out may be required to maintain the desired water level.

The results at Little Muskego Lake are a little premature, but the occurrence of Starry Stonewort and Eurasian Water Milfoil was significantly reduced based on initial observations.

Sediment compaction would vary based on the duration of winter and weather conditions.

Native plant seeds lay dormant and may repopulate the areas that no longer are growing Milfoil. These native plants would improve the fish habitat.

Determining the exact depths, locations of natural springs, and obtaining a drawdown plan were additional suggestions.