

**LOWER SPRING LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT**  
**1st Quarter Meeting**  
**January 19, 2019**

**Call to order:**

Chairperson Carol Dixon called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Treasurer Vicki Bradford and Secretary Debby Bartolerio were present. Also in attendance, were Kathy Weiss, Village of Palmyra President, Sue Graham, DNR Lakes Management Coordinator, Patricia Cicero, Jefferson County Land and Water Resources Management Specialist, Laura Stremich-Thompson, DNR Region Team Supervisor – Fish Management and Travis Motl, DNR Fish Biologist. In addition, 19 Lake District members were present. New residents, Joe & Dorothy Molosky and later Bill & Nancy Windler were welcomed.

**Reading/Review of Minutes:** Debby read the minutes from the August 18, 2018 Annual Meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Vicki reported we were over budget on the harvester repairs by \$13,182.01, labor by \$808.45 and truck repairs by \$1,107.23. We also were under budget on Herbicide Application costs by \$3,021.00. The Harvester Permit was \$7.50 over budget because of a service fee assessed and our insurance policy was \$31.00 over budget due to an increase. Tax revenue and interest income was higher than budgeted by \$730.06. The Treasurers Report was filed.

**August 2018 Aquatic Plant Sampling Results:** Patricia Cicero provided her complete survey results in a separate document. Summer Surveys are generally conducted after Curly Leaf Pondweed dies off, so the lack of points showing the presence of CLP is expected. Patricia explained the method of surveying, which involves determining the volume and types of weeds pulled using a rake.

Patricia further stated that milfoil control was effective in the finger bay, and she is available for pre-treatment surveying in 2019.

Sue Graham also provided additional survey information and stated that there are limited options for chemical treatments for 2019. She suggested prioritizing the areas in which harvesting occurs instead of trying to cut the whole lake. She also recommended the use of a GPS and a depth finder.

**Weed Harvesting Report:** Jim Dixon stated the condition of the lake was bad last year. 2,4-D worked well in the finger bay, but Diquat was ineffective in the rest of the lake. 640,000 pounds of weeds were removed this year. There were 120 days in the season, of which we were able to run the harvester 72 due to wind, rain and vandalism.

To enable more harvesting time, two options can be considered; a second shift operator or someone else to drive the truck to dispose of the weeds which would enable the harvester operator to continue cutting. Jim said a depth finder on the harvester may be beneficial, but a GPS unit isn't necessary in a small lake.

Travis Motl, DNR Fish Biologist provided some information relative to the 2015 fish survey information. He stated that he did not have any concerns about the fish population based on the survey and that another one will occur in 2021. The fish population as well as the size of the fish are affected by the density of cover that the weeds provide. Abundant weeds result in a predator/prey imbalance and stunt the growth of fish. If a drawdown occurs, Travis will request that the DNR stock extended size northerns. It was suggested that the Lake District could also contribute toward that effort.

**Dam Repair:** Kathy Weiss reported that things were going well on the dam construction.

**Vote on 2019 Winter Drawdown:** A motion to request that the Village of Palmyra and Lower Spring Lake District apply for a 4-foot drawdown beginning in the fall of 2019 and ending in the spring of 2020 was made by Jim Dixon and seconded by Nigel Yarwood. All members present voted for the motion except for one dissenter.

**Dredging Options:** Carol stated that any dredging would occur in January during the 2020 winter drawdown and be paid for by individual property owners. A sign-up sheet to request more information or free estimates was available and collected by Jim.

Sue Graham added that some dredging studies are eligible for grants.

**Open Forum:** Bill Alveshire asked if the beaver problem had been addressed. Carol responded that a trapper is attempting to catch the beaver but has been unsuccessful so far.

Patricia stated that she spends time on our lake but would welcome input from the landowners about the type of weeds, density, and concerns or problems they are experiencing. Comments should be sent via email to [patriciac@jeffersoncountywi.gov](mailto:patriciac@jeffersoncountywi.gov)

Nigel asked if rolling to compact the soil would be an option instead of dredging. Sue Graham stated that this was outside of her authority. Someone in water management would need to be consulted, but she was relatively certain that it would not be allowed.

Vicki stated that she was resigning as Treasurer effective with the March meeting. She stated that the books are maintained in Excel, and she would be available to help the new Treasurer.

Carol reminded everyone that the Chairperson position is up for reelection in September. She will be stepping down after her second term and is happy to help the new Chairperson.

Jim is resigning as weed harvesting coordinator and will work with his replacement to get him/her started.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be on March 23rd and the annual meeting will be set for September 7th.

**Adjournment:** At 11:55, a motion to adjourn was made by Jim Dixon and seconded by Nigel Yarwood.