

Lower Spring Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District
Minutes
September 7, 2019

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 by Chairperson Linda Plennes. Jody Deichl, secretary, Debbie Bartolerio, treasurer, Patricia Cicero, Jefferson County Land and Water Resources Management Specialist were in attendance as well as 16 Lake District members and the Lake Manager from Lake Ripley.

Reading of the minutes

Jody read the minutes from the Annual meeting of June 22, 2019. Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

Debbie provided documents showing the 2019 proposed budget, 2019 year-to-date expenses as well as the 2020 approved budget. She noted that harvester repairs, labor and gas were over budget for the season. 2019 Year-to-date expenses total \$14,664.35. Deb noted \$6,997.68 remains in the checking account with \$67,038.54 in savings. No final agreement on dollar amount for dam repayment yet. Hope to have final numbers by second week of October.

At the mention of the dam repayment agreement, a lengthy discussion took place due to the lower than normal lake levels. Pictures and measurements indicate a 6" deficit. Lower levels impact harvesting, impair boat navigation and accelerate weed growth. Meetings had been held to discuss concerns. Kathy Weiss indicated that due to the drawdown they would defer addressing the concern now but that a proviso would be added to any sign-offs on the dam repair. Carol Dixon has drafted a letter to the Village Board Members so that everyone is aware of the negative impact on the lake and to make sure safeguards are put into place to rectify the problem in the spring. Linda indicated she would address this concern at the next Village meeting.

Aquatic plant survey

Patricia presented the 2019 aquatic plant survey results. As shown by the graph Eurasian milfoil and curly-leaf pondweed are still plentiful. She mentioned favorable results in the finger bay following chemical treatment last spring. She is very hopeful survey results will improve following the drawdown. Patricia also briefly mentioned the possibility of testing for a late season milfoil hybridity.

Lengthy discussion regarding timing of survey, location of sampling, who is conducting the surveys took place. Also discussed seasonal control vs. long term control. Discussed use of spot-treatment vs. granulated treatment, what other lakes are doing to deter milfoil growth and the use of ProcettaCOR – a relatively new aquatic herbicide treatment. Patricia will research this treatment and report back to us when additional information is available.

Chemical Treatment/Water Testing Results

Andrew reported there was no new business.

Weed Harvesting Report

Greg reported we had two harvester operators this season and both did a fantastic job. We experienced only one month without a breakdown. With the lower water level some areas were not able to be maintained with the harvester. Greg also said the truck was in need of a new transmission. Questions were raised as to who is responsible for maintaining the truck, do we want to repair the truck and cost of repairs. After much discussion it was decided that Peter and Greg would look on line for a rebuilt transmission (with warranty) and obtain a quote for installation. Linda would check into who is responsible for maintaining the truck and if it is the sole responsibility of the lake district or if it is shared. Question was also if we could have an operator harvesting at least five days a week next season. Greg acknowledged that could be done.

Dam Repair Updates

Deferred due to Kathy's absence.

Intergovernmental Agreement for Cost Sharing

Deferred until additional information on lake level can be obtained.

Dredging Updates

Carol shared the frustrations she's had in finding a company to provide estimates for dredging for lake district property owners. One quote received thus far was extremely expensive. She has secured two additional companies that will be out in the next couple of weeks to survey the properties and provide pricing. Carol will keep all interested parties informed.

Clean Boats/Clean Water

Pat stated that she had no new volunteers and that there also was nothing new to report. The boat landing is now closed for the season so there should be no need for this service.

Lake Drawdown Updates

Linda announced that "no fishing" signs should be going up shortly. ATV's will not be allowed on the lake as well as any other vehicles. It was suggested to call the local police department or 1-800 TIPWDNR should you notice anyone on the lake.

Videotaping/digital page

Due to time constraints the items were tabled.

Open Forum

Patricia mentioned that Jefferson County will now have drone surveillance availability to look for springs, etc. on the lake.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for January 18th, 2020.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Jim, seconded by Dave.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04

