

**LOWER SPRING LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

August 28, 2021

Board members present: L. Plennes, Chairperson, J. Deichl, Secretary, K. Weiss, Village President

The meeting was called to order at 11:04 by L. Plennes. A warm welcome extended to all new lake district members!

A revision to the chemical treatment report from the July 24th minutes was requested. Revision will be made and approved at the next meeting.

Chemical Treatment

C. Dixon stated the application for chemical treatment would be similar to last year. Asking for 2,4-D along shorelines continuously, as well as treatment in the finger bay. Approx. treated area would be roughly 7 acres. Discussion regarding treatment of the Omdoll property again took place. Further information is needed by both the DNR and Brian from Bio-Chem to determine whether it can or cannot be treated and to what extent. Chemical treatment to the public beach area was also discussed as the weeds are encroaching the beach area. C. Weiss will investigate if this would be something the village wants to pursue or possibly contribute to. She will report back at the next meeting.

Water Clarity

G. Smith was not in attendance but water clarity is noted to be weedy but very clear.

Geese Depredation

For a good portion of the summer two families of geese had made their home on the lake. B. Alvshire noted that all geese have now vacated the lake area.

Harvesting Report

Bruce our harvester operator was introduced to the group. L. Plennes stated that there have been 172 Lola loads and 44 truckloads of weeds harvested in August. 601 Lola loads and 154 truckloads for the year. Bruce stated that the weeds are heavier and more waterlogged now than in the beginning of the cutting season.

A zoom meeting was held with A. Fehrmann, B. Singsime, L. Plennes, S. Graham, P. Ciscero and M. Uhlman to review the cutting map. Patricia and Marissa had been out on the lake and commented there are more weeds than they've ever seen before. We are facing a large uphill challenge as far as weed control as we've seen ideal temperatures for weed growth as well as lake density changes. No changes were suggested for the weed harvesting map.

C. Dixon asked that additional hours be added to the weed harvesting position due to the amount of weeds, rapid growth and the additional floaters that are left behind after cutting. It was noted that the floater issue will be addressed at the end of the season as a part will be installed on the harvester

to aide in the collection of floaters. A lengthy discussion regarding where the harvester is cutting, when he is cutting, how often in certain areas he is cutting, and if he can get to certain areas of the lake due to the water depth. Frustrations are extremely high due to the disappointing condition of the lake. Please note we are all doing our best but the lake level, lack of adequate rain, over-achieving weed growth and the less than desirable effects of chemical treatment are issues out of our control.

It was noted that the operator will be unavailable at times for personal reasons and it was asked if the Blue Spring Lake cutter could possibly fill in in his absence. L. Plennes will follow up.

Port-a-pot and Garbage Receptacle

It was discussed at a previous meeting that it would be nice to have a garbage receptacle and port a pot at the boat landing as people had been leaving garbage behind, throwing it into the weed harvester truck bed and even leaving it on the harvester and pier. Cost of the port-a-pot was quoted at \$120-\$140 per month. Still awaiting pricing on the garbage receptacle. After further discussion, it was felt these were expenses the lake district chose not to incur at this time and the project was put on hold.

A shout out to Mike Temple for retrieving and repairing the buoys that had been vandalized twice in the last several weeks. Thank You Mike for your help!

A drawdown was proposed for the 2022-2023 winter season. Questions were asked regarding how far the lake would be lowered and if there are surrounding lakes that are managing weeds effectively. Motion to apply for the drawdown was initiated by C. Dixon and second' by S. Reynertson. Vote was unanimous to apply for the drawdown. Dredging would be up to the individual property owners, again using the same company that was proposed with the last drawdown. Dredging can only take place providing the temperature is cold enough for an extended period in order to provide a frozen base for the heavy equipment being used. L. Plennes to request the village apply for the drawdown permit.

Harvester Painting

It was suggested that the harvester be painted to prevent further rusting. Power-washing would need to be completed first and then it could be painted. Approximate cost of materials would be approximately \$630.00 and this could be done after the harvester cutting season but before the air temperatures drop too low. D. Bartolerio and S. Reynertson have volunteered to do the painting.

Budget

J. Deichl gave the budget overview in D. Bartolerio's absence. It was noted that there is a checkbook balance of \$3,739.07 and a savings account balance of \$42,297.79. We are still awaiting a larger labor and gas/diesel bill for the harvester. It was noted that the tax revenue payment was incorrect and Deb would be looking into why. It was also mentioned that the dam assessment letters would be mailed out shortly. Please note the due date on the letter.

The proposed 2022 budget had been sent prior to the meeting. L. Plennes explained that the additional funds were to allow for additional help in harvester operations. The challenge being: finding additional help as we have had employment applications out the entire summer with little or no interest. A motion to accept the 2022 budget was initiated by D. Gagrak and second' by S. Reynertson.

Board Secretary Position

The term for the board secretary position will expire the end of August. J. Deichl was nominated and ballots were distributed, collected, tallied and verified. There were 18 votes for J. Deichl and 1 vote for a write-in candidate. J. Deichl accepted the Lake District Secretary position for the next term.

Open Discussion

No questions, concerns, etc.

NEXT MEETING:

November 6, 2021 @ 10:00 at Village Hall

Thank you to C. Dixon and S. Fehrmann for coordinating the 2021 annual picnic.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15.