

LOWER SPRING LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Annual Meeting

August 19, 2023

Board Members Present: Carol Dixon, Chairperson, Jody Deichl, Secretary, Debby Bartolerio, Treasurer, John Kannard, County Board Representative, Kathy Weiss, Village of Palmyra Representative

Attendees: In addition to board members, 21 Lake District members were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by C. Dixon at 11:05am. Appreciations to S. Fehrmann, P. Zimmerman and D. Schultz for skillfully coordinating our annual picnic. A warm welcome was extended to Scott Serafin and Barbara Nieders. They moved to the lake mid-summer.

MINUTES – After review, the minutes from the June 3rd meeting were approved as written.

TREASURERS REPORT – D. Bartolerio reported that the budget looks good but noted that we have outstanding invoices for harvester labor costs but does feel we are still on track. Truck repairs have been a costly issue, but we have saved on other budget items such as administrative expenses, herbicide application fees, harvester repairs/supplies, etc. All in all, the budget still looks OK.

PROPOSED 2024 BUDGET – D. Bartolerio presented the proposed 2024 budget. Of note There was a slight increase to the herbicide application fees, a decrease in harvester labor costs and a slight increase in insurance. All said the 2024 budget was reduced by \$1,050.00 from last year's budget. This should be reflected on our next tax bill. Deb noted that both the town and village contributed toward the cost of maintaining the lake and she will again petition both boards for their continued support. A motion to approve the 2024 budget was made by D. Gagrat and seconded by N. Yarwood. The 2024 budget was unanimously approved.

TRUCK/HARVESTING REPORT – J. Molosky provided an in-depth report on weed harvesting and truck repairs. He began with a large thank you to Scott Halbrucker. He was always right there to step in and help where it was needed most. The new Echomap has made cutting more efficient, and the wash down pump has helped remove debris from the conveyers. Joe noted the truck has been in the shop more than it's been out this summer. There were air/heating issues along with brake issues. Once one thing was fixed there was another issue right behind it. He stated upon investigation of previous service records, there were many inconsistencies between what maintenance was actually done vs. what maintenance was recorded. In fact, the oil had not actually been changed in over 4 years. Total costs for truck repairs came to \$7,385.17. He noted the truck has approx. 84,000 miles and with almost everything replaced it should be in good shape now. He mentioned a tree fell on the harvester during a storm but there was no damage. The harvester needs a new paddle wheel motor (\$3,687.10) but must be out of the water to replace it. He noted that a maintenance plan has been developed for both the truck and harvester, and both will be maintained on a yearly basis. His recommendation is that both the truck and harvester should be good for several years if maintained properly. He suggested K. Weiss check with S. Halbrucker on the possibility of storing the truck and harvester in the old DPW garage once the plows are on the trucks. J. Molosky has agreed to continue as the harvester coordinator next year. A huge thank you for handling all the truck and harvester issues this summer. We appreciate all you do!

GOOSE DEPREDATION –E. Ksobiech stated they had gone out three different times in April and gathered 65 eggs and destroyed 13 nests. All reports have been filed with the state. The Ksobiechs have agreed to take on the task again next year and will soon apply for the permit. Thank you both for taking on this daunting task.

WINTER DRAWDOWN –The request to the village board for a winter drawdown was rejected. All pertinent documentation (that had been requested) had been provided showing the positive effects of the previous drawdown along with support from water management resource specialists, the DNR and most of the audience. Results of a lake district survey had also been provided showing a large majority of the Lake District in favor of a winter drawdown. It was mentioned by two board members they had received hundreds of emails in opposition to a drawdown. An open records request of the emails in question produced only one letter that was sent to multiple board members via the village email account. Unfortunately, the letter contained inaccurate information. Lake District members have emailed Village Board members asking for the reasoning and logic behind their vote but have not received a response. It was suggested that a small committee be formed to work collaboratively with village board members to find a solution to this issue. D. Schultz and D. Bartolerio will initiate a meeting date and time. B. Neiders and C. Dixon also volunteered to help. An extension to the dredging permit has been requested.

VOTE FOR TREASURER – Ballots were distributed, and a vote was taken for the open treasurer’s position. D. Bartolerio was nominated and voted into the 3-year treasurer’s position with a vote of 24 in favor and 0 opposed. Thank you to Deb for agreeing to extend her time on the Board.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS – L. Plennes and P. Zimmerman have graciously agreed to audit the books. D. Bartolerio will arrange a date and time with them after the first of the year.

OPEN FORUM – A proposal was made and agreed on to move the Annual Meeting to 10:00am rather than 11:00am next year with the picnic to follow.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting date is scheduled for Saturday, February 3rd, 2024, at 10:00am at the Village Hall.

ADJOURN – A motion to adjourn was made by J. Dixon and seconded by N. Yarwood. Meeting adjourned at 12:19pm.