

# White River Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District annual meeting

September 5th, 2020

Outside at the Deerfield Town Hall

→ indicates an action item.

## 1. Call to order

- A. Chairperson Grace Thomsen called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.
- B. Grace introduced Lake district Board of commissioners Terry Henning, Tom Klusmeyer, Steve Meyer (township representative), Lee Simono and Bob Wedell (County commissioner). Joan Voigt excused herself. Town of Deerfield supervisors Roger Stratton and Tom Whalley were also introduced.
- C. A moment of silence was held for Dan Alft who passed away this last year.
- D. 36 Lake district members signed the attendance record; the names are attached to this report.

## 2. Minutes: The minutes were approved as presented.

## 3. Treasurer's report: The current financial report as of 8/24/2020 showed an income of \$54,886.12 for the year and expenses of \$23,270.72. The total financial picture looked like this:

Associated Bank public funds checking account	\$32,312.11
CD	\$51,357.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$83,669.61</b>

## 4. Elections: Two commissioners needed to be elected for three year terms. Tom Klusmeyer and Grace Thomsen were the incumbents. No other names were added to the nominations. Tom Klusmeyer and Grace Thomsen were elected.

## 5. Lake/dam condition report

Lee Simono reported that 425-450 bags of milfoil were collected in the two weeks of the DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) program. Lee suggested two weeks of DASH in 2021 and 2022.

Mark Martin who is a horticulturalist said that milfoil can sit on a pier for a week and will grow when put back into the water. To get rid of milfoil, the roots must be removed and DASH is the best way to get rid of milfoil. Chemical treatment is hit or miss and is not as effective as suction harvesting.

As far as the dam, Lee Simono reported that there are new gates at the dam and they must be locked. The door on the right side of the structure is the functioning door. There are two tubes in the structure; the tube on the left is the back-up. Rocks are used to regulate the height of the lake and they have not been moved in three years.

Phil Stenz was thanked for getting the weed harvesting permit and the buoys to mark submerged trees.

### A. Water level of lake

James Lukas expressed concern about the high water level of the lake, higher than at any time in 50 years. He said that the water has not just been going through the spillway but also under the berm. He would like to see the water level of the lake brought down. A suggestion was to put up a measuring stick so that we have actual data. Lee Simono said that the engineering firm which conducted our every 10 year dam inspection in 2019 found the berm to be intact.

→ A motion was made, seconded and approved that the Board collect data on the water levels and flow concerns and report back to the lake district at the Memorial Day 2021 meeting.

### B. Fish in lake

Mark Martin said that the lake adds 15% to property values if the lake is healthy and that the fish population is part of a healthy lake. Mark would like to see what we could do about the fish population in the lake. He wondered if a donation box at the boat landing for fish stocking would produce some funding.

Comments were made that as soon as northern came into the lake, the fish population changed and that nothing will improve on the lake until the northern are gone.

Lee Simono mentioned how his efforts working with the DNR and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress over the last 7 years to get the legal limits for northern in our lake reduced has failed.

→ A committee of Mark Martin, Lee Simono and Chuck Basting will bring a report to the 2021 Memorial Day meeting on what to do about the fish in the lake.

### C. Boat landing concerns

Sue Stenz talked about the poor condition of the boat landing and the difficulty of getting boats into the lake. Some of the comments made were: Bad spots were patched in June. The DNR will not allow dredging the area or replacing asphalt. We'd have to get DNR approval to add rocks to the area. Ice is causing some of the problems.

→ Steve Meyer said that he would look into the problems at the boat landing.

6. 2020 proposed budget: The budget was approved as follows:

Fees: Lake associations	\$25.00
Fees: Water quality testing	\$180.00
Insurance: Liability	\$900.00
Insurance: Workmen's comp	\$270.00
Lake: Harvesting	\$1,800.00
Maintenance: Equipment repairs	\$300.00
Maintenance: Milfoil removal-Golden Sands	\$5,000.00
Maintenance: Operating costs	\$500.00
Miscellaneous: Meeting needs	\$125.00
Miscellaneous: Memorials	\$200.00
Office: Postage	\$150.00
Office: Supplies	\$50.00
Office: Website	\$270.00
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$9,770.00</b>

It was noted that on 7/13/2020, the lake district held a teleconference which approved an additional week of harvesting of \$9,660 which is in addition to this budget.

The proposed 2020 budget of \$9,770 was approved.

The motion to set the lake district fees for 2021 at \$150 was approved. Prior to this motion, Mark Thomsen made the lake district members aware that the \$150 lake district fee would not cover the expenses that have been discussed for 2021.

The motion that we add a second week of DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) to the 2021 budget was also approved.

7. Other matters that need to be addressed:

A. Audit committee: Tony Saiia reported that the committee (Dorothy Peissig, Tony Saiia and Phil Stenz) met September 4th, 2020, and reviewed the 2019 and 2020 finances. Everything is in order. A report was presented to the Board.

B. Goose roundup information

Phil Stenz summarized our lake district's discussions concerning goose nuisance over the last 9 years. We have hundreds of geese on the lake and they don't leave. Different measures have been tried and found to be ineffective and expensive. Some lakes have found that a goose roundup has been successful. The USDA is the only agency allowed to conduct a goose roundup. A USDA representative could do a presentation at our Memorial Day meeting if we would like. The cost of a roundup is \$2,500 - \$3,000.

→ A motion was made, seconded and approved to add a goose roundup to our 2021 budget; two No votes were heard.

8. Future calendar:

The next lake district meeting will be on May 29th, 2021.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Klusmeyer, White River Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Secretary/Treasurer

**White River Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioners**

(Number in parentheses is when the term expires)

Terry Henning (2021) / Tom Klusmeyer (2023) / Lee Simono (2021) / Grace Thomsen (2023) / Joan Voigt (2022)  
Steve Meyer (Township commissioner) / Robert Wedell (County commissioner)

**People in attendance**

Chuck and Lisa Basting / Mark Beine / Richard Burkwald / Bonnie Wegner / Phyllis Buyeske / Jim Fisher / Terry Henning / Mike Kalvin / Casey Kerwin / Tom Klusmeyer / Don Lukas / James Lukas / Jeremiah Lukas / Kathy Maio / Sarah Maio / Mark Martin / Carol Mauer / David Mauer / Steve Meyer / Dennis Oswald / Julie Oswald / Dorothy Peissig / Pete and Bobbi Jo Rusch / Tony Saiia / Lee Simono / Camille Stelmachowski / Phil and Sue Stenz / Roger Stratton (town board) / Mark and Grace Thomsen / Tom Voigt / Robert Wedell (county commissioner) / Tom Whalley (town board)