

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting

January 26, 2017

Present: J. Bellante, J. Marks, R. Mohr, B. Rosenquist, K. Aron and 1 property owner.
J. Bellante called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: The minutes for the October meeting were reviewed. Because of some questions, the meeting tape will be reviewed and the minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

Treasurers Report: R. Mohr presented the report. The loan payment of \$51,000 was made just after this month's report. Motion by J. Marks to approve as submitted, second by B. Rosenquist, motion carried.

Information and Correspondence:

The final tax roll posting for 2016 was \$54,800 of special charges and \$10,695.20 of alum charges. The WLMD website is ready to go online. No further changes were discussed.

J. Marks said there were beavers in the N end channel and he contacted the trapper. He also said 7 atvs went thru the ice on area lakes and that the warden, Brad, needed contacts to help remove them. There are requirements when vehicles go through the ice.

K. Aron reminded the board that items not on the agenda are not to be debated. They can be said in comments, but there should not be responses, discussion, or decisions. In response to last meetings post-agenda discussions, K. Aron presented clarifications: the dam operator is hired by Racine County, not WLMD or the Drainage District. The operator is an employee of the County and the County is responsible for the operator's actions. The Legal levels of the dam is the center of the spillway. The Operating levels are two inches above and two inches below the spillway. If the level drops below or above those levels, there must be action taken to adjust the dam. It does not mean that the dam must be completely closed, or opened. It only means that adjustments must be done until the level goes back within the Operating level. Fishing is allowed on the South side of the bridge – it is at least 200 feet from the dam. It is posted as no trespassing so fishing there is between the angler and the property owner. Regarding the water in the canal downstream of the Wind Lake dam: The Rochester dam elevation is higher than the elevation of Wind Lake. The entire canal has not been dredged, so not only does the Rochester dam determine the water level in the canal, the undredged areas are holding water back as well. In response to claims of night-time dam operation being conducted, the legal logs submitted by J. Marks for payment as well as for submittal to DNR do not show any operation during nighttime hours. J. Marks stated when he went to the classes that the top causes of gate failure was lack of operation-that if you don't operate the gates, there will be a failure. There was a failure on the East gate. They had to replace the motor and cable that lifts the gate – the motor wouldn't start and the cable broke. J. Marks believes that the dam should be opened even during low level water to keep the gates from failing and that the amount of water released in 15 minutes is negligible.

Public Comments:

There was a question to clarify about fishing near the dam.

Old Business:

The Starry Stonewort Summit was well attended, with ACOE, SEWRPC, UWEX, 8 DNR staff (including regional staff up to high level managers) and the private consultants who have treated SSW. All of the current seasons results were presented, and then discussed the data presented. Afternoon discussion focused on the problems encountered and what can/should be done to improve the permitting and monitoring procedures. We were able to reach consensus on permit requirements, timing of treatments, monitoring required. We also identified key areas that need more discussion/debate to solve. This is very important so that new invasions can be reacted to swiftly and effectively. The extent of SSW in the Door County/Lake Michigan area is unknown because no one has looked yet except from the shoreline/piers. There is much work to be done, but the Summit was very well received by all involved.

New Business:

The board discussed the Vessel Safety Check. B. Rosenquist said the event will be June 3 and inspectors will be at the Boat Launch and Sportsmans. He has approval from Sportsmans, Lure-U-Inn and DNR. More people will be available to do the inspections. There will be a \$5 coupon to the first 10 that pass. R. Schopp motioned to approve solicitation of donation of promo items for the day, second by R. Mohr, motion carried.

Weed pickup program for 2017 was discussed, mid to late October will be added to the schedule. A tentative harvesting schedule has been discussed with the contractor. Everything will depend on weather and plant growth conditions.

The WLMD has been contacted by a landowner about acquiring his land that he cannot build on. Before any work is done on following through, K. Aron asked for the board's opinion. J. Marks also provided a contact that also has land he wants the district to take. B. Rosenquist motioned to investigate acquisition of two properties, second by J. Marks, motion carried with one abstention.

B. Rosenquist will not be at the February and March meeting.

R. Schopp will not be at the February and possibly the March meeting.

J Marks said he has additional information. He said DNR announced they are going to raise the limit for walleye to 18" for six surrounding counties. Current is 15" with a limit of 5.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next board meeting of the WLMD is scheduled for February 23, 2017.