

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
June 27, 2019

Present:, M. Bluemel, B. Rosenquist , J. Bellante, R. Mayer, K. Aron and 4 citizens. R. Schopp was excused.

M. Bluemel called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: J. Bellante motioned to approve the meeting minutes as printed, second by R. Mayer, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: R. Mayer gave the treasurers report. Motion by B. Rosenquist to approve, second by J. Bellante, motion carried.

Information and Correspondence:

B. Rosenquist gave an update on the boat inspection that was held. The WLMD partnered with the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Wisc. Power Squadron conducted the boat inspections. Twenty vessels were inspected and awarded safety decals, four vessels refused the inspection. Those that passed received a sticker indicating they had passed. The program will be done again next year, on June 6th.

K. Aron reported that a number of buoys are not in the correct locations. The Town and police office have been notified. Those include the Muskego canal center-of-channel buoys, the island center-of-channel buoys, and others. Buoy location has been a continuing issue for a number of years. The town ordinance states that the buoys are the responsibility of the Lake Patrol to place and maintain. The anchors remain in place year round. The ice can drag anchors, and chains and parts do wear out.

Board members indicated the lake patrol has been harassing boaters, stopping all the boaters. They indicated it is multiple officers, not just one or two. M. Bluemel said he has been pulled over 3 or 4 times. He said they pull straight up to anchored fishermen to check them. There have been issues over the years where the lake patrol has been criticized for not doing enough, or because they weren't on the lake when the early anglers are violating slow-no-wake. K. Aron will check to see if the head of the lake patrol will come to our next meeting to discuss what they do and to hear the board member's concerns.

M. Bluemel said he has received an email from a property owner that carp hunters and their bright lights are going near the dam and when they turn around, their lights shine into some of the homes near the dam. This has been a problem in the past as well. The problem has diminished now because the carp are no longer spawning.

M. Bluemel asked if we have received the report on the fish survey. We don't expect to receive it until later in the year.

Old Business:

Chemical treatments and harvesting have been impacted by the weather this year. There has now been 1 week of harvesting done, cutting primarily in the NW part of the lake, but also along the N shoreline. The contractor is planning to do the meander survey to identify SSW areas and other plant issues needing treatment. The contractor can treat on the 1st of July but in the past, the past chairman and board has not wanted any treatments done near a holiday. Otherwise a treatment would be done on the 8th or 9th of July, weather permitting. The board concurred that it would prefer that no treatments be done near the holiday.

The two channels were treated once for SSW, but the two launches were clear of SSW. The NW channel is the worst. There are large mats impeding navigation. We may have the harvester make a pass through the channel to collect the mats and then have the chemical treatment conducted in the area.

The NW end of the lake is almost impassable now that the weather has warmed up and the milfoil is taking off. The harvester cannot work off of Sportsman's during the holiday, but they may be able to harvest the week of the 8th.

The board continued the discussion about changing to a calendar year. The budget numbers were reviewed. Any other changes to the numbers should be given to K. Aron before the July meeting. K. Aron explained the timeline for the annual meeting paperwork. Because of the importance of the proposed change, she wants to have a final package for board approval at the July meeting. That would allow sufficient time to get to the printer, and have it mailed according to statutory deadlines.

Public Comments:

One resident commented that it's a good idea to see if the lake patrol will come to the meeting.

A question was asked to clarify one of the per diem payments in the treasurer's report.

A question was asked about the emergency slow-no-wake measures and if the procedures and signs have been corrected. R. Schopp was handling that with the town, and we can check with him next meeting.

A resident talked about the weed spraying in her area, the fact that it historically not been done because of an objecting resident. K. Aron lets the objecting resident know before its being done. The area was treated 2 weeks ago for algae. Cutrine Plus is used on the filamentous algae.

One resident indicated that there is a lot of goose poop on the shoreline. We did not have enough birds to do the removal when it was done. We now have plenty of geese but it's too late to do the roundup.

New Business:

M. Bluemel brought up the subject of aquatic plant harvester, and what we are going to have published for the annual meeting. The request from the annual meeting was to investigate current costs and equipment to purchase equipment. B. Rosenquist and M. Bluemel visited Aquarius, took a tour of the factory, looked at equipment and discussed costs. He said they were the closest one. Inland Harvesters is located in Burlington, but he felt Aquarius was a better company. He said a harvester would cost about \$170,000 and a self-unloading trailer would be \$57,000. The trailer could be pulled with a pickup truck. M. Bluemel said advancements in equipment have been made and there is a lot less maintenance now. He said annual maintenance is very low on them and would be \$200 per year. Aquarius can prep equipment and winterize equipment for the season for \$95 per hour. The issue is how to create a budget to compare with what we cut now. He said a 35% grant was available to assist with the costs and that everyone gets the grant. K. Aron said that grants are contingent on state fund availability and meeting a minimum harvesting acreage. Aquarius did not indicate that was the case. Aquarius said the machine they recommend would hold 10,000 pounds of weeds and that it wouldn't need any more water to float it full of cut weeds as compared to empty.

The District's harvesting plan and permit would need to be followed whether a contract harvester is used or one is purchased.

The information for this year's annual meeting is very preliminary. There won't be financial numbers for all the associated costs needed, such as a truck, insurance, staff, maintenance, workmans' comp, storage buildings, etc at this year's annual meeting. A motion at the annual meeting would need to direct the board whether or not to proceed with the consideration. B. Rosenquist stated those costs and details are not needed for this meeting.

A property owner at the meeting said they would need to know how much per property owner per year would be needed. Another wanted to know the limitations on harvesting are, and what percent of the lake cannot be cut. One owner thinks if we have our own harvester, that people will expect that all the weeds can be cut anywhere on the lake.

No action can be taken because it was not posted on the agenda. The subject will be added to the July meeting agenda. K. Aron will verify the grant % and the minimum acreage requirements for the July meeting. M. Bluemel and B. Rosenquist will provide a written summary on their findings to the board before the July meeting to decide on what is presented to the annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm. Next meeting will be Aug 22, 2019.