

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WIND LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Norway Town Hall**

**Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
7:00 pm**

Present: Chairman Ron Mayer, Secretary Jeremy Sauld, County Rep Joe Bellante, Jim Marks, and Mike Bluemel. Excused: Treasurer Todd Flunker, Town Rep Ralph Schopp. 5 citizens were present.

**Minutes**

**Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 pm followed by Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approve Minutes for January 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting**

A motion was made by Bellante to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Bluemel. Motion passed 4-0.

**Treasurers Report**

In Flunker's absence, Sauld provided a verbal financial report for the last month including checks written, deposits, and current account balances.

**Public Comments**

-A citizen inquired if the district's Weed Hotline phone was a cell phone or land line. Mayer confirmed it is a cellphone. The citizen then asked who Scott Laux was and why the district would consider a retirement gift. Mayer noted that Scott works for the Town of Norway DPW and has assisted WLMD for many years with management of the lake weeds at the town transfer site. The same citizen then commented that Kathy worked for the district for years and nobody did anything for her. Mayer noted that at some point a retirement gift for Kathy was mentioned but the board at that time was told she did not want anything from the WLMD.

**Information and Correspondence**

-Marks inquired regarding who placed orange cones on the ice near the public launch. Mayer noted the cones were placed there by the Norway Fire Department. Marks then noted DNR regulations regarding chopping holes in the ice and advised that standard practice is to mark holes on the ice with Christmas trees.

-Marks noted that at the lake conference this April, there will be a major focus on PFA contamination and wake boats. Additional details were provided on a study being done by UW regarding the damage wake boats can do. Per Marks some of the legislation proposed indicates that a lake would need to be 20ft deep (on average). Wind Lake is approximately

8ft deep (on average). Per Marks, this would give Wind Lake an out from having wake boats on it under some of the proposed legislation.

-Marks noted that Brown's Lake received a permit from DNR to dredge approximately 100 acres. This is a 2yr plan that will entail a pipeline to hydraulically move the sediment to a nearby site. Funding for this project has not been finalized and will still need to be figured out. Marks estimated that the project could cost upwards of 34 million dollars.

-Marks noted there have been surface water grants granted to Eagle Lake and Root River System Group for various conditions but mostly monitoring at boat launches.

-Marks noted that there is currently a lawsuit going on between Union Grove and the District Drainage commission regarding charges for drainage.

-Marks noted that he checked on the WLMD records stored in the Town Basement. He noted that there are 8 cases of records and they are labeled properly.

-Mayer noted that Nelson Landscape was contracted by ATC to clear out underbrush along the high voltage transmission lines throughout the state. Right now, they are working on the WLMD property on Muskego Dam Road. They had reached out to Mayer for permission to access the property and he approved.

-Bluemel noted that he received a message from Sportsman's Resort requesting the previously approved refund of their yearly lake district fee. This refund is issued in exchange for using Sportsman's launch for weed harvesting operations. Mayer asked that Bluemel forward the request to Flunker to process the refund.

## **Old Business**

### **Update on APMP and Harvesting Permit**

-Mayer noted that the districts 5yr plan has been completed with the boards requested corrections/amendments. Mayer forward the finalized version to Craig Helker for review and received confirmation that district is good to move forward with applying for the weed harvesting permit. Mayer will work with Flunker to move forward with the permit application process.

### **Discussion and Possible Action on Grant Writing Options (Onterra)**

-Mayer noted that he spoke to Tim Hoyman from Onterra who contacted Craig Helker to see what the next steps would be for the district to apply for an alum treatment grant. In 2010 WLMD applied for a grant that was ultimately denied by the technical review board. There was an alum treatment completed in 2011 without a grant. The contact from Onterra would like to know additional details regarding why the previous grant

application was denied to help ensure a successful grant application this time around. Mayer noted that Onterra will be putting together a proposal for additional sampling in addition to USGS data to help support a future alum grant application. A short discussion amongst the board followed.

#### **Update on Removal of Decomposed Lake Weeds**

-Mayer noted he does not currently have any new places to dispose of decomposed weeds. A suggestion was made to check with Lange farms to see if they would possibly be interested in any of the decomposed weeds. A short discussion amongst the board followed. Sauld noted that he would speak to Lange to see if there is any interest in assisting the district with weed disposal.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on Retirement Gift**

-A short discussion amongst the board regarding Scott Laux's pending retirement from the Town DPW was had. Scott has worked closely with the WLMD on the management of the weeds at the town transfer site and has saved the district time and money. A short discussion amongst the board followed discussing possible gift and values. Bluemel motioned to approve purchasing a \$100 gift card to a local restaurant as a retirement gift for Scott Laux, Ron to determine the restaurant and work with Todd to purchase. Second by Bellante. Motion passed 4-0.

### **New Business**

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on Chemical Treatment Permit**

-Bellante provided a copy of the 2023 and proposed 2024 chemical treatment service contracts provided by Solitude Lake Management. Bellante noted that in the past, WLMD had not been charged by Solitude for lake surveys related to chemical treatments. Going forward, Solitude will charge \$500 per survey. Bellante then proceeded to go through the proposed contract for chemical treatments in 2024. A short discussion amongst the board followed. Bluemel made a motion to approve funding of up to \$12,650.00 for the initial chemical treatment in 2024. This includes \$1,650.00-permit fee, \$1,000.00 for up to 2 lake surveys, and up to \$10,000.00 for the first chemical treatment in 2024. Second by Sauld. Motion passed 4-0.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on Additional Pier**

-Mayer noted that he would like to start looking for a pier to utilize once a second harvester is purchased. A short discussion followed. Motion by Sauld to approve the purchase of a pier up to \$3,000.00. Second by Bluemel. Motion passed 4-0

Bluemel noted that he needs to get started on the spring newsletter as it will need to go to the printer shortly after the March meeting. A short discussion was had regarding responsibilities for each section of the newsletter.

### **Adjourn**

-Motion by Sauld to adjourn at 8:13 pm, second by Bellante. Motion passed 4-0.

**Note:** The next monthly meeting will tentatively be held at the Norway Town Hall on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting dates are subject to change. Consult **WLMD.org** for the latest information.