**McDill Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

 **April 7, 2016 Ben Franklin Junior High School**

**Board of Directors Present:** Krista Olson, Joe Blonigen, Dave Enerson, Marv Van Kekrerix, Mike Phillips and Dan Dobratz.

Special guests Arnie and Marty Wilke from the Central Sands Water Action Coalition were present.

President, Krista Olson called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

The Minutes of the February 16, 2016 meeting were read, moved for approval and approved.

**Central Sands Water Action Coalition:** The Wilkes made a presentation on the efforts of the Coalition. The Coalition started at Spring Lake of Waushara County and includes involvement of organizations from Portage, Waupaca and Wood Counties. Their focus is on high capacity wells effect on ground water and protecting ground water as a resource. They stated that others than large corporations, like dairy farms, need to be more vocal and involved in protecting ground water. They passed out several handouts about the Coalition, amount of withdrawal of ground water and recent efforts by the Wisconsin Legislature in protecting ground water. Portage County is shown to be the number 1 county for the amount of ground water withdrawal. The Coalition encourages passage of a Bill that will protect ground water for all. Krista asked if the Coalition is interested in also addressing level of nutrients in the ground water. The Coalition is not currently addressing nutrient levels in ground water, but is interested in gathering a listing of all issues. There is a need for a fair and balanced approach regarding not only the quantity of ground water use, but also quality. Jack Negaard asked whether County Boards are involved. It was stated that though Patty Dreier has held listening sessions, Portage County does not currently have a position regarding ground water, but it is being discussed. Krista stated the Coalition is also interested in surface waters. She asked whether the Lake District is interested in being a member of the Coalition. There was a motion made, seconded and approved that the McDill Lake District be a member of the Central Sands Water Action Coalition. Information on the Coalition can be found online at <http://centralsandswater.org/>.

**Treasurers Report:** Krista provided an update in David Quick absence. The larger expenditures since the last meeting were $1,690 for Workers’ Comp, $300 for a DNR Harvesting Permit, and $1,270 for Chemical treatment Permits. . Krista also stated that in a Budgeting seminar held at the 2016 Lakes Convention that the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership and UW Extension recommend that no more that 10% of an annual budget be for unallocated reserves. Our Lake District currently has in excess of that amount in unallocated reserves. Krista suggested we should think about designating portions of the reserves to certain activities to be within the 10% unallocated, in our next budget.

**Current Business:**

**Harvesting site, equipment and permit update:** The Lake District asked the city for a variance to allow fencing to secure the area and placement of a storage unit where the weed harvesters are located. The city suggested the use of a lockable trailer to store equipment at the site. Members of the Lake District suggested that there be a long term agreement with the city for use of the site or purchase the site before placing any fencing at the location. This would protect the Lake District from the city changing their mind in allowing use of the site by the Lake District. Krista and Mike Phillips have been in discussion with the city about the site and what can be place on the site. They agreed to work with the city to obtain such agreement for the protection of the Lake District. Krista said we are still in need of donations of a desk, etc for use of the weed harvesting crew and life jackets. Krista also stated that Center Point Marina, located at the former Reds Marine location, donated dock sections for use at the weed harvester site.

Then there was an update on the GPS units approved for purchase. Krista reported that she was concerned about the small size of the units in the estimate provided by Onttera for the weed harvest operators to be able to view the location of the weed harvester in operation. Also that estimate did not include training on use of the units or any service. The estimate from Service Motor Corp was for units with a larger screen, including training and service. It was questioned how often the DNR will request a download of the mapping information on weed harvesting from the GPS and whether the units in Service Motors estimate contained enough storage. It was agreed that representatives from the Lake District will meet with Scott Provost of the DNR in May to understand the requirements of the permit and work out the logistics to satisfy those requirements. There was a motion, seconded and approved by the Lake District members present to increase the expenditure to $7,600 for the purchase and training of the GPS units from Service Motors.

**Update on the Spring 2016 Chemical Treatment:** The cost to treat 51 acres of the Pond determined to contain EWM is estimated at $20,000. $16,000was budgeted for chemical treatment in 2016 and a grant was applied for to cover the remaining $4,000. Marv reported that the grant was not approved. It appears there is reduced funding available for such grants. Members discussed which areas not be chemically treated to be within budget. It was recommended that the EMW Survey performed be reviewed to determine the areas containing higher concentrations of EWM to be the focus for chemical treatment, within the $16,000 budget. A special meeting will be held by the Commissioners to review and determine the areas to be treated to be within the budget.

**Summer 2016 Weed Harvesting Staffing:** Kristapresented the names of 2 part-time weed harvester operators and one truck driver that were interviewed and recommended for approval by the Lake District. She also shared the names of Board and family members willing to serve as backups to the harvester operators and truck driver. There was a concern of a potential conflict of interest expressed with Board Members and their family members acting in this capacity. Therefore the Lake District approved the hiring of the 2 part-time weed harvester operators and truck driver, but not the use of Board Members or family members. As result, the Lake District is still in need of backup for the weed harvester operators and truck driver.

**Black Crappie Restocking Update:** Krista reported through the fund raising efforts by Rookies Bar $1,833 was raised for fish stocking. It was recommended that the funds be used to purchase 1,000 Black Crappie and 825 for stocking in McDill Pond.

**Dredging Project Update:** Dave Enerson and Mike Phillips provided an update. They discussed with Peters Construction the possibility of mechanically removing dredging material just downstream from the Patch Street Bridge and truck the material to a site near the disc golf course. This approach is thought to not require a core sample, will be less expensive and be more accessible for dredging more frequently. No additional action was taken at the meeting, as more information is being obtained.

**August 6, 2016 Paddle Poker Run and McDill Day Event:** It was reported the event is expected to be held from 11-4 pm for a cost of $10 for participants. Volunteers will be need for the events and signup sheets will be available for those to volunteer.

**Additional Topics:**

It was reported that as part of the Business 51 reconstruction, the Bridge over McDill Pond will be raised by 1 foot for additional clearance for boats passing under. There was a reminder that floating material can be picked up out of the Pond and that rooted vegetation can be removed within a 30 foot length of the shoreline in the riparian area around the dock. We were asked to make at least one small shoreline improvement and share by posting it to the Lake District Facebook. Water levels are being managed by the city of Stevens Point. That we should be patient with their management of the level. Also Lily Pads are encouraged to be planted in the Pond.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Blonigen, Secretary.