**Minutes of the McDill Lake District Commissioners Special Meeting**

 **6:30 PM Thursday September 1, 2016 Ben Franklin Library**

**Commissioners Present:** Krista Olson, Joe Blonigen, Dave Enerson, Bob Gifford and Mike Phillips.

Krista called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

**Review of the Dredging project:** Dave reported that the dredging of the silt trap was completed on time and under budget. Approximately 1800 cubic yards of material was removed from the silt trap. He recommended monitoring the fill rate of the silt trap by measuring the depth with depth finders periodically. The crane operator needed to avoid a submerged optical cable found in the area of the dredging, which made the dredging more difficult. The approach used for this dredging project will allow smaller scale dredging, more often than a large scale dredging project that performed in the past. Krista suggested that when we are updated by the DOT on the Business 51 Causeway reconstruction, we discuss the possibility of partnering with them on another dredging project, where they can haul and use the dredging material.

**Harvesting Update:** Krista reported that one of the truck drivers/harvest operators left for another job in mid-August. Greg Olson and Joe Blonigen assisted in harvesting and hauling of the weeds to make up for the shortage in an operator. It was mentioned that options to loading the weeds harvested into a trailer instead of the dump truck be looked into. The harvester operators currently need to move the weeds with a pitch fork to fill the dump truck, which is comber-some. The use of a trailer would not require the need for dump truck and therefore not the need for a driver with a CDL license. Joe and Rick were requested to look into options for hauling weeds. They were also asked to look into the addition of water sprayers to the weed harvester that has a water pump, to add funneling floating material into the weed harvester.

**Briefing on Aeration findings and Bathymetric Survey:** Krista reported that any aeration taking place needs at least one additional year to see any results. The success of the chemical treatment varied based on where the chemical drifted after application. Some areas showed more success where the chemical drifted into or was contained in that area. Also weeds covered with algae prevented the absorption of the Diquat by those plants. Options to removing the algae prior to the chemical treatment was mentioned as needed to improve the success of the chemical treatment. Krista also stated that a Bathymetric Survey was expected to start this fall and be completed in the spring of 2017. It was also mentioned the desire to place shallow area markers in 2 areas containing shallow water. This would be useful in warning boaters of these shallow areas and for visibility by the harvesting staff. She obtained an estimate of $356 for each marker and $145 for shipping. The $145 shipping costs could be avoided, if someone was willing to pick up the markers from the supplier, located in Milwaukee, WI.

The YTD Budget was not available at this meeting, so the Commissioners recommended delaying the next quarterly meeting to September 22nd to allow additional time for a proposed budget to be prepared. Krista will contact all of the Commissioners to confirm their availability for a September 22nd meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Blonigen, Secretary.