**Minutes of the McDill Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Quarterly Meeting**

 **6:30 PM Thursday December 8, 2016 Ben Franklin Junior High School Library**

**Board Members Present:** Krista Olson, Joe Blonigen, Dave Enerson, Bob Gifford, Mike Phillips

and Marv Van Kekrerix.

President Krista Olson called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Because guests were in attendance to make presentations, it was moved by Mike Phillips, seconded by Dave Enerson and approved unanimously that the minutes from the September 22, 2016 meeting not be read. Copies of the minutes were available to the Lake District Members present and are posted to the Lake District website.

**Presentation on McDill water and sediment analysis and recommendation:**  Kyle Herrman UWSP Associate Professor of Water Resources gave a presentation on the water and sediment sampling and testing performed on McDill Pond, with the help of students from UWSP. Water sampling were taken in the spring and fall since 2010 at the entrance and exit of McDill Pond. The results show dissolved oxygen to be well saturated, the water is moderately hard, conductivity is elevated, there were moderate levels of nitrate and nitrogen and total phosphorous is moderate. Those findings are states of a mesotrophic lake. The incoming water is considered mesotrophic, however the nitrogen to phosphorous levels exiting the Pond are elevated at 116:1 where 7:1 is considered normal, indicating phosphorous is entering the Pond and causing a problem.

Soil sampling had been taken at the Patch Street Bridge and downstream. The amount of organic matter found vary with the amount of water flow. Areas of higher water flow contained less organic matter than areas of shallow slower moving water. A non-utilized chemical, chloride was tested for both at the entrance and exit of the Pond. There was a 30-40% increase is chloride found in the water exiting the Pond, than entering. The increase in chloride is thought to come from surface runoff from property surrounding the Pond, therefore the increase in the amount of phosphorous is also thought to be coming from surface runoff. In conclusion, organic matter accumulates in areas of slow water flow. The amount of phosphorous present in the Pond is creating excessive aquatic plant growth. UWSP is looking into doing addition research to identify the sources of phosphorous entering the Pond. Buffer strips of natural vegetation, along the shoreline is encouraged, to filter chemicals from runoff entering the Pond.

**Business 51 Causeway Project Update:** 3 Representativesfrom the WI DOT provided an update on the Business 51 Causeway Project. A map of the site containing the proposed improvements was provided, as well, as a memorandum containing the construction schedule and description of the reconstruction of the Causeway. The DOT received input from both the DNR and McDill Lake District for consideration in the project. Construction is expected to start in July 2018, increasing the width of the Causeway 6-8 feet on the east side. There will be a 4 foot walkway from the bridge toward Minnesota Ave, intended to be low maintenance by containing natural vegetation. Sidewalks will exist on both sides of the roadway to the boat landing and on the east side to Minnesota Ave. The sidewalks will be wide enough for easier snow removal. The water level of McDill will not be lowered during construction and debris containment netting will be place along the Causeway affected by the construction. The bridge will be raised by one foot to allow greater clearance for boat traffic under the bridge. The navigational channel under the bridge is expected to be closed for short period of time, during the 2-3 day construction period for reconstruction of the bridge. The end of construction is expected to be in November 2019, where the roadway will be reduce to one lane in each direction, until completed. Upon completion ownership and maintenance of a portion of the roadway will be transferred to the Village of Plover, with the remainder and the boat landing transferred to the Village of Whiting. Discussions between the Village of Whiting and the McDill Lake District are expected, so there is an understanding on how the boat landing and improvements to the Causeway will be maintained.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Krista Olson reported that Treasurer Carrie Freeburg could not attend the meeting. That there were only two bills received, which were in the Budget approved at the October Annual Meeting.

**General Announcements:**

Krista reported there was a request to plant Wild Rice in the northern section of McDill Pond. The DNR was consulted and they stated not to plant Wild Rice, as it will just add to the excessive amount of vegetation in the Pond.

She also reported that the map approved by the DNR for aquatic weed harvesting is being amended and the GPS units for the Weed Harvesters will be updated with the amended map, prior to harvesting next year.

Krista stated a permit can be applied for at no cost to oil Goose eggs found in nest to help control the number of geese on the Pond. There was no interest by the Lake District Members present to pursue this permit.

A kayak was found by the Olson’s and are looking for the owner. The owner should contact Krista Olson. If the owner is not found by spring, it will be put up for sale, with the proceeds going to the Lake District.

AIS grants have been applied for by the McDill District in the past, however funding for such grants have been reduced and found that the grants are being awarded to larger lake districts. The members of the McDill District agreed that an AIS grant is no longer worth pursuing. There is no AIS grant funding in the current budget.

There is a CSWAC groundwater symposium scheduled for 7 PM on December 13 at the Plover Municipal Building.

**Shoreline Habitat Restoration:** Krista reported that the State Wisconsin established a ruling that a municipality cannot require shorelines requirements more strict than required by the state. Shoreline buffers of native vegetation can be encouraged by property owners through real estate tax credits or reduction in Lake District Assessments. The Lake District Members felt such credits should be from the county, as a reduction in a Lake District Assessment would reduce the income needed to cover expenses of the Lake District. It was also suggested we wait more information from UWSP on the sources of chemicals from runoff.

**Della Street Culvert:** Mike Phillips reported that the city of Stevens Point was approached regarding placing a culvert across Della Street, which is thought to improve the flow of water through the South Channel. He said the city is open to the idea, but engineers and the DNR would need to be contacted to explore the idea. Elevation of the site would need to be reviewed to determine, if there is enough slope to increase the flow out of the channel, into the Pond.

**Other Matters of interest:** There was a concern expressed about the number of signs located at the Heffron Street boat landing. It was recommended that the number signs be consolidated.

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for 6:30 PM on Thursday February 23, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM. Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Blonigen, Secretary.