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

 **Ben Franklin Junior High School September 15, 2015**

**Board of Directors Present:** Jack Negaard, Joe Blonigen, Dave Enerson, Tom Patterson, Mike Phillips and David Quick.

Jack Negaard called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

The minutes of the June 9th meeting were read and approved with the addition of Tom Patterson being present as a Board Member and that approximately 40 acres, instead 30 acres of McDill was to be treated.

**Treasure’s Report:** David Quick reported as of YTD September 15th expenses were at $72,315.19, compared to a Budget of $95,746.00. The main savings were in Payroll and amount spent on the Chemical Treatment. The Lake District has a balance of $144,255.08.

**Current Business:**

**Aquatic Plant Harvesting:** Jack reported that we are operating under a 3 year permit for weed harvesting. He shared a map of the areas allowed to be harvested. There was a complaint filed with the DNR regarding a weed harvester operating outside of that area. It was determined that the GPS to be used by the harvesting operators were not working. It was agreed that the GPS units need to be operating with updated software and training on their use before harvesting weeds in 2016. This should prevent harvesting from occurring outside of the area approved. Also any concerns regarding weed harvesting in the future are to be made directly to Scott Provost at the DNR. Schmidt Aquatics will code the GPS with the approved harvesting area. The Lake District will schedule the harvesting of weeds for 2016 in quadrants of the area approved for harvesting. Jack stated that he will no longer supervise the weed harvesting operation and there will need to be a Supervisor assigned for next year. It was recommended that a weed harvesting schedule be posted to the Lake District website, so members are aware on when harvesting is scheduled to be performed in their area. The Commissioners of the Lake District will meet with volunteers from the District to work on a plan for harvesting in 2016 to be presented to the DNR for approval.

Krista Olson reported that approximately 580 buckets of EWM were pulled by hand by Johnathan Olson, so far in 2015. She also recommended that a hand pulling event be held in August 2016 for additional removal of EWM. Jack reported that weed harvesters typically stop operation on September 15th, but will continue harvesting through this week.

Jack reported that between 40 and 45 acres of McDill Pond were chemically treated. The treatment was very successful, as confirmed by both the DNR and Schmidt Aquatics. Scott Provost recommended that chemical treatment continue annually.

**Healthy Shoreline Campaign:**  Krista reported that a Healthy Shoreline Campaign is underway to educate owners on McDill of management practices for their shoreline. Education materials were shown as being available. Property owners were asked to pledge on what they are willing to do to improve their shoreline.

**Dredge Committee:** Dave Enerson reported that 3 others, along himself and Mike Phillips form the Dredge Committee. Preliminary information containing an estimate in the volume intended to be dredged from the silt trap, how the dredging is to be performed and where the dredge material is to be disposed was submitted to the DNR. The cost for dredging has yet to be determined. After the proposal for dredging is approved, grants can be applied for covering up to 50% of the cost.

**Fertilizer Restriction Recommendation:** Krista presented a revised draft of the Resident Fertilizer Restriction, containing changes recommended at the June 9th District Meeting. Application of fertilizer are recommend by the Lake District to be no more than twice a year (spring and fall) and with soil testing encouraged to determine the need for fertilization. It is recommended that fertilizer be applied to satisfy the needs determined by a soil test. The restriction does not limit the application of weed killer, which can be applied, as needed. Krista shared the results of a nutrient study of McDill performed. The study shows that nitrogen is coming in from the groundwater. The restriction, though voluntary, is strongly recommended by the Lake District to reduce the amount of Nitrogen entering McDill through either the groundwater or direct runoff. The Fertilizer Restriction will be presented and voted on at the Annual Meeting to be held on October 13th.

**Lakeshore/Water Management:** Krista reported on options to harvest floating mats of aquatic material. Our harvesters are not allowed to harvest in shallow areas, because the paddle wheels that propel the harvesters stir up bottom sediment and EWM. Aquarius and Wee-doo both sell harvesters intended to skim floating material in shallow areas. She recommended the Lake District investigate the use of such harvesters.

**Fishery Update:** Jack stated that there was no update to report, but expects an update to be provided at the annual meeting. Tom said that the UWSP Intern Brett performed a sight survey. Also the SPASH Biology class is expecting to perform a fish survey of McDill.

**Commissioners Elections:** It was reported that the terms of Jack Negaard and Joe Blonigen would be up for election at the annual meeting. Krista Olson was also nominated for election as a Commissioner. Two out of the members nominated will be elected at the annual meeting as Commissioners.

The next quarterly Commissioners meeting is set for December 8, 2015 at 6:30 PM at Ben Franklin.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Blonigen Secretary