

LOWER SPRING LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT
2nd Quarter Meeting
March 23, 2019

Call to order:

Chairperson Carol Dixon called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Treasurer Vicki Bradford, Secretary Debby Bartolerio, and Kathy Weiss, Village of Palmyra President were present. Also in attendance, were 35 Lake District members and Village Attorney Stan Riffle.

Reading/Review of Minutes: Debby read the minutes from the January 19, 2019 1st Quarter meeting and the minutes from the Board Meeting held on March 6th. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Vicki reported the balance in the checking account was \$12,970.58 and the balance in the savings account \$22,637.09. The annual fee for the post office box of \$56.00 was paid and two deposits totaling \$3,916.56 were credited to the checking account. The Treasurers Report was filed.

Dam Repair Cost Discussion: Stan Riffle, Village of Palmyra Attorney, provided information relative to the uncertainty of the ownership of the dam and how the Village became the documented owner. He also explained the law that details how cost sharing is determined for projects undertaken by a municipality and what latitude is afforded the municipality when determining cost allocation. He also stated that the best estimate of the cost of the dam repair not covered by grant funds is between \$650,000 and \$800,000.

The Village Board determined at the March 18 meeting that the Village would pay 75% of the cost, and the remaining 25% would be a Special Assessment on the lake lot owners in the Village unless a contract with the Lake District is approved. The Special Assessment process would catalog all properties on the lake. Each single family lot, or lots with the ability to be a single family lot, is considered one unit. Each lot that has frontage but is not able to be built on is considered one half of a unit. There are 61 units identified around the whole lake, but the Special Assessment can only be imposed on the units within the Village. Should a Special Assessment occur, all affected property owners would receive proper notice, and the process required would be followed.

A second alternative, cost sharing relative to a contract with the Village, would include both Village and Town lake property owners. Additional questions regarding a contract with the Village involved whether to allocate the costs based on assessed value or a flat fee and whether it should be paid per owner or per "unit". Discussion also included using some of our Lake District funds to reduce the cost passed on to our membership, borrowing the money ourselves rather than through the Village, and the varying frontage water levels and access to the lake for some of the properties.

The membership informally indicated overwhelming approval for acceptance of a contract with the Village rather than a Special Assessment for only Village property owners. An official vote will take place at the annual meeting.

Chemical Treatment Update: Andrew Soles stated that it appears our application for the same treatment as last year is what will be allowed. 2, 4-D will be used for the finger bay, and Diquat for the same shoreline sections treated last year. Andrew also asked that the day before, the day of, and the day after the treatment, we refrain from activity so the water remains calm which will allow the treatment to be more successful.

Weed Harvesting Report: Jim Dixon reported that 640,000 pounds of weeds were removed last year. Wind and rain limit the days that the harvester can operate. Hiring a second operator has been suggested and approved. Jay Schultz is being interviewed for the position.

Questions relative to other options, including DASH and pursuing whole lake treatments again instead of hiring a second operator were presented. DASH costs were estimated at \$3,000 per day which would clear about one acre. The DNR has stated that whole lake treatments will not be approved in the future. Milfoil-eating weevils have been tried in the past, and a drawdown will be implemented this fall.

Clean Boats Clean Waters: Pat Zimmerman is organizing the volunteers for this program. The purpose of the program is to educate the public on how to reduce the spreading of various invasive species. She needs volunteers to sit at the boat launch. The schedule is very flexible, and it only requires one hour of training, which Pat will provide at your convenience. **Contact Pat if you can help at (414) 255-4046.**

Open Forum: Carol thanked Vicki Bradford for the 7 1/2 years she served as Lake District Treasurer, appointed Debby Bartolerio as the new Treasurer, and introduced Jody Deichl as the new Secretary. She also welcomed Greg Smith as the new Weed Harvesting Coordinator, replacing Jim Dixon. Because Greg will be busy with this job, we need a new person to take responsibility for water sampling and temperature measuring.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be our annual meeting when we will be approving a budget after voting on which cost sharing option to adopt. The meeting date has been set for June 22nd.

Adjournment: At 12:02, a motion to adjourn was made by Bill Alveshire and seconded by Al Fehrmann.