

LOWER SPRING LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

4<sup>TH</sup> QTR YEAR END MEETING MINUTES

11/6/2021

Village Hall, Palmyra WI

Board Members Present: L. Plennes, D. Bartolerio, J. Deichl, K. Weiss, W. Christensen

In Attendance: B. Alveshire, J. Dixon, C. Dixon, S. Deichl, S. Reynertson, A. Watkinson

The meeting was called to order at 10:00. Arthur Watkinson was introduced as the new DNR representative for the Lower Spring Lake District.

**MINUTES**

An update to the July 24, 2021 minutes was made under the Chemical Treatment Report. It states: *C&J Dixon submitted the chemical treatment application on 4/20/2021. Nine acres were requested. Chemical treatment was applied to finger bay and shoreline in late May. Dismal results obtained. Lake District very disappointed and unhappy with less than favorable results of chemical treatment. Hope to discuss additional/different options for weed control at future meetings.*

Minutes from the August 28<sup>th</sup> were read by J. Deichl. Motion made to approve the July 24<sup>th</sup> change and August 28<sup>th</sup> minutes as stated was made by B. Alveshire and second' by D. Bartolerio.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

D. Bartolerio stated that the budget is dismal. The Lake District is considerably over budget on weed harvesting labor and gas/diesel expenses. An increase to the 2022 budget had been made to allow for additional time, help and gas/diesel fuel.

Balance in the checking account = \$1,628.20. Balance in the saving account = \$33,401.31.

Money will be transferred from savings to checking to cover harvesting overages. The tax revenue discrepancy noted in the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes has been rectified and a check has been issued to the Lake District.

**AQUATIC PLANT SURVEY/CHEMICAL TREATMENT**

In the absence of P. Cicero & M. Ulman, L. Plennes gave an overview of the aquatic plant survey. She noted that there was significant weed/plant growth and all points have increased. Since 2017 there has been an increase in aquatic growth with little treatment ability. Several new weeds that had not been present before had been identified. Weeds are growing 2-3" a day as conditions were favorable. There has been no new research due to COVID in the last two years. A. Watkinson noted that many lakes are in the same weed choked condition. Collaboration with local farmers (to work on soil erosion and run off) as well as a joint venture with other surrounding counties was mentioned as another option to help with weed control. A. Watkinson will check with surrounding areas to see if there is interest in a joint venture.

C. Dixon presented a map of the proposed area to be chemically treated. Cost would be approximately \$3,820.00. If continuous treatment and treatment for curly leaf, cost would be approximately \$5,970.00 for about 7.5 acres. Curly leaf was noted to be very prevalent in mid-summer which was unusual, as

well as lilly pads growing in the middle of the lake. A Watkinson acknowledged our frustration and stated he is willing to help going forward. He noted that the DNR is revising rules in order to provide more consistent support.

### **DRAWDOWN/FISH STOCKING**

C. Dixon provided a fish stocking spreadsheet as well as a fish survey of the different species found. It was noted that fish stocking has been done every year from 1995 thru 2019. The fish survey done in 2021 shows a significant increase in the number of fish sampled compared to 2016. Could the drawdown have helped with that increase?

The Lion's Fisheree will be held on January 22, 2022. After the fisheree, L. Plennes will approach the Lion's Club to inform them of the proposed drawdown at the end of 2022. Once they have been informed, she will meet approach the village for the proper permits to proceed.

### **WATER TESTING**

In the absence of G. Smith, L. Plennes stated the water clarity was tested on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. Both days the water was clear 8 feet down. G. Smith has agreed to do the water testing for 2022.

### **WEED HARVESTING REPORT/HARVESTER REPORT**

L. Plennes reported there were 163 harvester loads and 61 truckloads of weeds last year.

This year, she reported there were 685 harvester loads and 196 truckloads. THAT'S A LOT OF WEEDS!!!! The farmer has agreed to accept the weeds again for the 2022 harvesting season.

We experienced minimal repairs on the harvester and downtime was basically weather related ie. too windy or unfavorable conditions during the cutting season. The harvester has been pulled from the water and sent to Inland for modification of the cutter bars, washdown pump and other minor tweaks. The truck is in need of repairs and L. Plennes is obtaining estimates.

The Village has asked the Lake District to look into other options for insuring the harvester. Currently the village carries the insurance on the harvester. L. Plennes will obtain estimates and W. Christianson will check on how other lakes handle the insurance on their harvesters. More discussion will take place before any decisions will be made. Painting of the harvester will most likely be done in early spring. The pier and buoys have been removed for the winter.

A. Watkinson will set up a meeting with the harvester co-chairs along with P. Cicero and M. Ulman to compose a cut map for 2022.

### **OPEN POSITIONS**

Upcoming open positions – co-chair harvester coordinator position is open.

Chairperson for the Lake District position will also be open later in the year. If you are at all interested in either of these positions, please contact one of the board members.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 10:00 at the Village Hall.

Motion to adjourn was made by W. Christiansen and second' by S. Reynertson

Meeting adjourned at 11:15.