

Lower Spring Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Special Board Meeting

October 21, 2016 Minutes

Call to Order: President Carol Dixon called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Treasurer Vicki Bradford, and Secretary Debby Bartolerio were also present.

Weed Harvesting Survey Results and Discussion:

The satisfaction results indicated that a plan to improve harvesting operations should be considered.

A review of the hours spent in 2016 revealed that between 6/16 and 9/8 an average of 12-13 hours weekly was devoted to weed harvesting, disposal, and the related maintenance of the harvester. No harvesting occurred between 7/28 and 8/11.

As requested, Sue Graham from the DNR provided information relative to the management of weeds using mechanical harvesting equipment. A study at Lake Mendota showed that re-growth after monthly cutting is significantly reduced after three cuttings. It also stated that the removal of the biomass prevents the utilization of oxygen during the decay and recycling of the nutrients associated with the plants.

Carol researched the possibility of obtaining additional training from Inland Lake Harvesters to ensure we are being efficient and getting the best results from our machine. They would provide only a full day training option for \$1,250. This possibility was eliminated because of the cost.

Since Jim Dixon has operated a number of harvesting machines, it was decided that we ask him if he will train the current operator with Al Fehrmann's assistance. Also, a document of expectations will be prepared to clarify the job requirements and desired outcomes.

Carol will meet with Al and share the results of the harvesting survey and the steps going forward. The survey summary and general comments will be presented at the next Lake District meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.