

LAKE EAU CLAIRE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes:

June 10, 2020: 6:00pm @ Bridge Creek Town Hall

S9515 State Road 27, Augusta Wi 54722

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Lea at 6:00 pm

1. Roll call: Joe Bechtel

Members present: Mike Lea, Dean Boehne, Joe Bechtel, Gary Gibson, Bruce Logterman (6:25 arrival)

Members absent None

Also present: Marlo Orth, Fred Poss, Joe Vydral

2. Minutes of January 8, 2020

Motion by Gary Gibson for January 8, 2020 minutes accepted as printed. Motion carry 4-0.

3. Treasurers report: Dean Boehne presented and walked-thru the financial report for Jan-May 2020.

It was discussed that EC County has allocated \$75k in the 2020 budget for lake projects. It is intended to be split between Lake Eau Claire and Lake Altoona. Therefore, match funds for 2020 will be \$37,500 is eligible for LEC. Lake Altoona has until fall 2020 to submit project(s) for allocation. It has been said that if Altoona does not utilize their ½ than LEC can have access to the other \$37,500. Nothing has been submitted as of this meeting.

Motion by Joe Bechtel for Treasure Report to be accepted as printed. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Public Comment

Fred inquired if the EC County Board is having any discussion related to lake fun allocation? Suggested potential benefits to create a “group/committee” to testify at public comment sessions or hearings? IT was suggested to look at EC County website to determine meeting schedule and how they are handling public comment during this time. Fred volunteered to attend.

Marlo is looking to hang original Lake EC Dam dedication documents at LEC County Clubhouse.

Targeting day of LECA annual meeting if it occurs in typical fashion.

5. Bills: Dean Boehne

Dean mentioned the following items:

- Krueger Excavating in the amount of \$33,945
- Land surveys in the amount of \$1,316 (Topo surveys for 2-sites, Gravel Pit and Trouble Waters)
- EC Energy for \$806
- Aeration system required couple seals to be replaced \$100 or less. This fall the aeration pump will require oil filter and oil change est.\$1000

Gary Gibson made motion to accept bills, motioned carried 5-0.

6. Dredging Report: Mike Lea

Trap statistics:

- Trouble Waters trap – 17,840 cubic yards of sediment was removed from this trap over the winter. This is the most ever removed from this trap. Total cost of \$141,471
- Gravel Pit – 9,974 cubic yards of sediment was removed from this trap over the winter. Total cost of \$59,645
- Muskrat Creek – 2,103 cubic yards of sediment was removed. Total cost of \$12,786.
- Hay Creek – 1,944 cubic yards of sediment removed for a cost of \$14,521

Future trap sediment removal for this next dredging season will likely have some limitations based on level of EC County funding. Trap priorities will be Muskrat Creek, Hay Creek, Trouble Waters, Gravel Pit.

Mike is looking at leveraging some grants that are offered as alternative of funds that will be limited in this next year. Mike discovered a reservoir company that has some interest in what we are doing on LEC. Working through initial discussions, we will see if it produces an outcome.

Additionally, Mike is looking specifically at a DNR grant targeted for boat landings. Skid Row boat launch might qualify and could get some matching fund options to get discussions going. However, the overall Skid Row project will need a lot of funds and the effort is bigger than just the boat launch.

Comments were made that we need to increase our overall networking with the EC County committee members.

7. Lake Management Plan Director Report (Rod Zika)

Rod Zika provided board members with a report. Report was reviewed.

Fred Poss commented on Fishing Habitat. He indicated some of the older fish cribs are showing distress (branches missing and such). Fred also mentioned that it is difficult to know how much branch material we will receive for new traps and volunteer levels vary greatly. Fred is looking to potential distribute a

“flyer” to alert lake home/cabin owners and also look to speak at the annual meeting to look for new group of volunteers.

8. Discussion of 2021 Budget (Mike Lea)

Mike provided document outlining suggested 2021 budget.

The biggest unknown is EC County cost sharing amount (revenue) and sediment trap/dredging volumes (expense). Water events drive trap filling levels of course so we all hope for a “normal” year. In addition, we do not know what funding level the LECA will offer this year. Fund raising will be difficult for them due to COVID-19 situation.

We suggested setting \$100k for EC County cost sharing and \$200k sediment removal expense.

9. Lake Eau Claire Protection and Rehabilitation District Annual meeting details (Mike Lea)

- Date: August 15th, 2020 at 10:00AM
- Augusta Lions Hall has been reserved.
- Voting must be in-person. No other option based on bylaws.
- Current gathering limits are 50 people indoor and 100 outdoor.
- No tables will be setup.
- Chairs will be optional and offered to those who have physical limitations.
- Will be executed in a swift pace.
- Face coverings and hand sanitizer will be available and plexiglass for Vicki Reed which will be doing registration.
- Ballot casting procedures will be handled in no contact fashion.
- Screening statement will be posted.
- Entry and Exit flow will be specific.

10. Lake Eau Claire Association update (Lori Bechtel)

Lori provided update to Joe Bechtel which he presented at meeting.

- Lake Management Plan update effort is complete.
- 4th of July fireworks and boat parade are still on schedule and will occur.
- Fundraising efforts will likely be lower this year than last. (Calendar, golf outing, sponsors/memberships, corn-hole tourney, gun raffles, and few other smaller events are planned.

11. Other Business

Gary mentioned that the Town of Ludington pays a \$300 annual maintenance for the emergency siren that was installed at the site of the aeration system on Lake EC. Recently the Township received a bill for nearly \$3,000 for a pole replacement due to woodpecker destroying original pole. Would the Lake District or Association be willing to make a donation back to Town of Ludington in a cost-sharing effort?

It was decided to initiate discussion with Lake Association and determine potential next steps. It was also noted that there was \$2,000 originally provided to Town of Ludington for maintenance purposes. Of course, this will be extinguished with the pole replacement. It was intended to cover the \$300 annual expense for several years. Action TBD.

12. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting

Next meeting August 15th, 2020 10:00AM at Augusta Lions Hall – Annual Meeting

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm