

# **LAKE EAU CLAIRE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT**

## **Annual Meeting Minutes**

**August 15, 2015: 10:00AM @ Augusta Lions Hall**

**200 East Lincoln Street, Augusta, Wi 54722**

### **1. Call to Order and Welcome: Marlo Orth – District President**

- Marlo Orth called to order the Annual Meeting and welcomed all for attending and thanked everyone for their support and participation.
- The work completed on Lake Eau Claire has been recognized by the State of Wisconsin for its accomplishments.
- Thank Lions Club and John Selz for their assistance with this meeting
- Reviewed the obligation of the Board and the membership of their need to work in collaboration for the success of the Lake District. The Lake Owners are in control of our success, and it is the job of the Board to assist with accomplishing these goals.
- Marlo reminded all that State of Wi Statutes supersede all By Laws and will be adhered to at all times.

### **2. Minutes of August 16, 2014: Mike O'Connor – District Secretary**

- Copies of minutes were made available to all participants, and Board will read minutes if requested.
- Motion to approve minutes: Arvin Boetcher
- 2<sup>nd</sup> motion: Rod Zika
- Approved: voice vote.

### **3. Treasurer's Report: Dean Boehne - District Treasurer**

- Presentation by Dean Boehne with Financial Statement
- Motion to approve Treasurer's Report subject to audit: Joe Hisrich
- 2<sup>nd</sup> motion by voice vote: Vicki Reed
- Approved: voice vote

### **4. Audit Report: Dean Boehne**

- Dean Boehne presented a review of the current audited 2014 Year Ending District Financial Report.

- Dean read audit report letter from auditor, Tammy Moss, Bridge Creek Treasurer
- No Motion is required for this presentation.

#### **5. Lake Association Presentation: Fred Poss**

- Presentation by Fred Poss, Lake Association President thanked everyone for their participation and help.
- The Triathlon Fund Raiser met its projected financial goals, and recognition was given to Vicki Reed for her support and leadership.
- The first inaugural Golf Tournament fund raiser was a great success and the Lake Association plans to continue this tournament next year.
- These fund raisers are needed and used to pay for the aeration site property and other expenses needed to support lake rehabilitation projects.
- Fred Poss recognized Rod Zika and Marlo Orth for their significant contributions to Lake Eau Claire.

#### **6. Reports:**

##### **a. Aeration System: Rod Zika**

- Rod provided brief history of the process to set up the aeration system and why this system was required to improve the water quality of Lake Eau Claire. The aeration system provides 15 submerged aeration pods connected to a compressor used to pump air into the lake to change and improve the quality of the water by changing the chemical make-up of the water. The amount, flow and control of air flowing through these pods is controlled by a compressor located in the aeration building on the north side of the lake.

##### **b. Fish Cribs: Fred Poss**

- Fred thanked all of the volunteers who have assisted now and in the past with the construction, and installation of 167 fish cribs.
- Walleye tags are available through the Lake Association (cost-\$150.00) to track activities of walleye in Lake Eau Claire.
- DNR has stated that the fish cribs have contributed to a 300% increase in the fish population.
- Will continue to study use of the shallow cribs with the DNR and the possibility of installing deep water cribs now that the aeration system is in place and functioning up to expectations.
- Eau Claire County staff has stated how impressed they are with the level of cooperation and support provided by the Lake owners and friends.

**c. Tree Drops: Robin Walsh**

- Robin explained the process of selecting and completing the tree drop process and how these approximately 50 trees will be secured to the lake banks.
- This process is accomplished with volunteers under the direction of the DNR and their staff. The DNR staff will cut trees and drill holes to secure with cable to the stump of the tree.
- The tree drops were confined to County land to avoid potential problems with dropping trees on private land.
- Coarse woody habitat is required for successful fish proliferation and results can be observed within hours of a tree drop.
- Robin also promoted the new Eau Claire River Coalition that is just beginning to form to improve conditions throughout the entire Eau Claire River watershed.

**d. Cleaning of Trouble Waters Bridge trap and Gravel Pit trap: Marlo Orth**

- Marlo presented the success and cost savings of cleaning these traps during the winter months.
- The DNR supervised and approved the cleaning process and how little negative affect the cleaning process had on the river banks and clarity of the river water.
- 10,700 cubic yards were removed from the TWBT at a cost of \$99,800.
- 5,900 cubic yards were removed from the GPT at a cost of \$29,900.

**7. 2015-2017 Lake Management Plan: Rod Zika**

- **Part 1 - Aeration System:** Began June 3, 2015 and will now be ongoing with monitoring and compressor system maintenance. A pontoon and dock will be required for effective maintenance of the aeration system.
- **Part 2 – Fishery Habitat:** As explained and now ongoing with cribs and tree drops. The amount of cribs projected cribs to be installed is 500 cribs, and we are now on course to meet this goal. Tree drops are to be completed later this year.
- **Part 3 – Sediment Erosion:** The Eau Claire River is influence by 3 separate flood plains with Hay Creek and Muskrat Creek watersheds have a negative impact on water quality with farm run off. Installing traps at Hay Creek and Muskrat Creek is recommended, but present a challenge because of accessibility and wet land restrictions. High water incidents have had a significant impact on the 2 main sediment traps; TWBT and GPT. These primary critical traps have proven their worth in these high water incidents with the amount of sand trapped and the river depth since the installation of these traps. High water events cannot be predicted and will have an impact on sand trap cleaning in the future, and ability

to clean out traps will be affected by available funds. Rod also reviewed other trap sites that could be installed with ideal spoils sites in close proximity. Maps of sedimentation loads were made available at the meeting.

- **Part 4 – Reconnectivity:** Identified as the primary reason for ongoing DNR support as this project provides improved access and restoration of wetlands. Further discussion and planning will be ongoing to seek financial assistance to proceed with this large extensive project.

**8. 2016 Proposed Budget: Dean Boehne**

- Presented District Financial Statement to support the District Board's recommended 2016 Budget revenue and expenditures.
- Dean presented Proposed Budget based on 1.75 Mill Rate for revenue.

**9. Proposed corresponding tax levy to meet the budget by Lake District Board: Marlo Orth**

- The 1.75 mil rate is recommended by the Board to be approved in the 2016 Proposed Annual Budget.
- Mil Rate Vote results based on a written secret ballot: 26 members voted for 1.75 Mil Rate and 17 members voted for 1.50 Mil Rate.
- 1.75 Mil Rate levy approved for 2016 Budget.

**10. Elect one commission for three year term:**

- Dean Boehne was nominated by Vicki Reed for open Board of Commissioners position.
- No other nominations.
- As a result of a written secret ballot, Dean Boehne was voted in for a 3 year term

**11. Other Business:**

- A proposal to install a storm warning siren on Lake Eau Claire and managed by Eau Claire County was presented by Mike Lee.
- The proposal was created by Lauren Lee as a scouting project.

**12. Motion to destroy the ballots: Marlo Orth**

- Motion to destroy ballots: Fred Poss
- 2<sup>nd</sup> motion: Mike O'Connor
- Motion approved: voice vote

**13. Date and time for next year's annual meeting (Suggest August 20, 2016 10:00am at Augusta Lions Hall, 200 East Lincoln Street, Augusta, WI 54722).**

- Motion to accept recommended Annual Meeting date, time, and place: Marlo Orth
- Approved: voice vote

**14. Adjourn:**

- Marlo Orth