

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held April 5, 2007 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Jana Charvat, Tom Purvis and Joyce Ketchpaw

Also Present: Bob Rice & Dympna Purvis

Chairman Bonneau called the meeting to order shortly after 6:30pm. It was decided to follow the same format as last year for the agenda for the Special Meeting to be held on May 12.

1. Call To Order.
2. Sign-In/Introductions.
3. District Reports (Report on water clarity ; talk about stewardship of dam – management, maintenance, comment on lake level and dam control; talk about position of buoys and protection of shallow water by shoreline;)
4. Lake Projects

Report by Kathy Aron
(Kathy will be at meeting by 9:00am)
(ask Kathy to address the possibility of planting natural vegetation)

5. Old Business.
(parachute jump on July 4 will not be pursued due to liability and safety issues)
6. New Business.
(investigating new sign at boat launch; volunteers for Clean Boats program; possibility of charging launch fees at the boat launch; check on interest in Potters Lake maps for residents; discuss using District's storage shed area for residents to park their boat trailers during the summer months; discuss any issues brought up by residents)
7. Upcoming Meetings/Events:
 - A. Boat Parade – Saturday June 30 at 7:30pm
 - B. Lighting of the Lake – Saturday June 30 at 9:00pm and Wednesday July 4 at 9:00pm
 - C. Annual Meeting – September 8, 2007
Budget Meeting:10:00am
Annual Meeting:10:30am
 - D. District Picnic – after meeting

(Bob Rice will sell flares; 17 cases of flares will be ordered; discuss option of organizing a pontoon tie-up in the middle of the lake on July 4 to watch fireworks; decide on theme for boat parade; discuss time for lighting of the lake;)

Dympna will call the East Troy Town Hall and reserve the room for May 12. Jana will bring coffee. Barry will bring paper goods. Tom & Dympna will bring snacks.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Purvis
Secretary

**Minutes of the 2007 Special Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held
Saturday, May 12, 2007 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.**

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Jana Charvat, Tom Purvis and Robert Mueller

Also Present: 23 Electors, Kathy Aron (Consultant) and Kevin Fischer (State Senator Lazich's office)

Chairman Bonneau called the meeting to order at 8:35am.

Potter's Lake resident, Robert Seipel was introduced as the new volunteer Lake Ambassador. Rob has put together a packet of information to give to new district residents to welcome them to our lake. He is in the process of distributing them to the new residents. Anyone who knows of someone who needs a "welcome packet" should contact Rob or one of the commissioners.

Our aquatic consultant, **Kathy Aron**, from Aron & Associates, reported on the condition of Potter's Lake. This is the final year of our grant and permit for whole lake treatment. Curly-leaf pondweed is growing on the south shore, and if it continues to spread, the weed harvester may need to be reactivated next year to keep it under control. Native plants have not been seen as yet. Milfoil has not been spotted but could show up at any time. Residents should notify a commissioner if they see milfoil and if possible mark the spot with a GPS. **Hydrilla** is the new invasive weed threat to our lake. It is very aggressive and the only known method of control is chemical treatment. Hydrilla is only spread by boat traffic so we need to be vigilant in keeping our boat launch area clean. Residents are also encouraged to rake weeds out of the water along their shoreline. It is difficult to identify Hydrilla as it is similar in appearance to the native plant Elodea. Hydrilla information can be found on the DNR website, www.dnr.wi.gov. Kathy will consult an aquatic plant biologist to recommend native plants for our lake. We will apply to the DNR for a permit to plant natives and additional chemical treatment if needed next spring. Our current permit covers lake monitoring and spot chemical treatment for the remainder of this year. Kathy also said that we have a large carp population in Potter's lake and she advised that something be done to eradicate it. A "carp out" as well as a summer long carp fishing contest was discussed.

Commissioner **Barry Bonneau** gave information on pending state legislation regarding increased boat registration fees, new requirements for children to wear PFD's on boats, and pier restrictions. Check with DNR for current rules.

Bob Mueller, Town of East Troy Chairman and appointed commissioner to the board of the Potter's Lake P & R District addressed the residents regarding the need to protect our water resources. He explained that the Town of East Troy is in the planning stage of developing a "water protection" ordinance in an effort to prevent an increase in the digging of shallow wells which have the greatest adverse impact on surface water supply. Although neighboring lakes, Beulah, Potters, Phantom and Booth are all in different water sheds, the Town Board suggests an alliance of lake districts with the town of East Troy to protect our waters. Bob explained how current law affords more political power to a village than a town. The Town of East Troy has the Village of East Troy on one side and the Village of Mukwonago on the other side. So a village may expand as it likes without considering the wishes of a neighboring town, gaining from increased development while forcing neighboring towns to absorb the additional costs of services. The State Legislature has a bill in committee allowing the formation of Charter Towns to give more equitable rights to towns, but it is not likely to be voted on anytime soon. Residents are encouraged to contact their state representatives and become involved in local politics. Board meetings for the Town of East Troy are held on the second Monday of each month in the Town Hall.

Kevin Fischer (State Senator Lazich's office) agreed with Bob Mueller that the chance of any action on the passage of a Charter Town bill is slim to none. According to Kevin the State Legislature is too busy at the moment trying to figure out a budget.

District resident, **Mike Chier** encouraged people to volunteer for the Clean Boats/Clean Waters program. He explained how the program works to educate boaters and prevent invasive species being introduced into our lake. A sign-up sheet was passed around at the meeting. If you are interested in the program, contact a commissioner.

Independence Day Celebrations – the boat parade to be held on Saturday June 30 at 7:30pm will begin at the boat launch. A vote was taken to choose the theme for the Boat Parade and the winner was **America the Melting Pot** but it was agreed that traditional patriotic decorations were also welcome and whenever possible we would honor our military forces. Bob Rice volunteered to sell flares for the Lighting of the Lake on Saturday and Wednesday. Additional flares were ordered. Flares are \$5 each, or 3 for \$10. Volunteers will bring the flares door-to-door on Saturday June 30 only, so everyone will need to buy enough for two days. It was decided that it would be fun to have a **Pontoon Tie-Up** in the middle of the lake on Wednesday July 4th to view the flares lighting on shore and see local fireworks.

Commissioner **Jana Charvat** is working on improved signage for the boat launch to display boating rules and Clean Boats/Clean Waters information. The new sign will be erected in a more noticeable area.

Jana reported that the DNR plans to re-pave the boat launch but no date has been set for the work. The DNR will give two weeks notice before shutting down the launch to complete the repair. We will send emails and post the notice on the Potters lake website as soon as we know the date.

Interest was expressed by residents of the District to use the open area behind the storage shed on Highway L for parking boat trailers during the summer months. The Board of Commissioners will investigate the idea.

Residents on Shorewood Drive are interested in planting trees on the triangle of land across from the boat launch. They will pursue the matter with the property's owner, the Shorewood Property Owners Association.

Commissioner **Jana Charvat** asked for response to the idea of forming a Ski Group for residents interested in being on a list of skiers willing to join neighbors looking for "a third". Those interested should contact Jana or send an email to mail@potterslake.org Interest was also expressed in having a temporary slalom course set up at certain times during the week and the commissioners will check into it.

Social Time – it was decided that a good way for residents on the lake to get to know each other and have some fun would be to meet on Friday evenings at 7:30pm in the middle of the lake for a Pontoon Tie-Up. We will start as soon as the weather cooperates and people can come when they can.

Meetings –the annual meeting and picnic will be held Saturday September 8, 2007.

There being no further business, on proper **MOTION**, the Special Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Purvis
Secretary

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held August 11, 2007 at Town Hall, N9330 Stewart School Road, East Troy, Wisconsin.

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Jana Charvat, Tom Purvis and Joyce Ketchpaw

Also Present: Dympna Purvis

Chairman Bonneau called the meeting to order shortly after 8:30am. It was decided to follow the same format as last year for the agenda for the Annual Meeting to be held on September 8.

1. Approval of Minutes – 2006 Annual Meeting

2. Treasurer's Report:

Jana will print a new budget and email it for the notice. Barry will investigate the reason for the increase in the cost of the insurance renewal. Funds on reserve will be used to cover the expenses of weed control permits, possible chemical treatment or harvesting needed next year, possible expenses related to the maintenance of the dam and in the event an opportunity becomes available to purchase land important to the management of the lake.

3. Report by Kathy Aron:

Kathy will complete a plant survey of the lake and give an update on lake conditions.

4. Commissioners' Report:

Discussion of the idea of using the open area behind the District's storage building for parking boat trailers. Zoning needs to be checked to see if such use would be allowed. Joyce will investigate with Walworth County officials and Barry will contact Bob Mueller at the Town. Feedback on a Resident Directory was positive. Dympna will have a simple 8 1/2 x 11 booklet printed and available for handout at the Annual Meeting.

The board will investigate the purchase of stronger weights for the slow/no-wake buoys as our current ones have not remained in place and some are broken. Joyce will check on the requirement of a permit for buoy placement.

5. Old Business:

DNR inspected the dam and requested clean-up of weeds and dirt in the area before issuing a permit. The work has been done and the paperwork should be completed shortly.

Jana has talked to the DNR about a new boating rules sign at the boat launch and has their approval. Tom will get pricing for a 4x4 sign. Joyce suggested that the Ordinance be written on the sign to make it more official.

6. New Business

A. The District's by-laws have been reviewed by an attorney and amended in accordance with current laws. The changes will be listed on the Annual Meeting notice and district residents will need to vote at the meeting to adopt the changes.

B. Resolutions:

1. Annual Meeting - set date for next year for Sept. 6, 2008
2. Depository – stay with Citizens Bank of Mukwonago
3. Annual Budget - Operations
4. Annual Budget - Weed Control
5. District Borrowing Limit
6. Application for Grant

C. Election of One Commissioner - The term of Tom Purvis will expire December 31, 2007.

An election will be held to fill this three-year term. Jana and Barry will talk to residents and seek nominations to be put on the meeting notice. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor on the day of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Purvis
Secretary

Minutes of the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, September 8, 2007 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Jana Charvat, Tom Purvis and Joyce Ketchpaw

Also Present: 35 Electors. Guests : Kathy Aron and Senator Mary Lazich

Chairman Bonneau called the Annual Meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

On proper **MOTION** Minutes of the 2006 Annual Meeting were approved as presented.

The Treasurer reported that the District has assets of \$264,214.99 in certificates of deposit, savings, and checking. The District has no outstanding liabilities. Net income for the year to date is \$41,558.31. At the Budget Hearing prior to the Annual Meeting the Treasurer (Jana) explained that an error had been made in calculating last year's total assets due to Accrual vs. Cash methods of accounting plus the inclusion of interest on the CD that was not yet earned. All corrections have now been made and Jana invited any District resident to review the books at anytime. The Board proposed that an accounting firm be hired to prepare an audit of the books this year and will inquire with local firms. It was noted that Grant money will expire this year. The District may need to use the harvester next year to cut weeds and may also need to chemically treat for weeds. Funds are kept in reserve for this purpose and also to be prepared for land purchase that would benefit the District.

On proper **MOTION**, the Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

The Commissioners welcomed **Kathy Aron**, from Aron & Associates, to provide an update regarding the whole-lake treatment, water quality, and other lake-related matters. Kathy reported that Milfoil is back in our lake and growing densely in water less than five feet all around the lake but especially off the south shore area. Kathy contacted the DNR several weeks ago, immediately after detecting the growth of milfoil as our current weed control permit **requires** us to treat the milfoil once it is found. However, due to a change in the DNR staffing the current person in charge, having conducted an inspection of the lake, made the decision that treatment was not necessary for the "few" plants that were found. Kathy explained to the confused residents that although we had a "permit" to chemically treat the weeds we still needed final approval from the DNR for each treatment and that decision was at the discretion of the individual in charge at the time. The DNR representatives agreed to meet at the lake again on Friday September 14 to access the current milfoil condition and possibly approve immediate treatment. Kathy said it would be best to treat now and then again in Spring.

Senator Mary Lazich addressed the meeting and expressed her concern for the way the DNR is responding to the District's effort to control weeds on our lake. She is willing to intervene on our behalf and will contact the DNR on Monday to share her concern with them. If more pressure is needed to influence the DNR the board will distribute the senator's email address and phone number to the residents for their input.

In 2008 the District will apply for both a harvesting permit and a chemical application permit which will keep all of our options open. Samples of lake weeds were passed around the room. We have an increase in Curly Leaf Pondweed which is not good but also Sago Pondweed which is good in deep water. Hydrilla has not been found in the lake but we need to keep checking for it as it is very aggressive and worse than milfoil. It is only brought into a lake by boats and trailers coming from infected lakes. There is evidence that native plants are becoming established in the lake and that is good for water clarity as the plants use nutrients making them unavailable for algae. Kathy will send an email to follow up on the meeting with the DNR about treating the Milfoil.

Commissioners' Report:

Jana has contacted the DNR about replacing signage at the public boat launch and they have no objection. She proposes including boating rules with clean water/clean boats information in a more concise, easy-to-read format in bright yellow that could not be ignored by boaters. This proposal was approved by electors. DNR has not given any more information on the proposed resurfacing of the parking lot at the boat launch.

Discussion was held on the present Slow/No-wake restriction on Potter's Lake due to high water levels. Barry explained that the restriction was imposed by the Town but that the District could make a request to have it removed when we feel it is no longer required. Most residents agreed that the restriction was necessary to protect

the shoreline but had questions about informing boaters and enforcement. The suggestion was made to post the Slow/No-Wake restriction notices on street signs (stop signs etc.) around the area of the lake so that they would be seen by all residents. The District will work with the Town on improving the process of notification for any future restrictions. Residents were advised to call the East Troy Town Police to report any violations on the lake as they are the enforcement agency for the district. A request was made to lift the Slow/No-Wake restriction effective immediately but after further discussion it was agreed that it would be in the best interest of the lake to continue the restriction until after the inspection for milfoil is completed by the DNR.

On proper **MOTION** and by unanimous vote of the electors, authority was granted to the Board to make the decision on when to lift the ban.

Bob Rice showed samples of water with and without the addition of phosphorous lawn fertilizer for a dramatic exhibition of how these fertilizers contaminate our lake. Discussion followed on better methods of treating lawns without the use of phosphorous.

An inquiry was made about restrictions on vehicles driving on ice-bound lakes in Walworth County. The board will investigate the current ordinances in effect by the Town and the County.

A Directory of District Residents has been compiled and distributed at the meeting. Only "public records" information is included unless additional information was supplied by residents. Additional copies may be printed if there is enough interest.

The spring meeting is scheduled for Saturday May 10, 2008.

Election of Commissioner – Carol Cole withdrew her nomination for the board position and nominated Bob Rice. No other nominations were made. Bob accepted the nomination and on proper **MOTION** was unanimously elected to a three-year term as a Commissioner (2008-2010).

The Commissioners presented the following:

Resolution 07-1, designating September 6, 2008 as the date for the 2008 Annual Meeting, was presented and, on proper **MOTION**, unanimously approved.

Resolution 07-2, designating Citizens Bank of Mukwonago (or its successor) as the depository of the District, was presented and, on proper **MOTION**, unanimously approved.

Resolution 07-3, pertaining to the operating budget (\$16,250.00) and a tax levy (\$11,250) for the District for 2008, was presented and, on proper **MOTION**, unanimously approved.

Resolution 07-4, pertaining to the lake projects and the weed-harvesting budget (\$38,750.00) of the District for 2008, was presented, and, on proper **MOTION**, unanimously approved.

Resolution 07-5, authorizing the District to borrow up to \$10,000.00 for operating expenses only, was presented and, on proper **MOTION**, unanimously approved.

Resolution 07-6, authorizing the Commissioners to seek any grants available to the District, was presented and, on proper **MOTION**, unanimously approved.

The amended by-laws of the District were presented for approval and on proper **MOTION**, unanimously adopted. Copies of the by-laws will be available for viewing on the website and at the office of the East Troy Town Clerk.

There being no further business, on proper **MOTION**, the Annual Meeting was adjourned at 12:13pm

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Purvis
Secretary