

**Minutes of the 2014 Special Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, May 10, 2014 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.**

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Christine Celley, and Bob Rice

Also Present: 11 Electors and Kathy Aron

Chairman Bonneau called the meeting to order at 9:00am. and the commissioners introduced themselves. Joyce and Jack were unable to attend.

Christine gave the treasure's update. Expenses usually don't start till after Memorial Day so there wasn't a lot to go over. We do have funds budgeted for the treatment of the lake again this year should conditions warrant. There are no major purchases anticipated as the equipment seems to all be in good shape. A constituent asked about balances in the accounts and as of last report we had \$29,948 in the checking account, \$1053 in the money market account, a CD for \$176,844 and \$104,105.

Kathy Aron updated the group on lake conditions. A treatment is scheduled to chemically treat the lake on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The area along Spleas Skoney remains to be an area where milfoil continues to grow and because of the quick drop in temperature last fall that area could not be treated so it will be among the areas targeted for the upcoming treatment as well as the area by Potters Circle outside the bay. The DNR continues to be short staffed. The DNR seems to be taking a more conservative stance on chemical treatment. Kathy has met with Heidi Bunk and her boss to express her concerns over lake treatment. We now have more native plants in the lake than we did before the whole lake treatment. The problem becomes with the turnover in the DNR staff that is sent out to monitor the treatments and not having the lake history and saying that there are not enough invasive plants to treat in certain areas. These areas become a problem year after year. Kathy said that there are some issues with the chemical program that need to be fixed because with Milfoil if you don't stay on top of it it will get out of hand. We can show over time that the process does work based on the current population of natives. Christine asked if other lakes were experiencing the same problems with the stance of the DNR and suggested that we band together with the other districts to get leverage. The Wisconsin Association of Lakes should be supporting the lake groups that are their members but they also have a concern because they rely on grants from the DNR in order to operate. Kathy said that the DNR is also proposing that treatment notices be sent with return receipt requested by email or mail. She has copied the higher ups at the DNR as well as Scott Gunderson so they are aware of what is going on. Barry suggested that we reach out to the Walworth County Lakes Association to see if they are running into the same problems. A constituent asked about what chemical was going to be used for treatment. We would be using 24D in a liquid form and post signs in the areas treated along the lakefront as we have in the past. Property owners are also able to clear a 30ft path out from their shoreline as far as they care to clear. We have a permit to treat but subject to DNR approval and when they have been out to supervise they error on the side of caution as opposed to over shooting the mark. Last year we asked for some areas to have blanket treatment but were only allowed to do access strips. When this happens plants outside the treated area continue to

propagate. Our whole lake treatment with the use of Sonar was mentioned by one of the constituents and the DNR is giving no one in the state permission to use Sonar. Also the term whole lake treatment does not mean that the whole lake has been treated. The DNR says that if the areas treated are large enough to affect the whole lake then you have to go through the same process as a whole lake treatment. The fact of the matter is that you can't get rid of the invasives the best that we can do is try and control them. Bob verified the 24hr time frame for staying out of the water in treated areas as there are always questions from home owners around the treatments. Treatments are better done when the water temperature is cooler because there is less plant material to be concerned about. On another note, Doug Welch from the fishery's division of the DNR has retired and his replacement will be announced shortly. Grant money was also addressed and no grants were given to Southern WI lakes. All of the grant money was given to Northern lakes. Christine commented on the treatment map that the north shore was not surveyed due to time constraints. There have been a few geese spotted on the lake but not in numbers large enough to do a round up for this year.

Barry commented on harvesting and no harvesting has been done to date. Harvesting is done as a secondary effort with chemical treatment being our preferred method of control. Bob commented on Clean Boats Clean Waters program which will run from Memorial Day through Labor Day. He stressed the importance of making sure you check over your boat and trailer for weeds when entering and leaving lakes as well as draining the boat and live well. Flares will also be sold again this year on weekends leading up to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Constituents also said it may be a good idea for the launch workers to have a wrench available for boaters to be able to take plugs out when they leave.

There are no additional updates on the lake directory. A carp out was discussed but at this point in time there was no interest from the group to organize one. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July theme for boat parade was discussed and patriotic and pirates were decided. Boat parade is scheduled for July 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm starting at the boat launch and lighting of the lake will follow at 9:00pm. Flares will be available from the Clean Boats Clean Waters crew on weekend at the boat launch. Karen Winkleman will also be selling flares.

Our annual meeting is scheduled for September 6<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion about the pizza party and if we should continue. Attendance is low and we often times have left over's. A motion was made to cancel the pizza party following the annual meeting and unanimously approved. A constituent raised the question if we ever moved forward to try and find or interview other consultants. Barry explained that we reviewed three company's that were considered and it was decided that we would stay with Kathy Aron. Bob, Barry and Jack met with the DNR and found that what we were hearing from Kathy was consistent to what we were told from Heidi. The bigger question is who is the DNR rep for your area. Different reps have different approaches and some are more conservative than others. Bob commented on being at the launch last year for a treatment when the DNR was only going to allow us to spot treat certain areas. Brian of Marine Biochem spoke with them before treating and basically told them that if he couldn't treat larger areas he wasn't going to treat at all because the spot treatments would not be effective. The DNR did allow him to treat the larger areas for us. A constituent raised a concern over the posture of the DNR and when do we go to the next level in order to get the treatments we need. Bob commented that the Wisconsin Association of Lakes is supposed to be protecting the lake districts but they are also funded by grants from the DNR so it is a balancing act for them as they want to help out the lakes but don't want to lose their funding. Christine expressed concern over why the whole lake was not surveyed due to time constraints. Barry explained that Brian came out, not to do a whole lake survey which would be done by Kathy, but to do a quick exploratory survey which he piggy backed with another local lake. Brian did do the preliminary and alerted Kathy. There was concern that Kathy needed to make the time to be here on May 20<sup>th</sup> for the proposed treatment. We will also revisit who we are working with. One of the company's that we interviewed did the surveying as well as the

treatments where now we have two separate company's providing that service. When we move forward interviewing others we need to have a defined criteria in place so that we can fairly compare what is being proposed for our lake. When we looked into this last year costs between companies considered were comparable. Bob suggested that when we do our fall treatment we could have another one of the considered company's come in and give their assessment of the lake and what we should do. It was stressed the importance of the consultants relationship with the DNR as treatments are only a part of it. We agreed that the lake is both science and politics and we should move forward with interviewing alternative company's in order to make sure that what is being suggested is the best solution for our lake. A motion was made and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, on proper Motion, the Special Meeting was adjourned at 10:28am.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C Rice  
Secretary

**Minutes of the 2014 Commissioners Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Tuesday, August 7th, 2014 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.**

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Robert Rice, Christine Celley and Joyce Reed

**Chairman Bonneau** called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm

Commissioners gathered at the town hall to discuss the responses for the town appointed board position that was posted. We had one submission from Jerome Kozik. He responded to the email posting and submitted a strong resume that indicated he would be a good contributor to our board. A motion was made and unanimously approved for the board to recommend him to the town for the open position.

There was discussion on the agenda for the upcoming annual meeting. Christine commented that she was going to give further breakdowns on some of the items in the Treasurer's report as questions have been asked in prior years. Items that will be broken down further are wages for the lake including Clean Boats Clean Waters and lake treatments.

The website was addressed and the possible need to update. Barry offered a suggestion in addition to Al's current recommendation. The commissioners agreed that we will look towards the constituents to form a committee to go over our current website as well as needs to update at the annual meeting.

A constituent has contacted the DNR about the run off by the boat launch from the farm field. We will be hosting a conference call with Heidi Bunk from the DNR as well as Brian Smetana from Walworth County and Kathy Aron. We will be exploring our options as to how we can address this issue.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C Rice  
Secretary

## **Minutes of the 2014 Budget Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, September 6th, 2014 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.**

Present: Commissioners Barry Bonneau, Christine Celley, Bob Rice, and Joyce Reed

Also Present: 17 Electors.

Chairman Bonneau called the Annual Meeting to order at 9:00a.m.

Treasurer Christine Celley went over the finances for the district. She explained the handouts that showed last years approved budget for 2014 and where we are year to date with expenses. Payroll expenses were separated out by Clean Boats Clean Waters and general labor for harvesting. Harvesting labor was down this year as conditions didn't warrant full time cutting. There was a second weed treatment that was done but an invoice had not been received as of the meeting. The estimate of this invoice was \$8,000 to \$10,000. Christine went on to explain the changes for the 2015 proposed budget. The question of wages came up and it was explained that we don't use that money just because it is budgeted but we do need to budget based on heavy harvesting as the conditions of the lake are subject to change year to year. Barry commented on the fact that we are fortunate to be in a situation where we have funds set aside for the continued maintenance of the lake. There are many lake districts that struggle to find the funds to treat as grant money has become scarce. A motion was made to approve the treasures report and budget and approved unanimously by all. Meeting was adjourned at 9:11am

**POTTER'S LAKE PROTECTION AND  
REHABILITATION DISTRICT**

6-Sept-14

**DESCRIPTION**

**2015 Proposed Budget**

**Receipts:**

District Tax	11,200.00
Special Tax	40,000.00
Interest on Savings	1,000.00
Grant	0.00
Flare Sales	1,000.00
Transfer from Savings	59,800.00

**TOTAL** 113,000.00

**Expenditures:**

Office, Advertising, Mtgs	1,500.00
Dues and Subscriptions	500.00
Legal	1,500.00
Equipment, Tools & Vehicles	10,000.00
Computer & Web Expenses	2,000.00
Lake Functions	1,000.00
Utilities	500.00
Reserve for Special Projects	10,000.00
Lake Projects	30,000.00
Insurance	4,000.00
Fuel	3,000.00
Maintenance	2,000.00
Payroll Expenses	45,000.00
Misc Expenses	2,000.00

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES** 113,000.00

**8/30/2014 ASSETS:**

**Citizens Bank of Mukwonago**

Checking Account	34,150.44
Money Market	1,054.17
Certificates of Deposit	177,464.49

**Landmark Credit Union**

Certificates of Deposit	104,607.07
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**Total Assets** 317,276.17



**Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, September 6th, 2014 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.**

Barry called annual meeting to order and gave the floor to Loraine Hirsh who went on to propose her idea of a "Blake Party". There are four family's who currently do the fireworks that are interested in doing a "block party" so that it would give people from both sides of the lake a chance to meet each other and socialize. A date of August 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 was proposed in the triangle on Shorewood Dr. Suggestions for the party were a fishing contest, food and beverages, DJ, raffles, beer and wine, and kids games. Loraine also suggested name tags and a map of Potters Lake where people could list where they live. It was asked that the district participates so that the planners don't have to take on the liability personally. Barry commented that we could check into getting special events coverage. Carol Cole suggested that maybe people could bring their own drinks to limit the liability of the district. It was asked if the district could make a financial donation to cover the DJ and porta-potties (est \$600). Any money raised by the party would go back into the lake. Loraine also suggested if people had any old photos they could bring it would help us to gather some history of the lake. A water-ski show by the Muskego Lake Water Bugs may also be a possibility. Food would be done on a pay as you go with typical summer food (burgers, brats, ect). A constituent commented on the carp out of the past and the camaraderie amongst the lake members was great. The only reason that it ended was the amount of work involved. It was suggested that there be a defined cut off time as well as we need to respect the neighbors that live across from the proposed area. Loraine was going to go back and submit a proposal with the group's ideas to submit to the board prior to the spring meeting. The idea of the Blake Party seemed to be a good one by those who were at the meeting.

Barry went over the next item on the agenda for the approval of last years annual meeting minutes. A copy of the minutes were available for all. A motion was made from the floor to approve the minutes as presented, seconded and approved by all.

Kathy Aron addressed the group on this years lake conditions. We had a late winter carry over which gave the plants a slow start. Milfoil has been sporadic. Many lakes have had seen less of a problem with the invasive's this year. We've had 2 chemical treatments this year. The first one was primarily a shoreline treatment which treated about 35 acres and the one in August treated about 29 acres and was in a little deeper water. Lake levels were a little high this year due to the rain and melt off from last winter. Kathy said that the DNR is getting a little more lenient as our last treatment was done without supervision. No goose round up was done in 2014. Barry asked about Kathy's thoughts going forward and the effectiveness of the treatments. Kathy stressed that our lake will never get away from doing treatments as there is no way to ever eradicate the problem from a lake. It is something that you will continually have to control. 24D has been a good effective control for milfoil and helps us to minimize are harvesting. Joyce commented and asked Kathy about scuba diving and pulling the plants by the roots. Kathy said that it is a tool to use but most effective only if you catch it when only a few plants have entered a lake. The difficulty in pulling the plants is that the plants are fragile and tend to fragment when pulling. This is the way the plants spread so you can end up doing more harm than good. If you are trying to keep an area open for boat use and have many different types of plants the harvesting is the most effective. If you have concentrations of invasive's the chemical treatment is your best bet. Barry

commented about the algae condition on our lake this summer. Kathy said that that there has not been a lot of it this year. She went on to explain the differences in algae types and that it is a natural occurrence in lakes. Blue-green algae is the bad algae and it looks like paint has been spilled on the water. This type of algae can contain toxins. Methods to help control blue-green algae are run off control, goose control, and control of fertilizing around the shoreline area's. Kathy stated that she has never seen a blue-green algae bloom on our lake that we should be concerned about. A constituent commented about the plant growth in front of the dam and questioned if we are creating a dam in front of the dam. Paul and Elroy make sure that the dam is cleared weekly and the flow rate is good. No problems have been noted. Barry asked about ASI Early Detection Monitoring Program that we have been selected for on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Kathy stated that this is a DNR sponsored program that goes around to different lakes in the state to monitor and establish a base line for invasive species in the lakes. They also look for Rusty Crawfish, Zebra Muscles, and Chinese Mystery Snails. We are not being singled out just being tested by selection. Barry asked Kathy if she had any suggestions on dealing with the run off from the farm field off of Stone School Road. Kathy suggested that we try to cost share with the farmer and implement grassy strips to help reduce the runoff. The money we will spend to do this would be far less expensive than dredging it back out of the lake. There is a 70/30 sharing formula that may be available to help us with the cost. It was noted that in the past several years there has been a increase in the amount of water that runs in the gully that leads to the lake. Kathy suggested working with Brian Smetana from Walworth County on a solution to the problem. Barry stated that the district has \$10,000 budgeted for reserve for special projects and asked if the board could be granted permission to be able to use these funds to explore a solution to the run off. A motion was made and approved to move forward in exploring options to mitigate the run off from the farm land off of Stone School Road.

Christine gave the treasures report and explained the line items and also the fact that we needed to budget for full time harvesting but only use it as needed. Many years we don't come close to using the full amount. New this year she separated out the wages into labor and Clean Boats Clean Waters. There are no special purchases planned for 2015 only general maintenance on our current equipment. Christine commented about the loss of Richard this past year and how fortunate we were to get an experienced person to join us in harvesting. Dennis Faber joined Elroy and Paul to help with our harvesting operation. He himself lives on a lake in Kenosha County and has served on their lake board and understands working with the DNR. Comments were made about buoy placement this year as they seemed to be placed out further.

Barry noted that Doug Welch from the fishery's division of the DNR retired and Luke Rothler has been assigned to our area. We are on the list for stocking in 2015 for Northern Pike pending any budget cuts or funding short falls. We are able to stock at our own expense if we choose to do so as well. A constituent asked if carp were still a problem in our lake. According to the last fish survey carp are present in the lake but not at a level that proposes problems. A question was raised about what could be done about the bow fishing that has been going on on our lake. Comments were made about the noise and bright lights that shine into the houses. Bob commented that he had spoken to DNR warden Juan Gomez about this issue. What they are doing is within their rights. There is current regulation on the noise level of engines but not on generators. An ordinance would have to be made by the Town of East Troy in order to be able to enforce the noise level on the generators. There are no

regulations on how close they can get to piers or shoreline. Barry suggested if any of those in attendance had complaints or issues they should contact the Town or Joe Klarkowski.

Under old business the directory has gone by the wayside as there were concerns about the information becoming public. Our current website and upgrades were discussed. Our current website and software that supports it is dated. The board put it out to the constituents to see if we should make changes to the site or continue on with what we have. Questions were asked about the current usage and if we knew the current hits on the site. Christine reminded people that it is not just the website but the bigger picture. We should be posting a Q&A as most of the same concerns apply year to year. Bob commented that we currently have about 100 emails out of about 150 home owners on the lake and that is currently how information has been being passed along.

Barry talked about lake levels and the current ordinance of the 8.8 level for slow no wake. The board had some prior discussion about the implementation of siphons and when they should be used. There is a cost of between \$800 and \$1200 to implement the siphons each time we activate them. It was brought to the constituents to discuss when we should implement them to prevent the slow no wake ordinance from being implemented. Comments were made that if we implement them too early that we have no way to put the water back in the lake and could chance having low water. Bob asked the group once the siphons are installed at what level should we pull them because of the cost to start them back up if needed. Christine noted that the lake level has been lower than it has been in the past and we need to be careful about taking too much out. Joyce asked about the people who violate the slow no wake and if people were made aware of the conditions when posted. Signs are posted and emails are sent when the ordinance is implemented.

Barry informed the group of our new Town appointed commissioner Jerry Kosik. Christine Celley's term is up at the end of this year and nominations were taken from the floor. There was no additional interest from the room and Christine accepted another term on the board. Her term will run from 2015-2017.

Walworth County is again running a Clean Sweep Program which handouts were given to all those in attendance. They will be collecting hazardous materials from around the house on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Delavan and Elkhorn locations.

A total of six resolutions were reviewed for the year 2015 and approved as presented. The annual meeting for 2015 was set for Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15am

