

Minutes of the 2024 Budget Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, September 14, 2024, at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.

Commissioners present were Bill Roeber Treasurer, Bob Rice Secretary, Liz Sanders Town appointed board member, MaryJo Jones Walworth County appointed board member and Cathy Schulz our chairman.

Also Present: 25 Electors

Chairman Cathy Schulz called the Budget Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Bill Roeber updated the constituents on the proposed 2025 plan which is very similar to 2024 but without the dam project as it will be completed in 2024. Our interest income is expected to be less in 2025 as we will have less in reserves and anticipated lower interest rates. We do expect insurance to increase and have budgeted for more labor next year as we had a light year harvesting. Jerry Kozik asked about current year to date and a projected year end so that we would be able to compare to the proposed 2025 budget. He also wanted to know how much money was raised for the dam and what the value of the LPL Financial investment was. Bob did not have the handout with that information printed but said that he would email it out to the constituents. Bill had that information and read through it line item by line item. The below Treasurer's report was thoroughly discussed. A motion was made by Fran Basso to approve the 2025 budget and the motion was seconded by Rick Witt. A vote was taken and 27 voted for the proposed 2025 and 1 person voted against. Motion passed. MaryJo made a motion to adjourn the budget meeting and the motion was seconded by Liz Sanders. Motion passed and the budget meeting was adjourned at 9:14am.

PLPRD 2024 ANNUAL MEETING - Sept 14, 2024 - TREASURER REPORT

POTTER LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

ACCOUNT/DESCRIPTION	2022 ACTUAL	2023 Actual	2024 Plan	2024 YTD	PROFORMA 2024	2025 Plan	2025 Plan Vs. 2024 Plan
Receipts:							
Interest on Savings	\$320.05	\$3,097.13	\$1,100.00	\$2,904.80	\$3,200.00	\$450.00	-59%
Special Events	\$1,265.09	\$1,685.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	-6%
CBCW Grant	\$1,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	0%
District Levy Tax	\$8,198.89	\$11,101.17	\$11,300.00	\$11,080.60	\$11,300.00	\$11,300.00	0%
Special Tax	\$43,146.73	\$39,507.52	\$39,700.00	\$40,388.11	\$40,388.11	\$39,700.00	0%
Special Dam Assessment		\$0.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,019.51	\$70,019.51	\$0.00	
Lottery Credit		\$198.83					
Transfer from Reserves	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$172,784.00		\$130,000.00	\$49,180.00	15%
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$53,930.76	\$59,589.65	\$300,684.00	\$130,093.02	\$260,607.62	\$106,330.00	6%
Expenditures:							
Banking	\$61.44	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$40.00	0%
CBCW Misc Expense				\$17.64			#DIV/0!
Computer and Web Expenses	\$466.16	\$873.54	\$3,200.00	\$1,918.16	\$2,500.00	\$3,200.00	0%
Equipment, Tools and Vehicles	\$1,806.53	\$4,625.58	\$5,200.00	\$1,695.85	\$1,850.00	\$4,200.00	-19%
Insurance	\$4,523.00	\$4,233.00	\$4,700.00	\$4,306.00	\$5,197.00	\$6,500.00	38%
Lake Functions	\$1,274.00	\$981.00	\$1,500.00	\$981.00	\$981.00	\$1,200.00	-20%
Lawn Maintenance	\$500.00	\$1,709.10	\$2,400.00	\$540.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,900.00	-21%
Maintenance (Bouys)	\$896.75	\$3,430.66	\$2,000.00	\$1,190.00	\$2,380.00	\$2,500.00	25%
Lake Projects	\$44,975.75	\$2,553.00	\$59,999.00	\$29,732.92	\$30,000.00	\$55,000.00	-8%
Dam Engineering	\$30,909.00	\$4,468.65	\$8,855.00	\$2,921.49	\$8,855.00	\$0.00	-100%
Dam Construction		\$867.65	\$188,000.00	\$0.00	\$188,000.00	\$0.00	-100%
Misc Expenses, Promotional	\$0.00	\$667.53	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	0%
Office, Advertising, Meetings	\$2,892.42	\$1,531.61	\$1,400.00	\$591.87	\$1,333.26	\$1,400.00	0%
Dues and Subscriptions	\$425.00	\$425.00	\$500.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$500.00	0%
Payroll Expenses	\$18,122.22	\$13,374.54	\$16,000.00	\$11,519.08	\$12,700.00	\$25,000.00	56%
Officer Compensation	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	0%
Payroll Fees	\$1,025.56	\$926.83	\$940.00	\$811.91	\$900.00	\$940.00	0%
Professional / Legal Services	\$1,890.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	-67%
Utilities	\$435.83	\$449.07	\$550.00	\$316.26	\$420.00	\$550.00	0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$112,453.66	\$43,406.76	\$300,684.00	\$56,667.18	\$259,291.26	\$106,330.00	6%
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS							
		CURRENT RATE		CURRENT BALANCE			
Citizens Bank - Money Market		1.50%		\$226,603.24	As of 8/31/2024		
LPL Financial		TBD		\$105,923.81	As of 6/30/2024		
Citizens Bank Checking Account		0.01%		\$9,381.81	As of 8/31/2024		
			Total:	\$341,908.86	As of 7/31/2024		

Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Potter’s Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held Saturday, September 14, 2024 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.

Cathy Schulz called the annual meeting to order at 9:17am.

Commissioners present were Bill Roeber Treasurer, Bob Rice Secretary, Liz Sanders Town appointed board member, MaryJo Jones Walworth County appointed board member and Cathy Schulz our chairman.

Cathy called for the approval of the minutes for 2023 Annual Budget Meeting and Annual Meeting, April 22, 2024 Special Meeting, May 11, 2024 Special Meeting, June 22, 2024 Special Meeting, and the August 20, 2024 Special Meeting. A motion was made by Liz Sanders to approve the minutes as presented and MaryJo Jones seconded the motion. All were in favor of approving the minutes. Motion passed.

Bill Roeber presented the Treasures report. He stated that our interest income was favorable due to higher short-term rates on CD's and we had the \$70,000 assessment for the dam earning interest as well. We did have a weed treatment this spring which ran just under \$30,000. The dam will be finished shortly and those are set numbers from the contract. Payroll is expected to come in \$3,000 under our budgeted numbers. There were no legal expenses this year. Once we take all the dam costs out it is expected that we will have approximately \$3,700 in retained earnings. As of August 30th, our checking account has \$9,381.81, money market balance is \$226,603.24, and the LPL Financial account balance as of June 30th was \$105,923.81. Cathy Schulz stated that the 2023 audit was done in January 2024 with the help of three constituents and all financial findings were found compliant. Jerry Kozik asked about the possibility of taking the money out of the LPL Financial investment and putting it into a CD. This would mean that we would take a loss on the LPL investment and at a 4% rate it is about the same either way. Bob Rice stated that at the time the district invested with LPL they were very transparent and it was also voted on and approved by the district. This is the second LPL investment we made and the first one did really well. The current district funds also represent the \$70,000 special assessment that we took in for the dam this year.

Cathy asked if there were any public comments from the floor. No one came forward

Dennis Schulz spoke to the group on behalf of the fish stocking committee. The group has met three times and the goal is to get back on the fish stocking program with the DNR. Years back they stocked Tiger Muskies to try and control the stunted panfish and perch populations. That program failed and they started stocking Northernns to see if that would help. The DNR stopped stocking Northern saying that our lake cannot support a Northern population. This is contrary to what fisherman are saying as Northernns are frequently caught on our lake. The Fish Committee is working with the DNR to see what fish they would be willing to stock and are also trying to get a survey of our lake to see what the current populations are. The Clean Boats Clean Waters crew has reported that the majority of the boats launching this year are fisherman. They are catching Bass but the size of the fish are smaller than years past. A constituent asked about the Carp. Dennis said that there were more Carp present this year and the committee is looking at maybe doing another Carp Out to reduce the population. Liz commented that the DNR is no longer breeding Large Mouth Bass or Northern in their hatcheries and what they are breeding are not suitable for our lake. This leaves the district to go to private hatcheries for fish stocking. The last time the DNR stocked our lake was in 2016. Since then, the district has financed our fish stocking.

Katie Seymour from the Welcome Committee updated the group with what they are doing. They have identified 13 new people that were not in the prior directory that they will reach out to with a welcome letter, newsletter, lake rules, goose round up form, and a copy of the last printed directory. She asked that if anyone was aware of a new resident that they reach out to the Welcome Committee so they can get information out to them.

Cathy Schulz gave the report on the lake conditions. We had water samplings done this year. One in June one in July and one in August. The last time these tests were done were in 2012. The results showed that the water quality and clarity has not changed much from previous years. There was one exception with the Chlorophyll A being higher in August than it has ever been. Jeff, from Lake and Pond, thought that this was due to the rainfall and warm temperatures. There are things that homeowners can do to help with the water quality; the use of Phosphorus free fertilizers, shoreline stabilization, and native shoreline plantings. Jeff does not see anything alarming with the lake at this time. Cathy had copies of the report for those who wanted and also offered to send it out via email.

Bob Rice updated the group on the progress of the dam. The coffer dam has been installed to hold the water in the lake while keeping the work area dry. Removal of the old structure and replacement with the new will start the week of September 16th and it is expected to take 2-3 weeks. People are urged to stay away from the area during construction.

Cathy Schulz spoke about the new district website. They have made good progress on design and organization and are now working on content. The new site should be more user friendly and interactive. One big change will be the email addresses. Each commissioner will have a district owned designated email address so that when commissioners change, we will still have the email history. Cathy asked for assistance in going through the lake rules to make sure the wording is accurate and current with the DNR and Town of East Troy. Another area of need is working on the history of the lake for the new website. If anyone is interested in helping, they can contact Cathy.

In January 2023 the board approved to move away from the current bylaws to follow Chapter 33 and have Policies and Procedures to fill in any gaps. Our old bylaws are from 2007 and have never been updated. MaryJo has been working to develop the Policies and Procedures and presented the 11 that the board had agreed on. These will also be listed on the web page. A motion was made by MaryJo to dissolve Potter Lake Protection and Rehabilitation bylaws created on September 8, 2007. On this day September 14, 2024 the district will solely operate in accordance with Chapter 33 of the Wisconsin Statutes and other state laws. Including open meeting law, the public records law and the local government officials code of conduct. All adopted policies and procedures will provide for matters that are not specifically addressed in state law and shall not be construed in any matter contrary to Wisconsin Statutes and laws. Bob Rice seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All were in favor and none were opposed. The motion passed.

Bob Rice's term will end on December 31, 2024 and he will not be seeking reelection. Cathy asked those in attendance if there was any interest in the open position. Chuck DeWall stepped forward and will fill the term starting January 1, 2025. Joe Jones made a motion to nominate Chuck DeWall for the open board position and the motion was seconded by Dave Bradley. The electors voted, all were in favor, no opposed

There were three resolutions. One scheduling the 2025 annual meeting on September 13, 2025, another for the Operation Budget with a levy of \$11,300, and another for the Weed Control Budget and a levy of \$39,700. Rick Witt made a motion to approve the resolutions as presented and that motion was seconded by Fran Basso. A vote was taken. All were in favor and none were opposed. The motion passed.

The Spring Meeting was set for May 17, 2025

MaryJo Jones informed the group about the E-cycling in the Town of East Troy on October 5th and the Clean Sweep that Walworth County is having on October 4th & 5th. This is an opportunity to get rid of appliances and old household chemicals.

Liz Sanders was at a prior town board meeting and spoke on behalf of Potter Lake when Lake Beulah asked for a donation for their fireworks. The board was not able to approve a donation at that time but it will be revisited in November. She urged those in attendance for their support at the November town board meeting. Kathy Froehlich stated that she had collected just enough last year for the fireworks but did not have any carry over for next year. Katie Seymour said that they could include information about the fireworks in their welcome packet for new residents, Cathy Schulz said that she could include something in a newsletter and Bob Rice said that he would be willing to help as well.

A constituent asked about wake boats in the meeting minutes. Cathy answered that the board discussed this as a result of a Fox 6 News report. At this time the board does not have a position or opinion on wake boats. Liz is keeping track of what is happening at other lakes, at the town level, and the state level. Liz commented that there have been 19 ordinances passed this year regulating wake boat activity. Some of those have been repealed

since. We are going to take a “wait and see” attitude because the state and DNR will come up with a policy. A question was asked if they were good or bad for the lake. There are some surveys that were done on other lakes and the DNR is looking at size and depth of lakes. It is not just the size of the wakes that are of concern but also the ballast tanks that cannot be fully emptied and the transfer of invasive species from lake to lake. Cathy said that the district operates on data and facts and we are going to wait and see what the DNR decides and that will be what we all have to follow. If anyone has information regarding the issue they are encouraged to reach out to Liz so that we have all information available to us.

Rick Witt commented that it would be very helpful if people had their house number on their pier. In the event of an emergency, it would save first responders a lot of time if you could provide a location.

A constituent asked about lake rule enforcement. The district does not have enforcement authority and enforcement comes from the Town of East Troy Police and the DNR. It is also up to each of us to be good neighbors and follow the rules and remind others when they are breaking them. Cathy commented that when she received the surveys back from this spring, the biggest concern people had was people not following the rules.

Dave Bradley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Vic Hren and the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 am and the board went into a closed meeting.

Immediately following the annual meeting, the board met and assigned their roles for 2025. Cathy Schulz will remain the Chairman, Bill Roeber will remain the Treasurer, Chuck DeWall will be the Secretary.

MaryJo made a motion to adjourn the closed meeting. The motion was seconded by Bob Rice. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 10:34 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Rice
Secretary