

**Minutes of the 2021 Board Meeting of the Potter's Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District held  
Wednesday June 2nd, 2021 at Town Hall, East Troy, Wisconsin.**

Present: Commissioners Christine Celley, Bob Simon, Bob Rice, and Jerry Kozik.

3 constituents from the district attended.

Chairman Christine Celley called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM

Bob Simon commented that the district had moved some of our CD money to a callable CD. The investment yielded 5% for the first year and was then called back. We now have \$115,000 that we need to decide where to put. The bank no longer offers a 3-year callable and now offers a 7 year at 3%. Bob questioned if we wanted to tie up the money for 7 years. Current money market rates are paying a fraction of a percent. Bob Simon questioned if we should wait a year to see if rates increase to try and get a better rate next year. The callable CD is a FDIC insured product provided by LPL Financial through Landmark. Christine commented that we could also divide the CD up in the event we needed to get at some of it before maturity. Bob Simon commented about our surplus of cash each year and questioned the assessments going forward. Christine made note of future harvesting and whole lake treatments as well as possible dam maintenance. Bob Rice commented that we should be fine going 7 years out with the cash we have on hand in the checking account and other CD's. Bob Rice is in favor of continuing to collect the district tax and cited increased cost from inflation, harvesting cost for this year (those were not costs we have had the past 4 years) as well as the higher cost of the suggested chemical ProcettaCOR. Christine is also in favor of continuing to collect. Part of the job of an association is to collect for future expenses to avoid large special assessments for projects down the road. The district did waive the fees one year and then received push back the next year when the tax was added back in. The constituents just looked back at the last year and not all the prior years they paid it. Further discussion was had about the CD money and the board decided to table the decision of the CD placement until the next board meeting.

Bob Simon asked about proof of insurance for Lake and Pond. We also received a bill for workers comp for our current employees that needs to be paid.

Bob Rice discussed the resident sponsored fireworks with the rest of the board. The group sponsoring the fireworks wants to use the district property at the end of Lake Lane to launch and stage the barges for the show on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bob had asked why they were not using the public boat launch and they thought it would be easier to use our location. The end of Lake Lane does not have a proper launch site and it is also owned by the district. A vote was taken, and the entire board opposed the use of any district property for fireworks. The same group also asked if we could change the date of the district organized boat parade. Bob Rice commented that moving the district approved boat parade could cause other conflicts with people who had planned their events around the approved date from our spring meeting. If the fireworks group wants to do their own parade and flares, they can absolutely do so but the district sponsored events will remain on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Bob Rice suggested that maybe the people who organize the fireworks could take over the boat parade and flares starting next year and then they could coordinate them in future years. Bob Simon agreed and thought it was a good idea. Bob Rice will report back to Jon Voss and Kathy Froehlich.

Bob Rice commented on the current buoy placement. There were comments at the spring meeting that buoys were in too close. Bob had told Complete Piers to put the buoys in where they were supposed to be in relation to the shoreline and not off people's rafts. Bob went around the lake and noted that there were a few buoys that needed to be moved but no more than years prior. Slow-no-wake buoys are to be placed no further than 200ft from the shore. The board agreed that the current buoy placement is pretty good where they are currently. Christine suggested once buoys are put in the district could go around and make

changes but then they would stay that way for the rest of the year. Homeowners should not be moving buoys as that is a district responsibility. The district also needs to keep people from tying up to the buoys as they are costly to replace.

The harvester had a hydraulic leak and is getting fixed. The conveyor is off Lake Lane and we will start the harvester once our request is approved by the DNR. Elroy has arranged for a couple guys from Camp Lake to come and help when needed. Bob Simon asked how close they could get into dock areas. Christine read from a copy of the harvest summary. Harvest only areas that are at least 3 feet deep except you may create a 10-foot-wide navigational channel to aid homeowners in reaching open water areas. The harvester cannot be used in water less than 3 feet in depth. Harvest a 50' wide slow speed navigational channel just inside the slow no wake buoys and the common use high speed area with greater than 70% Milfoil may be cut clear. Lake and Pond recommended that we cut identified Curly Leaf Pond Weed 2 times in the next 2 months to help prevent its spread. The boat launch area needs to be cleaned up as it is the worst it's been in a long time. Bob asked if there was a way to chemically treat for Elodia. There are two people who have offered to help with the harvesting operations. Elroy has been happy with their help so far. Bob Rice recommended a rate of \$20 an hour for harvesting help. Christine said that we should send out another copy of the white papers from the DNR. This would again inform our constituents of the changes that the DNR is proposing for future treatments. The district will send out an email informing constituent of our intent to harvest and homeowner will be responsible for their own shorelines. The harvester will not be picking up weeds from piers or shorelines.

Bob Rice commented about emails the district received about blue/green algae blooms. He checked out parts of the shoreline on Spleas Skoney Rd along with the area by the dam. There were some spots of algae and Jeff was contacted and stated that they could test to verify what it is but there is no treatment for blue green algae. Jeff suggested using common sense and avoid swimming in areas of concern.

Bob Rice addressed a complaint that was sent to the board about Miramar dumping sand on their beach and into the lake. An email was sent to Miramar Association and followed up with a phone call. The president of the board said that they were not going to put any sand on the beach this year. Bob told him that pea gravel was much better for the lake and would not wash away like the sand and help with a firm bottom. Christine commented that we have had verbal complaints in the past as well. If you want sand by your frontage you need to have a barrier between the lake and the sand. The sand should be behind riprap to prevent erosion. Christine said that people need to be calling the Town of East Troy and Walworth County as they can enforce violations or give permits for landscaping.

Fish stocking was talked about. The DNR is supposed to stock our lake every few years. The last several time we have been slated to get fish the DNR has not had the funds to stock. The district has paid for fish the last two times our lake was stocked. A constituent asked why Northern Pike were the preferred fish of choice to stock. He stated that Northern Pike posed problems in other lakes and contributes to the amount of stunted panfish. Christine said that we have not had consistency with the DNR for our fishery's with people moving around. Bob Rice said that he would love to have larger panfish in the lake and if someone had suggestions, we would be open to different stocking options.

Christine talked about or dam. The dam is owned by the district and is very old. Years back a smaller culvert was installed inside the old one which was rotting away. Based on what Christine has researched if anything were done, we would probably not be repairing the dam but replacing it. Lake and Pond does not do anything with dams. The lake in East Troy was cited as what could happen if the dam were to be removed. The DNR does not like dams and we need to be careful with how we approach the issue. Bob Rice commented about how well the siphon tubes work when water levels are high. Lake Beulah replaced their dam last year and may be a good place to start to gather information. Jerry suggested that we contact an engineering firm for an assessment and estimate for our dam. Bob commented that if we were able to

get a professional assessment for \$2,000 or less, he thinks it would be a good idea. Each board member decided that they would do some research and report back.

Bob Rice talked about lake levels and slow no wake. Current reading at the marker is 8.8 or slow no wake. He believes that the marker has been moved based on past readings of when slow no wake was originally put into ordinance. Past readings of 8.8 were much higher on the dam grate. He would like something that attaches to the grate which would eliminate the current post that can settle or be moved. Christine said that we need to use common sense with lake levels. The current gauge is in 1/10 of a foot and wind can vary the reading by 1/10 of a foot. She asked if we have been receiving complaints. Bob commented that there were people who wanted the dam dropped early in the spring and we currently have no policy or procedure in place for this. Bob Simon commented that we need to just figure out what the correct level is and asked if the Town controlled the slow no wake. Christine asked Bob Rice if he wanted to write a policy and procedure for the dam and present it to the board to vote on. Bob agreed and will report back to the board. Christine said that everything on the lake is cyclical and we go through years of high water and some years of draught and low lake levels. We would run the proposal by Jeff who should be able to determine current lake levels. Bob's concern is there should be some consistency from year to year as well as with changes of board or employees. Jerry and Bob Simon suggested that we should be cautious in the spring and manage it during the summer.

Christine Celley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by Bob Simon and the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C Rice  
Secretary