

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
February 7, 2019

Present: M. Bluemel, R. Schopp, B. Rosenquist, J. Bellante, R. Mayer, K. Aron and 2 citizens.
M. Bluemel called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: B. Rosenquist motioned to approve the October board meeting minutes as printed, second by J. Bellante, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: R. Mayer gave the treasurers report. R. Mayer added a % spent column. Money Market now is generating proper interest, 2.3% instead of 0.01%. Grant reimbursement has been received. Motion by R. Schopp to approve, second by B. Rosenquist, motion carried.

Information and Correspondence:

We will not have a signed agreement with Sportsman's for the use of the launch. There is no problem, we will still be able to use the launch for the harvesting.

K. Aron said the audits are current through July 2017. The 2017-2018 audit paperwork has been given to the auditor to be done. On request, copies of the audits will be provided to the board at the next meeting.

Public Comments:

None

Old Business:

The chemical treatment permit will be mailed tomorrow, so we will have the permit by the next meeting.

The first grant reimbursement has been received. Another won't be submitted for a while. We do now have the paperwork on the boat and vehicle forms, but unfortunately, they were sent to directly to DNR without being given to K. Aron. K. Aron reminded the board that these forms must be given to her so that the additional forms and documentation can be provided to DNR. There is no further discussion yet with DNR and we have not received the final data. K. Aron will be following up. B. Rosenquist asked if there had been any final results from the Little Muskego drawdown. Although the results have not been published but it appears that it has not worked.

New Business:

K. Aron wants the board to discuss changing to a calendar year budget. The current July through June budget year is problematic for a number of reasons. It is difficult to understand the large plant management expenses when they are split between 2 budgets. This next bill is the last one for the 10-year alum payments so timing would be good to discuss a change. A draft budget was presented with a calendar year budget. We would present a 1-1/2 year budget at the annual meeting. We would have to decide whether to charge a 1-1/2 years' fees, or only a 1 year fee. The various possibilities were discussed. This doesn't represent any increases, only that 1/2 year's charges worth would be paid sooner. This would mean the main expenses would be pretty much done by the annual meeting. The annual meeting approval would mean the budget would run through the end of 2019 instead of July 2019. Continued discussion will take place at the next meeting. Any decision has to coordinate with the tax roll timing. Additionally, we will discuss using accrual method, and not mailing bills (having all go on the tax rolls) and other budget related items.

Public Comments:

One resident commented on the calendar year discussion, and not billing, which would save the district money.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm. There will be no meeting on March 28. It was agreed to have the next meeting on April 11.

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
April 11, 2019

Present: M. Bluemel, R. Schopp, B. Rosenquist, J. Bellante, R. Mayer, K. Aron and 3 citizens.
M. Bluemel called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: R. Schopp motioned to approve the April 11th board meeting minutes as printed, second by R. Mayer, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: R. Mayer gave the treasurers report. Motion by R. Schopp to approve, second by J. Bellante, motion carried.

Information and Correspondence:

WLMD has received confirmation on the loan payoff for the land on South Wind Lake Rd. DNR was conducting a fish survey on Wind Lake, using fyke nets. Results won't be available for quite some time because of their workload.

Public Comments:

None

Old Business:

We have grant funds, approximately \$40,000, remaining in our AIS grant. DNR is will to amend the grant to allow additional work to be done. They would request that the work include another full point-intercept survey as well as possible treatments of the boat launches. The survey timing would repeat the one conducted in July 2018. Financially, we could treat at least the 2 launches and the 2 channels three times this year, as well as conducting the survey DNR requested. R. Schopp motioned to approve conducting additional work, that includes the 4 treatment areas and the survey work, and finalize a grant amendment, second by R, Mayer, motion carried. All the work is covered under the existing chemical treatment permit.

B. Rosenquist gave an update on the Boat Inspection Day, June 8. Lure U Inn has been sold, but it appears that we may still be able to use the parking lot.

The board continued the discussion about changing to a calendar year. K. Aron distributed a proposed budget, a one-page information sheet, and a draft annual meeting agenda that explains why it should be done, and how it would work. The budget columns were reviewed. One column represents the "regular" one-year budget numbers. The second column shows the 6-month figures that would extend the budget from July 1 to Dec 31. R. The bills would go out as usual this June so people could pay in advance. If this is approved, the unpaids would go on the taxes, as well as the 6-month charges. There would be no additional charges. Then, in 2021, it would be a regular 12-month, calendar year budget, and we would not send out any bills. People may pay in advance on their own initiative, but the district would save just over \$1000 by not sending out bills.

R. Mayer motioned to change to a Calendar Year budget and to present the request to the Sept. 2019 Annual Meeting, second by B. Rosenquist, motion carried.

K. Aron asked the board to go through the budget numbers to be ready to approve at the May meeting so that the entire annual meeting paperwork can be reviewed at the June meeting.

New Business:

M. Bluemel mentioned that the weather has severely impacted the Lakes Convention, with many attendees not showing up and many sessions canceled. The SSW talk about the results, but it has been canceled. K. Aron has the DNR Powerpoint and will post it on the WLMD website.

DNR has hired a new statewide aquatic plant management coordinator.

Work has been done at the DNR launch – the new pier is supposed to arrive before opening day.

Public Comments:

One resident asked about the procedure at the annual meeting for approving the calendar year change.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm. Next meeting will be May 23, 2019.

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
May 23, 2019

Present: R. Schopp, B. Rosenquist , J. Bellante, R. Mayer, K. Aron and 4 citizens. M. Bluemel was excused.

J. Bellante called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: R. Schopp motioned to approve the meeting minutes as printed, second by R. Mayer, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: R. Mayer gave the treasurers report. Motion by R. Schopp to approve, second by B. Rosenquist, motion carried.

Information and Correspondence:

Because of the changes to the goose removal program, and the lack of geese located on Wind Lake, there will be no removal this year. A minimum of 35 birds are required to schedule a removal and to date less than a dozen have been seen. There have also been changes to the billing of the programs. It will now be a flat \$2500 to do a removal. There will no searching done by USDA, we need to know where they are and be ready to remove them.

Old Business:

The paperwork has been completed for the AIS grant – surveys and treatments for 2019 and 2020 are included in the extension. Unlike the initial year with the large scale treatment, the extension treatment will focus on the two navigational channels and the boat launches.

The weather has been causing many delays with both treatments and harvesting. As of last weekend, M. Bluemel reported that he did not see a need for harvesting yet. More inspections will be done. Conditions are expected to change quickly if the weather becomes more stable and warmer.

This year, a resident near the mouth of the Breezy Bay channel sent in a notice that he does not want his shoreline treated. Because of the starry stonewort and because this resident has never submitted this before, it presented a serious concern about the chemical treatments. For many years, the DNR position has been that property owners can reject having any treatments done of their shoreline. Only one has had a long-standing request to not treat and that is on West Wind Lake Rd where treatments are almost never needed. K. Aron asked DNR for a decision: where does the public's interest override property owner's rights? Not treating this portion of the Breezy Point channel could mean that SSW will proliferate and spread further and faster. It could also mean that other owners along the channel would have no way to reach the lake if SSW and milfoil choke it off. DNR said that Wind Lake and the channel are the waters of the state. There is no state law or code that allows owners to restrict what is done on the public waters. Treatments will be conducted based on the need present. The two landowners will be notified.

B. Rosenquist gave an update on the Boat Inspection Day, June 8.

The board continued the discussion about changing to a calendar year. K. Aron explained the timeline for the annual meeting paperwork. Because of the importance of the proposed change, she wants to have a final package for board approval at the July meeting. That would allow sufficient time to get to the printer, and have it mailed according to statutory deadlines.

New Business:

None

Public Comments:

One resident commented about the need for consistent meeting dates and said that meeting dates should not be changed unless sufficient time is given. Twenty-four hours is not sufficient. She also indicated that the schedule has been basically the same for 30 years and that board members know what the commitment requires before they run for office.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. Next meeting will be June 27, 2019.

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
June 27, 2019

Present:, M. Bluemel, B. Rosenquist , J. Bellante, R. Mayer, K. Aron and 4 citizens. R. Schopp was excused.

M. Bluemel called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: J. Bellante motioned to approve the meeting minutes as printed, second by R. Mayer, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: R. Mayer gave the treasurers report. Motion by B. Rosenquist to approve, second by J. Bellante, motion carried.

Information and Correspondence:

B. Rosenquist gave an update on the boat inspection that was held. The WLMD partnered with the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Wisc. Power Squadron conducted the boat inspections. Twenty vessels were inspected and awarded safety decals, four vessels refused the inspection. Those that passed received a sticker indicating they had passed. The program will be done again next year, on June 6th.

K. Aron reported that a number of buoys are not in the correct locations. The Town and police office have been notified. Those include the Muskego canal center-of-channel buoys, the island center-of-channel buoys, and others. Buoy location has been a continuing issue for a number of years. The town ordinance states that the buoys are the responsibility of the Lake Patrol to place and maintain. The anchors remain in place year round. The ice can drag anchors, and chains and parts do wear out.

Board members indicated the lake patrol has been harassing boaters, stopping all the boaters. They indicated it is multiple officers, not just one or two. M. Bluemel said he has been pulled over 3 or 4 times. He said they pull straight up to anchored fishermen to check them. There have been issues over the years where the lake patrol has been criticized for not doing enough, or because they weren't on the lake when the early anglers are violating slow-no-wake. K. Aron will check to see if the head of the lake patrol will come to our next meeting to discuss what they do and to hear the board member's concerns.

M. Bluemel said he has received an email from a property owner that carp hunters and their bright lights are going near the dam and when they turn around, their lights shine into some of the homes near the dam. This has been a problem in the past as well. The problem has diminished now because the carp are no longer spawning.

M. Bluemel asked if we have received the report on the fish survey. We don't expect to receive it until later in the year.

Old Business:

Chemical treatments and harvesting have been impacted by the weather this year. There has now been 1 week of harvesting done, cutting primarily in the NW part of the lake, but also along the N shoreline. The contractor is planning to do the meander survey to identify SSW areas and other plant issues needing treatment. The contractor can treat on the 1st of July but in the past, the past chairman and board has not wanted any treatments done near a holiday. Otherwise a treatment would be done on the 8th or 9th of July, weather permitting. The board concurred that it would prefer that no treatments be done near the holiday.

The two channels were treated once for SSW, but the two launches were clear of SSW. The NW channel is the worst. There are large mats impeding navigation. We may have the harvester make a pass through the channel to collect the mats and then have the chemical treatment conducted in the area.

The NW end of the lake is almost impassable now that the weather has warmed up and the milfoil is taking off. The harvester cannot work off of Sportsman's during the holiday, but they may be able to harvest the week of the 8th.

The board continued the discussion about changing to a calendar year. The budget numbers were reviewed. Any other changes to the numbers should be given to K. Aron before the July meeting. K. Aron explained the timeline for the annual meeting paperwork. Because of the importance of the proposed change, she wants to have a final package for board approval at the July meeting. That would allow sufficient time to get to the printer, and have it mailed according to statutory deadlines.

Public Comments:

One resident commented that it's a good idea to see if the lake patrol will come to the meeting.

A question was asked to clarify one of the per diem payments in the treasurer's report.

A question was asked about the emergency slow-no-wake measures and if the procedures and signs have been corrected. R. Schopp was handling that with the town, and we can check with him next meeting.

A resident talked about the weed spraying in her area, the fact that it historically not been done because of an objecting resident. K. Aron lets the objecting resident know before its being done. The area was treated 2 weeks ago for algae. Cutrine Plus is used on the filamentous algae.

One resident indicated that there is a lot of goose poop on the shoreline. We did not have enough birds to do the removal when it was done. We now have plenty of geese but it's too late to do the roundup.

New Business:

M. Bluemel brought up the subject of aquatic plant harvester, and what we are going to have published for the annual meeting. The request from the annual meeting was to investigate current costs and equipment to purchase equipment. B. Rosenquist and M. Bluemel visited Aquarius, took a tour of the factory, looked at equipment and discussed costs. He said they were the closest one. Inland Harvesters is located in Burlington, but he felt Aquarius was a better company. He said a harvester would cost about \$170,000 and a self-unloading trailer would be \$57,000. The trailer could be pulled with a pickup truck. M. Bluemel said advancements in equipment have been made and there is a lot less maintenance now. He said annual maintenance is very low on them and would be \$200 per year. Aquarius can prep equipment and winterize equipment for the season for \$95 per hour. The issue is how to create a budget to compare with what we cut now. He said a 35% grant was available to assist with the costs and that everyone gets the grant. K. Aron said that grants are contingent on state fund availability and meeting a minimum harvesting acreage. Aquarius did not indicate that was the case. Aquarius said the machine they recommend would hold 10,000 pounds of weeds and that it wouldn't need any more water to float it full of cut weeds as compared to empty.

The District's harvesting plan and permit would need to be followed whether a contract harvester is used or one is purchased.

The information for this year's annual meeting is very preliminary. There won't be financial numbers for all the associated costs needed, such as a truck, insurance, staff, maintenance, workmans' comp, storage buildings, etc at this year's annual meeting. A motion at the annual meeting would need to direct the board whether or not to proceed with the consideration. B. Rosenquist stated those costs and details are not needed for this meeting.

A property owner at the meeting said they would need to know how much per property owner per year would be needed. Another wanted to know the limitations on harvesting are, and what percent of the lake cannot be cut. One owner thinks if we have our own harvester, that people will expect that all the weeds can be cut anywhere on the lake.

No action can be taken because it was not posted on the agenda. The subject will be added to the July meeting agenda. K. Aron will verify the grant % and the minimum acreage requirements for the July meeting. M. Bluemel and B. Rosenquist will provide a written summary on their findings to the board before the July meeting to decide on what is presented to the annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm. Next meeting will be Aug 22, 2019.

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
July 25, 2019

Present: M. Bluemel, B. Rosenquist, J. Bellante, R. Mayer, R. Schopp, K. Aron and 4 citizens were present.

M. Bluemel called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: R. Mayer motioned to approve the meeting minutes as corrected changing "Lake Patrol to lace and maintain" to "place and maintain", second by J. Bellante, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: R. Mayer gave the treasurers report. Motion by B. Rosenquist to approve, second by J. Bellante, motion carried. The bills have gone out to property owners and checks are beginning to come in.

Information and Correspondence:

K. Aron informed the board that a ditch was dug on the District's property on Muskego Dam Rd during the high water in late spring. Melvin Duve could not reach us to request permission, so he dug it. He now has our contact information and the ditch has been filled in.

Public Comments:

A question was raised as to whether property owners can plant water lilies. Anyone needs a permit from DNR to put plants in the lake.

Another question was asked whether the Town had resolved the issues for posting a Emergency Slow-no-wake. R. Schopp said he would check with the Town.

Old Business:

The plant survey being done by the contractor under the AIS grant is just now finishing up. More locations of SSW in shallow areas are being reported. The far East shore, the NW shore, and the inlet area are very thick. The initial infestation area is staying down in the water column.

K. Aron reported that today a number of people called or emailed to complain about weeds. Unfortunately, the timing is such that she could not do an inspection before this meeting. The complaints will be checked out and followed up on. K. Aron pointed out on the map where the areas are. The NE inlet area is the worst. The problem is the area is loaded with coontail. When the harvester cuts channels for those property owners, the wind from the South pushes the coontail back in.

The next herbicide treatment can be done next week, and the harvester can come in the following week. The plan worked out with C. Helker, DNR, is to harvest the NW shore SSW bed on the last day of harvesting and then follow up with another chemical treatment. M. Bluemel said he has also been getting complaints about the weeds and that it is difficult to even get to Sportsman's.

The board reviewed the draft newsletter, annual meeting agenda and proposed budget. The newsletter has to go out at least 2 weeks before the annual meeting. K. Aron clarified the remaining alum expense and income. The final loan payment will be 2021. The final charges to property owners is included in this year's bill. B. Rosenquist moved to approve the mailing for the annual meeting, including the agenda and budget, 2nd by J. Bellante, motion carried.

The lake patrol was invited to this meeting. K. Aron was told they would attend if possible. They were not present. The court clerk indicated that they are not cutting any deals on citations because not enough citations are being written. The lake patrol is usually on the lake on Saturdays, Sundays, and one day during the week.

New Business:

The issue for tonight's board meeting is to decide what is presented to the annual meeting. There are a lot of important issues to still investigate and it's not a matter to have a vote to go buy a harvester at the annual meeting. That is not the appropriate vote. An appropriate vote is "do we continue to research and gather all the information necessary to know all the costs and property owner charges to purchase a harvester". All of the costs need to be presented to the property owners, including the direct costs to all the

property owners. The information needs to be presented to the board. The board then needs to evaluate and consider it, then vote on how to proceed with hearings and meetings.

M. Bluemel presented costs based on his and B. Rosenquist's research:

- Capital costs for harvester and trailer - \$227,000 (possible grant \$79,450).
- Financing - \$150,000, state fund for 11 to 20 years @4-1/2% is \$15,000.
- Winterizing -\$1000
- Maintenance according to Aquarius, for parts \$100 - \$200 per year for broken teeth
- Cutting - 300 hours June to August, 9 weeks
- Two year truck rental \$2000 per month
- Insurance \$5,000 (Estimate from a personal line agent's estimate)
- Two operators – 300 hours plus 100 hours for manager
- Taxes - 15% workers comp, 10% unemployment
- For truck, \$16 per hour for diesel and oil.
- Total costs - \$31,000 cost to run for 300 hours of cutting plus \$15,000 loan expense; under \$50,000 to cut per year.
- Currently pay \$200 per hour. We would pay \$150 for 300 hours.
- Costs not included above: Storage, which may mean renting a barn somewhere or storing it with the town (R. Schopp indicated this would not be an option), or put it outside on a lot with shrink wrap
- 175 to 200 hours is the break-even point to make it worth our while to own equipment.

K. Aron said the District cut nothing in 2015, 2016 – 50 hours, 2017 – 135 hours, 2018 – 104 hours. Overall, most years we average 6 – 8 days of cutting. R. Schopp asked if we should be cutting more than we currently are. M. Bluemel indicated property owners want to have more harvesting done than what is currently being done.

The scheduling of a contract harvester has been fairly predictable. Cutting is usually the first week in June around Father's Day, then in late –July, early August when the eel grass is starting to float and occasionally in between when the milfoil gets going. Although the contractor has been very accommodating, he has other customers. When we don't need him, he harvests elsewhere. M. Bluemel stated that if we want a harvester working on the lake today, we need our own equipment. However, even that is limited by staff availability.

Issues still to be considered/investigated/resolved:

- Determine how much needs to be harvested versus wants to be harvested
- Someone has to run the program. This includes determination of whether to chemically treat or harvest.
- Someone has to manage the scheduling, staffing, the administrative part of paying the employees and taxes, etc.
- Place to store and maintain equipment / costs
- Off-loading options / costs
- Disposal site options / costs
- Hiring of staff, availability
- Verification of costs for insurance, maintenance, truck rental.
- The annual budget has not been a limiting factor in any previous year.
- Plants must be up before harvesting can be done.
- Determine specific costs that District property owners would be charged, including lake front, canal front, and off-lake property owners
- Determine what can be harvested based on the approved Plan and permit versus the wants of property owners. DNR approved plan and permit takes precedence over property owners' wants. Ramifications of violating the permit include permit revocation and high fines.
- How much to contract in advance for 2020 harvesting
- Property owners' expectations may not be realistic or possible. Shallow areas will never be permitted to be harvested.
- Development and distribution of bid package to purchase equipment

Issues to consider for long term harvesting, whether contract or owned:

- Access to off-load site based on harvesting hours. DNR launch site only available for occasional use. Adjacent lot not suitable because of depth, zoning and distance to cutting area. Former site in Breezy Bay not approved by DNR because of the shallow depths and the sensitive nature of that area. Too far from the main harvesting area.
- Someone has to run the program. This includes determination of whether to chemically treat or harvest.
- Impact of SSW invasion. It seems to be being controlled by the eel grass, especially in the boat launch area.
- Property owners and the board members have a responsibility to notify K. Aron of problems, not just complain at the end of the year.

Three weeks ago there was no place that needed cutting. K. Aron asked for a specific directive: Does the board want the harvester out here for more than the one week? R. Mayer motioned to have the harvester the week of Aug 5th and the 12th, cutting for two weeks if he is available, 2nd by B. Rosenquist, motion carried.

K. Aron asked if there was anything that needed to be added to the annual meeting agenda. M. Bluemel indicated that everyone has been complaining this year that we need more harvesting and we aren't doing it. K. Aron said that is not true. Not a single call or email has come in to the District until today. So, its one thing to say that everyone wants it, but no one contacted her until today. She received calls and emails after the last cutting that it worked out great.. No business can respond immediately to requests. Once a request is received, it is investigated and then an action taken if needed. Even though she has not been able to investigate yet, she has a chemical treatment scheduled for in 3 business days, and a harvester scheduled back in 6 business days. If no one tells her there is a potential problem, then she can't know. The weather also cannot be controlled. Nothing could be done this year prior to June 6th.

The Board reached a consensus that M. Bluemel would present the following to the Annual Meeting:

- The costs for equipment that they presented, along with approx. labor costs that he presented to the Board
- That the other items and costs still need to be determined if the annual meeting attendees agree to proceed.
- That the break even point is about 200 hours.
- We are not approaching an average of 200 hours per season so it would not be a wise financial decision.
- The board will continue to monitor the situation to see if anything is changing

Public Comments:

A property owner at the meeting said they would need to know how much per property owner per year would be needed. Another wanted to know the limitations on harvesting are, and what percent of the lake cannot be cut. One owner thinks if we have our own harvester, that people will expect that all the weeds can be cut anywhere, anytime on the lake.

One property owner indicated that people, including the board, needs to contact K. Aron about a problem. K. Aron pointed out that approved budgeted items do not need further Board approval/contacts to have the work done.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm. Next meeting will be Oct 24, 2019.

WIND LAKE WEBSITE/EMAIL

www.wlmd.org
info@wlmd.org

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Lake District Line	514-3238
Ron Mayer	414-614-5859
Joe Bellante	895-6694
Ralph Schopp	414-531-6020
Bruce Rosenquist	895-3942
Mike Bluemel	895-2502

Commissioners meetings are usually held the 4th Thursday of every month, with the November and December meeting combined. Meetings begin at 7:00 pm at the Norway Town Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Note that meetings may be rescheduled: check the website for the latest information.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you do, check out our website. The site has:

- Meetings, schedules, agendas, and minutes
- Information about who to contact for various activities.
- Links to other lake-related sites
- Information about who to contact for various activities
- The latest lake depth map of Wind Lake
- Other special notices as needed are also posted on the site.

You can also send an email to info@wlmd.org. You will be put on a list to receive meeting notices and updates. If you do provide your email address to us, please be aware that your address then becomes part of our formal records. Then we have to provide them to someone making a request under the Open Records laws.

• Dedicated to the Revitalization of Wind Lake •

Wind Lake
Management
District



NEWS

Volume 33, Number 2, August 2019
www.wlmd.org

THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING

Will be held Thursday September 12 at the Norway Town Hall. The meeting will begin promptly at 7 pm. All residents and landowners are encouraged to attend. Annual meetings are always very important, with votes taken on various issues. The proposed budget for the year, the agenda and the minutes from the 2018 meeting are included in this newsletter.

NEW CHANGE PROPOSED

The board is seeking approval to change the budget year to a calendar year basis. We currently use a July to June budget year. No budget changes are proposed, but to make the change, an extra 6-months will be included in the 2020 tax year. See page 2 for more details.

2019 UPDATE

The colder and wetter than normal weather has wreaked havoc on plant growth and plant control this year. Weeds and algae grew at very different rates than normal, and the weather prevented any control options from being conducted until June.

Aquatic Plants (Weeds): Milfoil was a significant problem in the NW end of the lake, but was less than normal in the rest of the lake. Native plants are abundant, covering much of the lakebed. Some of the native plants, like wild celery are thick and help prevent the spread of the Starry stonewort (SSW).

Invasive Species: We are continuing the attack on the highly invasive Starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*) (SSW). SSW was found in Wind Lake in August 2017. The latest discovery was found this summer in Okauchee Lake. Other lakes with SSW include Big Muskego and Little Muskego in Waukesha County, Long Lake (Ke-Nong-Go-Mong Lake) in Racine County, and Silver Lake and Pike Lake in Washington County, around the entire Door County

peninsula, and Lake Geneva. The invasive is also in a few lakes in Minnesota. We are continuing to use the AIS grant to treat SSW in navigational areas in Wind Lake and to conduct surveys of the plants.

Algae: Filamentous algae is a slimy mat-type algae that accumulates along the shorelines. Nitrogen levels in runoff and cool rainy weather fuels filamentous algae growth. Filamentous algae has been more of a problem this year.

Weed Chemical Treatment: We have conducted a number of chemical treatments this year, targeting navigational areas and SSW. The high water and rainy, windy weather have caused a lot of re-scheduling. All treatments are done under supervision of the DNR. We make every effort to open up areas when allowed. Treatments can only be conducted when either invasive species are present, or when a nuisance condition blocks lake use.

Harvesting: As of this printing, there have been three weeks of harvesting. The harvester focused on making sure navigational lanes were open for boaters, cutting lanes through the milfoil, and removing floaters.

Road-side Weed Pick-up: The road-side weed pick-up program continued this summer to give landowners a place to go with the raked lake plant debris. Pickups are done once a month.

Goose Control: There were a number of changes made to the goose control program, including the permitting process, the expense, and the minimums required. No goose control roundup was conducted this year because only a couple dozen were found when we had to decide. This is below the minimum needed for control measures. Goose control will continue next summer.

Boat Inspection: The WLMD partnered with the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Wisc. Power Squadron to conduct the boat inspections. Twenty vessels were inspected and awarded safety decals, four vessels refused the inspection. The program will be done again next year.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Burlington, WI 53105

30910 Royal Hill Rd.

Wind Lake Management District

CHANGE TO A CALENDAR YEAR BUDGET PROPOSED BY BOARD

Why the Proposed Change:

- Changes the District to a Calendar Year budget, Jan 1 thru Dec 31 of each year.
- Makes budget planning easier.
- All major expenses for a year will already be incurred by the time the Annual meeting considers the upcoming years budget.
- Less confusion at Annual Meeting. All major expenses, ie weed treatment and harvesting bills, will be paid in year of treatment.
- Saves over \$1,000 per year in costs (printing, postage, labor, etc) by not sending out bills and bank charges.
- Saves property owners the \$20 additional fee that is charged when its left to go on the taxes.

Current year budget:

- Covers July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2019. Was approved at Annual Meeting September 2018.
- Bills mailed mid-June 2019 for year ending June 30, 2019.
- Payable thru Oct 1 2019.
- Unpays will be posted to tax bill December 2019 with \$20 charge added.

Step 1 - 12 Month Proposed Budget:

- Covers July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020.
- To Approve at Annual Meeting Sept 2019.
- No bills mailed, but property owners can pre-pay on their own before Oct 1 2020.
- Charges posted to tax bill Nov 1, 2020 with no added fees.

Step 2 - 6 Month Proposed Budget to Change to a Calendar Year Budget:

- Covers July 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2020.
- To Approve at Annual Meeting Sept 2019.
- No bills mailed, but can also be pre-paid thru Oct 1 2020. All charges, 12-month and 6-month, will be posted to 2020 tax roll, with no added fees.

By 2021

- Calendar year budget will be in full effect. Will be approved by voters at Sept 2020 annual meeting.
- No bills mailed.
- All charges posted to Nov 2021 tax roll with no additional fees.

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

Annual Meeting to approve both columns of budget sheet, the 12-month budget column and the 6-month budget column.

Board is proposing no changes to annual charges or expenses.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES

History has shown us that once invasive species are present in a lake, it is pretty much impossible to completely eradicate it. So prevention is the key:

- Don't move your boat and fishing equipment from lake to lake without thoroughly decontaminating it.
- Remove all plant fragments from your boat, trailer, anchor ropes, live wells, etc.
- Dump all your bilge water when leaving a lake.
- Do not transport fish in water. Dump all water and put your fish on ice.
- Flush your motor cooling system between lakes.
- Keeping your boat and equipment dry docked for a week will help prevent spreading invasives.
- Try to avoid launching into a lake with a "dirty" boat launch, one that has lots of weed fragments floating around.
- Check out the Wisconsin DNR website for more information on Clean Boats.

ADDRESSES ON PIERS

Please consider putting your house numbers on the end of your pier so they are visible from the lake. This will greatly help with the plant management on the lake, making it easier for the contractors to find specific areas.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Who is eligible to vote: Anyone of legal voting age, who owns property, or lives within the boundaries of the Wind Lake Management District.

Can I get an absentee ballot or can I designate a proxy: No. Because of the way state law governing lake district's is written, one must be present to vote at a lake district annual meeting.

Can the annual meeting change our taxes without us knowing in advance: Yes. Under current state law, residents present at the meeting have the right to modify the tax and budget without prior notice to property owners.

My neighbor lives in Illinois-he can't vote: Yes he can. Lake districts are the only form of government in Wisconsin to allow a non-resident (as long as they own property in the lake district and are at the annual meeting) to vote or hold office.

MINUTES - Annual Meeting Sept 13, 2018

Present: M. Bluemel, B. Rosenquist, J. Marks, R. Schopp, J. Bellante, K. Aron, and approx. 80 residents.

J. Marks called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Introductions of the board were made.

The 2017 Annual Meeting minutes were approved as printed.

An update on the past year's activities was given, by J. Marks:

- The state has revised some of the rules, including expanding the dredging projects that can be done.
- There was a dam inspection done by the County engineer, who has a short history on the dam. Anyone with a complaint, can call J. Marks to file a complaint with the state.
- A grant was received for the Starry Stonewort.

Craig Helker, DNR biologist, gave an update on the Starry Stonewort project to date. He explained the data is only just starting to be analyzed. So far, based on the maps, it appears the SSW has spread, and that there has been partial control. Questions from the property owners about the work done to date, and preliminary results, were answered by Craig Helker and K. Aron.

A property owner motioned to have the district investigate the costs to purchase a harvester and to bring the information to the next annual meeting. The motion was seconded, and passed on a voice vote.

J. Marks appointed M. Bluemel and B. Rosenquist to head that committee.

J. Marks read the Budget Resolution 1-2018. There was a motion to approve the Resolution, a 2nd and the motion carried, approving the budget as presented.

J. Marks is up for re-election as commissioner. After a call for nominations, J. Marks and R. Mayer were nominated for the position. The two candidates were asked to give a short presentation of themselves and why they are seeking the position. After the vote, R. Mayer was elected to the board for a three year term. J. Marks was thanked for his service.

The 2019 Annual Meeting date will either be the 1st or 2nd Thursday in September, depending on the Green Bay Packers schedule.

There was no other business to come before the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

**ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING AGENDA - WLMD
Thursday September 12, 2019 at 7 pm Norway Town Hall**

Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions - Board Members, Guests

Approve Minutes of 2018 Annual Meeting

Project Update - A review of 2019 and plans for 2020.

Budget Hearing and Approval - Resolution 1-2019:

Whereas the Board of Commissioners has proposed the enclosed budget (**Columns E and F**) for the WLMD for the year **July 1, 2019 through Dec 31, 2020**.

And Whereas, notice of the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting was provided to residents and landowners;

And Whereas, the Board has proposed the annual special charge be set at \$220 lakefront, \$130 canal and \$90 off lake for the 12-month portion and \$110, \$65 and \$45 respectively, for the 6-month portion;

And Whereas, the Board recommends the projects presented herein;

And Whereas, the 1997 annual meeting gave the Board authority for short term borrowing to cover grant reimbursements not yet received;

And Whereas, the 2010 Annual Meeting approved the levy of irrevocable taxes to repay the State Loans;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the the WLMD shall move to a calendar year budget as recommended by the board;

Be It Further Resolved, that the 2019/2020 Proposed Budget, Columns E and F, are hereby approved;

Be It Further Resolved, that the projects included in the budget, as may be amended by this Annual Meeting, are hereby approved;

Be It Further Resolved, that the charges will be placed on the 2020 tax bill with no penalties;

Be It Further Resolved, that the WLMD board is authorized to apply for available grants;

Be It Further Resolved, that the authorization for short term borrowing to cover grant reimbursements not yet received is continued through this budget year;

Be It Further Resolved, that the special charges approved by this Resolution may be paid prior to October 1, 2020, at which time unpaid special charges will be placed on the December 2020 tax rolls.

Election of Commissioner – Current board member Bruce Rosenquist's term is up for re-election. Nominations from the floor are welcome.

Set date for 2020 Annual Meeting - First or Second Thursday of September (Depending on Packer Schedule)

New Business

Adjourn

A Board of Commissioners meeting will be held immediately following the Annual Meeting to elect officers.

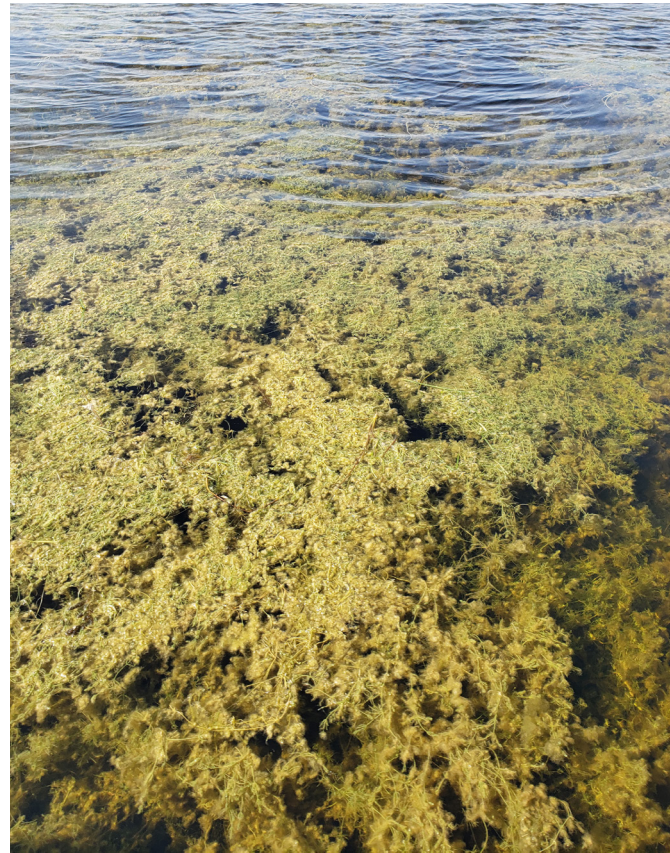
The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2019, at the Norway Town Hall.

2019/2020 PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET				1 YR BUDGET	6 MONTHS BUDGET	
	A	B	C	D	E	F
REVENUE						
		2017/2018 Actual	2018/2019 Approved	2018/2019 Actual	July 1, 2019 to June 30 2020	July 1, 2020 to Dec 31, 2020
1	Special Charges & Assessments	133,994	128,000	129,934	128,000	64,000
2	Grants	0	93,471	56,755	0	0
3	Loan Rcts/Payments - alum	19,107	16,234	16,017	16,000	0
4	Property Transfer Fee	1,520	1,000	480	1,000	1,000
5	Interest	286	200	2,050	2,500	1,200
	Total Revenue	154,906	238,905	205,236	147,500	66,200
EXPENSES						
6	Meetings/seminars	1,412	2,500	25	2,500	0
7	Postal Expenses	1,184	1,500	1,481	1,600	750
8	Office Equip/Maint.	146	150	146	150	0
9	Office	378	300	236	400	0
10	Phone/Faxes	563	575	490	800	400
11	Publications	429	500	485	500	250
12	Insurance	1,354	2,000	1,352	2,000	1,000
13	Print/Publishing	1,402	1,500	1,130	1,600	800
14	Mileage/per diem	4,799	4,800	4,599	4,800	2,400
15	Misc	322	400	35	400	200
16	Website	779	1,200	849	1,200	600
17	Secy, Tech supp., DP	9,604	9,600	9,600	9,600	4,800
18	Attorney	0	1,000	240	1,000	500
19	Accountant	525	1,500	1,050	550	
20	Weed Control		138,603	112,275	80,000	40,000
21	- harvesting & roadside pickup	31,475	10,700	21,925		²
22	- Chem Treatment	14,404	3,275	13,323		²
23	- Starry Stonewort expenses		124,628	77,026		²
24	Aquatic Plant Survey/Plan (Harv Permit)	11,850	0	0		³
25	USGS	0	10,000	9,640	10,410	11,000
26	Goose Control	2,201	3,000	0	3000	0
27	Land Maintenance-Properties	1,946	2,400	47	2,400	1,200
28	Contingency	0	4,000	0	4,000	2,000
29	Emergency Action	0	4,000	0	4,000	2,000
30	Non-lapsing State Fund loan payments					
	26220 S Wind Lk Rd	15,188	15,188	12,357	0	¹
	Alum Treatment	36,350	36,350	36,350	36,350	¹ 0
31	Dam Operation	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	3,000
	Total Expenses	142,312	247,066	198,388	173,260	70,900
Notes:						
¹ Amounts cannot be reduced: irrevocable tax approved at 2010 Ann. Mtg.						
² Provided for informational purposes- see Line 20 for total plant control totals						
³ Must be done every 5 years to get a harvesting permit						
	Checking acct balances June 30, 2019	21,345				
	Money mkt acct balance June 30, 2019	162,953				
	Debt balance- property loan (110,000)	0				
	Debt balance- Alum loan (300,000)	68,799	Last payment will be due March 2021.			
NO PROPOSED INCREASE IN TAXES. CHANGING TO CALENDAR YEAR						



Good: Wild Celery and Pondweeds

Photo taken 7-27-19 on SW shoreline 4 feet deep



Bad: Starry Stonewort and Filamentous Algae

Photo taken 7-27-19 on NW shoreline 4 feet deep

Good VS Bad, Native VS Invasive

Wind Lake has experienced many problems over the years, from water quality problems to Eurasian watermilfoil, from too-high water to too-low water. Each year seems to present a new challenge.

Since August 2017, the newest, and most significant challenge for Wind Lake is the highly invasive, Starry Stonewort (SSW).

SSW complicates everything we now do. But first a little background:

Back in the 1980s the water quality on Wind Lake was so poor that the main problem was pea-soup, smelly algae blooms. There were very few native plants, and most of the plants in the lake were curly-leaf pondweed and milfoil, both invasive species.

As work began to clean up the water quality, clear water led to more aquatic plants (weeds). Milfoil seemed the happiest with the new conditions, growing thick and dense, blocking boat traffic and choking large areas of the lake. A couple of years, over 200 acres were blocked by milfoil growing to the surface on the East and NE side of the lake. To make matters worse, filamentous algae, that slimy surface algae, covered the milfoil on the surface, clogging water intakes on boats.

The District responded by harvesting channels through the milfoil so lake users could access the open water areas. Shoreline areas of milfoil were chemically treated to try to reduce the access problems.

Once the water quality and runoff problems were addressed, the native plants started to rebound. In 2011, 23 different plant species were present in Wind Lake. In 2017, the number increased to 29 species. Milfoil declined in that time period (that's a good thing) going from 63% frequency to 20% frequency.

A survey for this year will be completed by the time you receive this newsletter. It appears that milfoil is still in decline, but it also appears that the wild celery frequency will be up significantly.

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 3

Good weeds, in general, are less dense, have a thinner architecture, and often can be boated through. Native weedbeds are great for the fisheries. Invasive species weed beds are generally very dense, and can quickly block boat traffic. Dense, monotypic stands of invasives negatively affect the fisheries.

WHAT TOOLS CAN BE USED?

Chemical treatment can be used to maintain a navigational lane or to try to control invasives to give natives a fighting chance. Some plants are easily controlled; others not so easily or close to impossible.

Harvesting is used to open up navigational lanes in deep water, often targeting plants like milfoil or coontail. Harvesting cannot be used in shallow water or around piers. It is rarely allowed in native plant beds.

Raking can be done by property owners, clearing an area along 30 feet of their frontage, as far out as they chose. This can be hard work, but can be done in native or invasive plant beds. The District provides roadside pickup for removal of the raked vegetation. Plants placed by the road by noon on Aug 26, Sept 23, Oct 21 will be picked up.

SO WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN?

- We can't spray areas to keep the weeds from growing - there is no pre-emergent aquatic herbicide.
- We can't harvest areas if the plants are still 2 to 3 feet below the surface.
- We are limited by what our DNR permits allow. The harvesting permit prevents cutting in shallow water (<3 feet deep), and it requires that we leave one foot of plant material in place. We can't cut down into the lakebed.
- Violating the DNR permits can lead to warnings, fines and then the permit is rescinded.
- We need to protect the native plants as much as possible to prevent the SSW from blocking everyone's access. If the native plants are removed, it is much easier for SSW to take hold.



Wild Celery is one of the most dominant plant in Wind Lake. This plant has flat blades that look like grass. The leaves are growing as tall as 6 feet this year. The roots look like white tubers and often, multiple plants are connected by the tubers. It can become a nuisance when the plant becomes bouyant and releases from the sediments, floating around in large mats.

It's thick coverage of the lake bottom is however, very important in preventing the spread of SSW.

More detailed information on the plants and management options can be found in the Wind Lake Plant Management Plan on the Wind Lake website, WLMD.org.

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
September 12, 2019

Present: M. Bluemel, R. Schopp, J. Marks, J. Bellante, B. Rosenquist, and K. Aron.

M. Bluemel called the board meeting to order at 9:05 pm, immediately following the Annual Meeting.

B. Rosenquist moved to retain the same officers. M. Bluemel called for a 2nd. Motion died for lack of a second.

R. Schopp moved to nominate J. Bellante for Chair, R. Mayer as Treasurer, and B. Rosenquist as Secretary, 2nd by R. Mayer, motion approved on a 3 to 2 vote.

K. Aron will post the notices and minutes of the harvesting committee on the WLMD website. M. Bluemel will let her know in advance when the meetings will be held.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. The next board meeting of the WLMD is scheduled for October 24, 2019 at 7 pm.

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
October 24, 2019

Present: M. Bluemel, B. Rosenquist, J. Bellante, R. Mayer, R. Schopp, K. Aron and 4 citizens were present.

J. Bellante called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: R. Mayer motioned to approve the 7-25-2019 meeting minutes as printed, second by R. Schopp, motion carried. R. Mayer motioned to approve the 9-12-2019 meeting minutes as printed, second by B. Rosenquist, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: R. Mayer gave the treasurers report. The report covers 3 months. Motion by R. Schopp to approve, second by M. Bluemel, motion carried.

Information and Correspondence:

The county tax posting will be done the first week in November. A few payments are still coming in, but time for those are running out.

Public Comments:

A resident asked how many haven't paid their taxes in advance. It is about 40-45% haven't paid yet. 50% is normal. This will be the last tax posting. In the future, all taxes will be posted directly to the tax roll each November.

A question was asked about more information on what the USGS bill is. K. Aron explained that covers the water quality monitoring and lake level recordings.

Old Business:

ASDA Enterprise, a garbage collection company out of Burlington does the roadside weed pickup. They have notified us that they will raise their price from \$825 to almost \$1600. Butch's Hometown Services has given us a quote of \$775 a month for once a week or \$400 a pick that is done twice a month. It seems that ASDA does not want to do this any longer. They regularly miss some roads, and the price increase is just too much to pay. Attempts in the recent past to get quotes from others to do the pickups have been unsuccessful, with no quotes received. M. Bluemel motioned to hire Butch's Hometown Services to conduct a roadside pickup twice a month for \$800 a month from May to October. Second by R. Schopp, motion carried. R. Mayer abstained because Butch's Hometown Services is his nephew. Roadside pickups have been done between Noon on Mondays and Weds evening. That schedule will continue.

DNR now has the survey data on the most recent plant survey. Newly found infestations in Waukesha County have been denied requests to chemically treat the new locations. It will remain to be seen how quickly it spreads because of those decisions. We have been very lucky to have Craig Helker as our DNR person. He has worked with us to try to contain SSW and he has allowed us to treat the boat launches and channels. On land cleaning stations are not the answer to SSW. Any plants and fragments can be trapped and remain viable in areas like the trailer slides' carpeting. Our launches and channels are being treated using the current AIS grant funds at a 75/25 rate.

New Business:

M. Bluemel and B. Rosenquist have visited and gotten pricing on harvesters. They have talked with different districts about maintenance costs and rode on two different ones. Both manufacturers are equally good. They rode an 800 cu ft machine from Inland, and a 450 cu ft machine from Aquarius. B. Rosenquist believes the 450 cu ft machine is the right size for Wind Lake. The harvesters have flip-up paddlewheels and are 16 ft wide with them down, and 10 ft wide with them up so they can be transported/launched. Another company, Lake Monsters out of Illinois that is new in business, has contacted B. Rosenquist and wants to work on Wind Lake. They have a 120 cu ft machine and a transfer barge. They charge \$250 per hour. There are only two major builders of harvesters in this country, Inland and Aquarius. We are still getting pricing and trying to get everything to match. The goal is to have a committee meeting and to bring all of the information to the December meeting. M. Bluemel is still trying to get the costs on the truck costs,

time, manpower, storage, maintenance, etc. R. Schopp indicated the Town is not interested in storing the equipment on Town property.

There have been no committee meetings yet.

M. Bluemel asked to put the discussion about hours of contract harvesting for 2020, on the next agenda. R. Schopp said they have 2 weeks scheduled for Waubeesee Lake. In the past, the contract discussion was done in February. When asked whether to commit to a specific number of days; the board has always decided to not commit and to see what plant growth looks like. K. Aron said Wind Lake usually harvests right around Fathers Day of each year, and the first week in August. In 2019, Clearwater could give us one week the first of August, but not two. When we don't commit in advance, he has to find other customers to stay in business. B. Rosenquist asked to find out the capacity of the Clearwater equipment. K. Aron will check on the scheduling for 2020 for the next meeting.

Public Comments:

A resident asked what the goal is for buying a harvester. Is it to clear the lake, cut closer to shore, or? R. Schopp replied that you can't cut close to shore, in water less than 3 feet deep. Waubeesee primarily skims vegetation but Wind Lake primarily cuts navigational lanes. M. Bluemel replied the goal is to keep the lake navigable cleaning the existing channels, making them wider and more of them. Another resident thinks having our own harvester will mean his area will be better maintained. A resident is concerned that having one will lead to harvesting too much and in too many areas. Spawning areas, motorless boating areas, are potentially all at risk by buying a harvester. Maximum use should be established. There were additional questions/discussion about depth of water in problem areas. R. Mayer said previous years the cost controls were a primary consideration in not committing in advance to multiple weeks of harvesting. K. Aron read the District's stated and approved goal in the plant management plan on which the permit is based.

There are concerns about the DNR ignoring real data on SSW chemical treatment effectiveness and there are a number of District's working to trying to resolve the problem. K. Aron explained what Long Lake did, including the very extensive data collection. DNR is now ignoring it and making decisions that are counter to what the data shows.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm. Next meeting will be December 5, 2019.

Minutes
Wind Lake Management District Board of Commissioner Meeting
December 5, 2019

Present: M. Bluemel, B. Rosenquist, J. Bellante, R. Mayer, R. Schopp, K. Aron and 10 citizens were present.

J. Bellante called the board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: M. Bluemel motioned to approve the minutes as printed, second by R. Mayer, motion carried.

Treasurers Report: R. Mayer gave the treasurers report. Motion by R. Schopp to approve, second by B. Rosenquist, motion carried.

Information and Correspondence:

R. Mohr passed away last week. A long time board member and contributor to the lake district's activities, he was an important part of the success of the improvements on the lake. The district is grateful he was a part of this community and he will be missed. The district has conveyed our condolences to his family.

Public Comments: None.

Old Business:

K. Aron presented the information from our contractor on his availability for 2020. They are considering a purchase of another harvester. They generally harvest 50 hours per week when they are here, but the weather may change that. They are usually on Wind Lake around Father's Day, the 4th of July, then the last week in July/first week in August. They allow us to shift that schedule slightly based on weed growth. Historically, with the previous contractor, we had to give them a \$5,000 deposit which they kept, even if there were no weeds. The current contractor has never required anything. If they do purchase another harvester, we could choose to have one or both of the machines when we need it. The board needs to decide what schedule we want. In 2019, they were here the weeks of June 4 (38 hours), July 8, and Aug 5 for a total of 162 hours. The numbers of weeks were also discussed. The board discussed various options for scheduling, including modifying or guaranteeing the work.

Motion by M. Bluemel to schedule them for the weeks of June 8, June 22, July 6, July 20, July 27, second by B. Rosenquist, motion carried. During discussion, the motion and 2nd was amended to Aug 3 instead of July 27. K. Aron will contact the contractor to verify that these dates are acceptable with them. Motion carried.

The board discussed and reviewed the results and recommendations of the Harvesting committee meeting on Nov 12, 2019. Most of the committee was present. Committee members contacted neighboring lake groups to find out what those groups are doing. M. Bluemel will send K. Aron the names of the various lake group contacts. Both manufacturers were contacted and toured, including a test ride on each of their equipment.

The Committee's report is attached and their recommendations are summarized below:

- Cut 1-3 days a week for the entire summer, 24 hours per week.
- There are the only two manufacturers. Will have to go out for bids once decisions on equipment is made. Quotes are only good for 30 days because of steel prices.
- Renting out to other lake groups was considered but discarded as not possible.
- Grants are available from DNR, and as long as funding is available, all applicants are approved. Apply by Feb 1.
- Expect an after-grant cost of \$140,000.
- Budget \$12 per hour for maintenance and fuel.
- Hire a temp agency to employ workers and pay \$10 - \$13 per hour to employees resulting in \$24 per hour to agency.
- Manufacturers offer free training with purchase. Budget \$500 per year training.
- Lease a truck and operator; budget \$70 per hour.
- Total cutting of 210 hours per year.
- Have a primary and secondary person to oversee and make decisions.
- Store equipment at a pier on S Wind Lake property; \$6500 to \$7500 for a pier.
- Budget \$500 to winterize.

- Store on S Wind Lake lot and shrink-wrap; budget \$750.
- Budget \$3600 for insurance.
- Use \$110,000 of current funds and 50% of weed control budget; no increase in fees.
- Total cost annually is anticipated to be \$38,330.

J. Bellante thanked the committee for their efforts. The board asked some questions to clarify the proposal. R. Mayer pointed out that there really are no funds to take for the \$110,000. Funds are required to pay the current loans, and pay the bills. Funds in 2020 won't come in until January 2021 because of the shift to a calendar year with no billing. R. Mayer stated that loans would need to be taken out for the full amount. K. Aron provided current State Fund loan interest rates – 3.25%.

Cost of maintenance and repairs, hourly pay rate, truck and operator leasing, and concern over the risk of outdoor storage were a number of the questions/concerns discussed by the board. The Town does not have room at the current site to dispose of cut weeds at a higher rate so alternatives would need to be located. Disposal sites have to be approved through the harvesting DNR permitting process. Another issue is the use of the lot on S Wind Lake Rd. The committee's proposed use of the site is not permitted under Racine County Code of Ordinances. No vacant lots can be used for such activities/storage. K. Aron said that training is needed in more than just equipment, it would include safety and weed identification. K. Aron said that a review of the committee proposal for 3 days per week, the harvesting is spread out, rather than front loaded. M. Bluemel said their recommendation was the amount needed in total, not necessarily used in 3 days per week.

There was discussion about expanded harvesting into areas that are not permitted, and managing public expectations that the lake would be cleared of the weeds, rather than used to open up navigational lanes.

The public had some questions, including disposing of weeds at the Town transfer site. Use of the large dump on Hwy 45 would add to the budget. There is a cost for dumping there. Use of farm areas required pave/gravel roads to access. The board clarified that the current contractor charges \$200 per hour and try to work at least 10 hours per day. One resident believes that some residents want their shorelines and in-pier areas cleaned out, which we cannot do under our permits. Another resident expressed concern that employees would change day to day and that would require additional training. An irregular, limited schedule such as proposed would make it difficult to find people to work when they could work somewhere else for a full work schedule. Another concern is who makes the decision on where to cut. M. Bluemel said the board member who is appointed would make that decision. A committee member indicated that they want to make Wind Lake a better lake for everyone that uses the lake. He feels that what has been done, hasn't been working so we need to do something different. A concern about the use of Sportsman's was expressed. A question was raised as to what happens if the budget is used up.

There was a question about starry stonewort requiring more harvesting. K. Aron said that the SSW cannot be cut – it spreads too easily and doesn't roll up the conveyor like aquatic plants do.

J. Bellante expressed his appreciation for the amount of work the committee has done, and looks forward to seeing their additional recommendations. He said the committee sets the framework for what needs to be done to proceed. He encourages the committee to sharpen their recommendation report so that it can be shared and provide a framework for the public information meetings. Before we can move forward, we are required to have the meetings that are required by the District/DNR-approved plan. Once there is a complete package, we can proceed.

B. Rosenquist asked for a decision to apply for the grant, however, the board pointed out that there is still a lot of work to do:

- Funding, including financing the whole purchase
- Two public information meetings
- Storage site and building
- Repair budget
- Sportsman's agreement
- Disposal site options
- Coordination of timing of public information meetings, annual meeting approval, grant application, budget approval for purchase, and loan application

Public Comments:

A resident asked what the life expectancy of a harvester. K. Aron said it is 20 years; equipment is very durable as long as it is properly maintained. Well maintained equipment will last longer than expected. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. Next meeting will be January 23, 2019.