

Volume 37, Number 2, August 2022

2022 ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING

The annual meeting will start at 7:00pm on Thursday, September 8th at Norway Town Hall. State law is specific as it involves lake districts and does not allow virtual annual meetings. In addition, state law does not allow the use of proxy, absentee, or mail-in voting.

Eligible voters are:

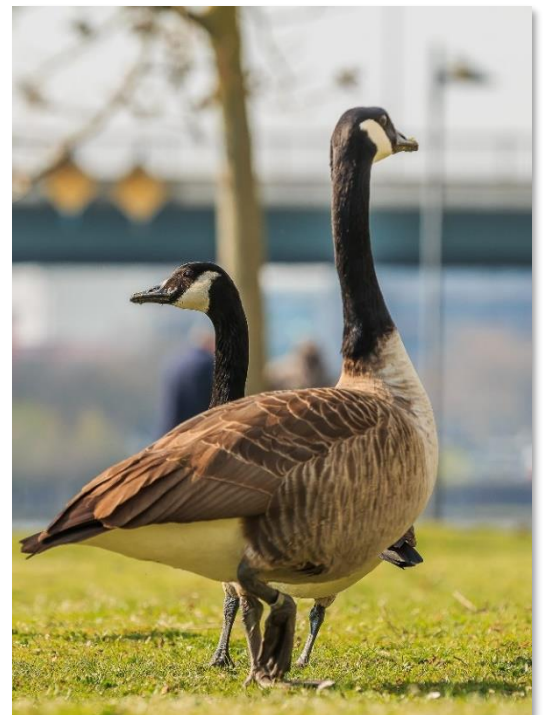
Anyone **in attendance** of legal voting age, who owns property or lives within the boundaries of the Wind Lake Management District.

- *Absentee, proxy, or mail-in voting is prohibited*
- *All landowners regardless of their primary residence can vote*
- *Anyone over the age of 18 living in the district is eligible- including renters*
- *One must be present to vote*
- *Once voting begins, no additional ballots can be given out*
- *Each eligible voter gets a single vote, even if a voter owns multiple properties*

Please bring an ID with your address in the district or if your ID does not show the correct address then also bring a tax or utility bill in your name to show your eligibility for voting.

GOOSE ROUNDUP CANCELLED

Recognizing the need to reduce the geese population in the area, the WLMD board voted unanimously to contract with the USDA (Department of Agriculture) for a goose roundup in June. The USDA is the government authority that oversees the removal of geese not related to hunting. Unfortunately, the USDA has a rule that if there is an Avian Influenza (bird flu) case within 6 miles, they cannot perform a roundup. There was a case of Bird Flu in Racine County about 3 miles from Wind Lake and the USDA denied the WLMD request. The USDA has to follow special regulations when there is a possibility of Avian Flu, including wearing respirators and light duty Haz-Mat suits. The USDA stated that they currently do not have the equipment or trained personnel to complete a roundup under Avian Flu regulations. The WLMD board will continue to look for other options until a roundup can be completed.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

We are in the middle of another beautiful summer in Wind Lake. Temperatures are in the mid-80s, with water temperatures at or above 80°! My sunrise walks are filled with fishermen on the near-glass water, and during the day all the sandbars are crowded- skiers, tubers and wake boarders enjoying the afternoon sun. It is wonderful to see so many different people and families enjoying the lake.

This is our second complete year of weed cutting. So far, the weeds have been kept in check by mother nature and we've had to do lower than average hours of weed cutting. The weed cutting crew is Diligently keeping the boat ready, surveying the lake and keeping the channels open. Having our own weed cutter has allowed us to be flexible for our weed control operations to increase and decrease as needed. This has resulted in a better kept lake and lower cutting costs.

I cannot say enough about the hard work and dedication that our board puts in. Board member Joe Bellante has done an awesome job with the chemical spraying. Communication has never been better, such as later in the newsletter with the map showing where we sprayed. I feel that the board has a clear understanding of what areas we are treating and for what purpose. Jeremy Sauld has done a wonderful job as treasurer keeping the finances straight and under budget. Ron Mayer has handled the secretarial duties extremely well, keeping us organized, on target and moving forward.

The board continues the goal of always trying to increase efficiency, while learning and adapting how to best manage the lake. We are again putting forth a budget without the need for any increase in Lake Fees. We have been able to keep our lake fees extremely low compared to neighboring lakes. In closing, I have been very grateful and honored to be the chairman for the last few years. It has always been my intention to make Wind Lake a better lake for everyone to enjoy. As I hand off the chairman duties, I would like to thank everyone for all their trust and support over the past few years.



Michael Bluemel – Chair WLMD



WEED HARVESTING UPDATE

The second year of the Wind Lake harvesting operations is underway and will continue through Labor Day. The Board retained the services of Harvesting Program Manager John Landry, Senior Operator Mike Strzok, and added Pat Fitzgerald as an additional part time operator. The Board also renewed the contract with Jerry Kotarek for trucking services. The district is very lucky to have this crew working to make Wind Lake better, as they are all doing it for the right reason.

Harvesting operations started mid-June and as of the end of July, the crew had logged 67 hours of harvesting, training, and maintenance. The weed growth has been light so far but harvesting still removed 8000 cubic feet of weeds. Weed growth will continue to be monitored and harvesting hours will be increased if needed. One huge advantage of owning a harvester is that operations can be ramped up quickly if needed, but also to be fiscally responsible and limit hours if harvesting is not needed. Harvesting operations must also be coordinated with chemical treatments and follow the approved harvesting plan in accordance with DNR regulations.

As harvesting operations wrap up for this year, the board and harvesting crew are already preparing for next year. Your patience and continued input is appreciated. Together we make can work to make Wind Lake the best it can be.

WEED HARVESTING STRATEGY

We take many factors into consideration when crafting our weed control strategy:

- There is no pre-emergent aquatic herbicide so we cannot spray areas to prevent the growth of plants.
- We cannot harvest areas if the plants are 2-3 feet below the surface, so harvesting can only happen when the weeds reach the surface.
- We are limited by what the DNR permit allows. Water depth must be over 3' and we must leave 1' of plant growth on the lakebed. No cutting into the lakebed is allowed.
- Native plants need to protect the lakebed from the expansion of invasive species.
- Violation of the permit rules can lead to warnings, fines, and the rescinding of our harvesting permit.

HOMEOWNER ACTION

The DNR allows all homeowners the ability to clear an area 30' wide in their lake frontage as far out as they chose to a depth of 4'. This can be done by the manual method of raking to provide plant removal and the owner can remove both invasive and native plants in the 30' area. The raked vegetation can be placed by the roadside for pickup.

ROADSIDE LAKE WEED PICKUP

The WLMD will continue the roadside weed pickup program this summer. Only lake weeds can be placed on the roadside for pickup. Please make sure the pile is close to the side of the road and not setting back up against a building or tree line. We will not be picking up "ice-off" debris. Do not put lake sediment, dirt, rocks, branches, garbage, or other debris in the pile. The pile will not be picked up if anything other than lake weeds are on the pile. Piles must be out by noon on Mondays to be picked up between Monday and Wednesday evening.

Here are the remaining pickup dates for 2022:

August 8th, 15th, 29th; September 12th, 19th, 26th; and October 10th, 24th.

CHEMICAL TREATMENT REPORT

WLMD receives a permit annually from the DNR to chemically treat weeds in Wind Lake. Most of the areas treated are shallow, weed-choked and restrict lake access for property owners. The plan is to treat when the conditions warrant, usually in early May and early June, weather permitting. Treatments to control the Starry Stonewort (SSW) are also planned.

The DNR permit for the chemical treatment is available on the WLMD website. Go to wlmd.org. The link to the permit is on the home page and on the aquatic plant page.

The lake is considered "waters of the State". Treatments will be conducted to try to maintain access for property owners and lake users.

We have applied Starry Stonewort treatments in the navigational channel and applied larger chemical treatments in other parts of the lake for invasive growth. All treatments are done under the supervision of the DNR. We concentrate most of our treatments on navigational areas. Treatments can only be conducted when either invasive species are present or when nuisance conditions block lake use. Treatments have been made on June 7th, 9th, 17th, and July 14th. The map below shows the areas that have been treated:

Wind Lake—Racine Co., WI
2022 Proposed Treatment Areas*



Description	Acres
Shoreline (yellow)	138.2
Nav. Areas 1-9 (blue)**	11.5
Total	149.75

* Areas to be inspected and treated, as needed, for control of Eurasian Watermilfoil, Curly-leaf pondweed and/or filamentous algae.

** Anticipate that #1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 may require treatment for native species as well in order to maintain navigation.

Areas known to have Starry Stonewort (SSW) that can interfere with navigation and may require treatment (either all or portion thereof) include Areas 1, 2, 6, 7 & 9. Areas in front of Public Launch and Sportsmen's will be monitored for SSW and treated, if necessary



VESSEL SAFETY CHECK REPORT

On Saturday, June 11th Marlys Williams and Dan Jahn of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGA) performed the Vessel safety Checks (VSC) with the assistance of John Landry, Jim Marks, Jeremy Sauld and Bruce Rosenquist of the Wind Lake Management District. The VSC were conducted at the DNR Launch Ramp. 25 owners were contacted. 11 passed the VSC, 5 had insufficient time for the VSC, 11 said no and only 1 failed. There was one owner with 3 vessels. We look forward to offering this service again next year on Saturday June 10th 2023.

If you wish to have your boat inspected, you may call Dan Jahn of the USCGA at **(414) 614-3164** and he will come to your dock.

ANNUAL FIREWORKS SHOW

The 5th Annual Wind Lake Fireworks Show is scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 20th at dusk. A big **THANK YOU** to our sponsors, volunteers, committee members, local businesses, and the community for helping make this possible. We could not have done it without your support, and we are looking forward to continuing this beloved tradition.

Please follow us on the *Wind Lake Fireworks Facebook Page* and/or *WindLakeFireworks.com* for continuous updates on upcoming fundraisers and events! The committee continues to engage and collaborate with local businesses to get creative in raising funds for the fireworks while also generating revenue for local businesses. Please contact us if you have any ideas or would like to volunteer at an event. Contact us if you would like to get involved by emailing WindLakeFireworksAssociation@gmail.com or by calling **(414) 870-6631**.

Also, be on the lookout for committee members selling 2023 Wind Lake Fireworks Jamboree Tickets at local businesses. Again, thank you and we hope you enjoy the show!



2022 ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING AGENDA

Thursday, September 8th, 2022 – 7:00pm at Norway Town Hall

Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions - Board Members & Guests

Approve Minutes of 2021 Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting Project Update – Review of 2022 & Plans for 2023

Billing Adjustments Discussion

Budget Hearing and Approval - Resolution 1-2022:

- *Whereas the Board of Commissioners proposed the enclosed budget for WLMD for the year Jan 1, 2023 through Dec 31, 2023:*
- *And whereas notice of Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting was provided to residents and Landowners:*
- *And whereas the Board recommends the projects presented herein:*
- *And whereas the 1997 annual meeting gave the Board authority for short-term borrowing only to cover grant reimbursements not yet received:*
- *And whereas the 2010 Annual Meeting approved the levy of irrevocable taxes to repay state loans:*
- *And whereas the Board has proposed the annual charge be set; \$220 lakefront, \$130 canal and \$90 off lake properties:*
- *And whereas the 2021 Annual Meeting gave the Board the authority to charge all taxable properties in the district according to those categories, including situations where one owner has multiple properties:*
- *Be it further resolved that the annual WLMD charges will be placed on the 2022 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 projects included in the budget, as may be amended by this annual meeting are hereby approved:*
- *Be it further resolved that the WLMD is approved to apply for loans for purchases and projects approved at this meeting:*
- *Be it further resolved that the 2023 Proposed Budget is hereby approved:*
- *Be it further resolved that the 2023 Annual Meeting can be scheduled after September 8th:*

Election of Commissioner – Terms for current board members Jim Marks and Bruce Rosenquist are up for re-election. Nominations from the floor are welcome.

New Business – Any other business that may properly come before this board

Adjourn

Note: 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 25, 2022, at 7pm, at Norway Town Hall.

**Wind Lake Management District
2023 Proposed Budget**

Annual Revenue	
Lake Dues	\$138,000.00
Property Transfer Fees	\$510.00
Interest	\$70.00
Total Estimated Income	\$138,580.00

Expense Category	January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022	January 1, 2022 to Current(7/25/2022)	Jan 1, 2023 to Dec 31, 2023
	Approved	Actual	Proposed
Meetings/Seminars	\$1,500.00	\$700.69	\$1,500.00
Postal Expenses	\$1,600.00	\$352.16	\$1,600.00
Office Supplies/Equipment	\$500.00	\$179.88	\$500.00
Publications	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Insurance	\$4,000.00	\$254.00	\$7,000.00
Print/Publishing	\$1,600.00	\$713.53	\$1,600.00
Mileage/Per Diem	\$6,400.00	\$3,099.50	\$6,400.00
Misc	\$400.00	\$50.00	\$400.00
Website	\$1,800.00	\$849.35	\$1,800.00
Attorney	\$4,000.00	\$240.00	\$4,000.00
Accountant	\$2,200.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00
Weed Control/Harvest/Pickup	\$83,860.00	\$12,335.55	\$92,950.00
USGS	\$12,000.00	\$11,370.00	\$12,000.00
Geese Control	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Property Maintenance	\$2,400.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,400.00
Contingency	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Emergency Action	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Dam Operation	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Aquatic Plant Survey/Plan (Harvesting Permit)	\$13,000.00	\$0.00	\$13,000.00
Total Expenses	\$150,760.00	\$38,344.66	\$162,850.00

WIND LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 222
Muskego, WI 53150

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

VISIT WLMD.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Meetings, schedules, agendas, and minutes
- Information about who to contact for various activities
- Links to other lake-related sites
- The latest lake depth map of Wind Lake
- Important Notices

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Mike Bluemel – Chairman	(262) 895-2502
Ron Mayer – Secretary	(414) 614-5859
Jeremy Sauld – Treasurer	(262) 391-7044
Ralph Schopp – Town Representative	(414) 531-6020
Joe Bellante – County Supervisor	(262) 895-6694
Bruce Rosenquist – Commissioner	(262) 895-3942
Jim Marks – Commissioner	(414) 810-9526

Commissioner's meetings are usually held the 4th Tuesday of every month, with the November and December meeting combined. Meetings begin at 7pm at the Norway Town Hall. All residents are welcome to attend, but please note that meeting dates are subject to change. Always refer to our website for the latest up-to-date information.

QUESTIONS?

Email us at info@wlmd.org

2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:30pm at Norway Town Hall

Board members present: Chairman Mike Bluemel, Secretary Ron Mayer, Treasurer Jeremy Sauld, Racine County Representative Joe Bellante, Norway Town Representative Ralph Schopp, Commissioner Bruce Rosenquist, and Commissioner Jim Marks. A total of 43 citizens attended.

Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance at 6:39pm

Introductions - Chairman Bluemel introduced the Board members

Approve Minutes from 2020 Annual Meeting

Motion from the floor to accept minutes as presented, seconded from the floor. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Annual Meeting Project Update - A review of 2021 and present plans for 2022

Bluemel presented the highlights of 2021, including the purchase of the harvester, harvesting operations, and the challenges of dealing with the low lake levels. The harvesting totals included 202 hours, 59 cutter loads, 23,000 cubic feet of weeds removed.

Bellante presented information on chemical treatments, including both regular treatments and Starry Stone Wart. He reviewed the areas treated (map in the newsletter) and the level of success in each area.

Bluemel provided information on the sale of the western portion of the lake lot.

Bluemel explained that the district is required to update the Aquatic Plant Management Plan every 5 years. The district will request bids from companies next year for a 2023 to 2027 plan. The district will also apply for a grant to cover a portion of the expense.

Billing Adjustments Update

Sauld explained the process of the property audit and the findings. He explained the purpose of the proposed resolution and why it is fairer to all District properties to bill each taxable property.

Budget Hearing and Approval - Resolution 1-2021 was read into the record by Bluemel. Sauld presented the budget presented in the newsletter. He explained the previous budget and the proposed budget for 2022, line by line. He recognized Jerry Kotarek for keeping our trucking fees very reasonable. Casanova's was also recognized for providing shrink wrap of the harvester at no charge.

Motion made from the floor to accept the resolution as presented, second from the floor.

Public Comments:

Citizen had a question on the goose roundup. Marks explained that it is a federal program and there are requirements. Citizen also questioned the audit process and why it has been delayed. Sauld explained the situation with the current accountant.

Citizen commented in favor of the goose roundup. He also had a question on the billing process.

Citizen commented on the goose roundup.

Citizen commented in favor of the goose roundup and spoke in favor of price increase of lake dues if needed.

2021 MINUTES CONTINUED...

Citizen had a question on the budget and wanted to make sure there was enough for harvesting. Sauld explained the changes, specifically for harvesting operations. He also questioned the Plant Management Plan and if it will be going out for bids.

Citizen questioned the budget and where the sale of the property is shown on the budget. It was explained that the sale of the property is still in progress.

Citizen had a question on the budget and the sharing of costs to haul away weeds.

Citizen requested more information on the revenue side of the budget. Sauld explained that majority of the revenue is from lake dues.

With no further public comments, Bluemel called for a voice vote on the resolution. Motion was passed unanimously.

Election of Commissioner – Current board member Ron Mayer's term is up for re-election. Mayer accepted nomination as a current Board member. Bluemel opened it to the floor for nominations three times. With no floor nominations offered, Mayer was re-elected for another 3 years.

Discuss/Set Date and Location for 2022 Annual Meeting

Bluemel mentioned that the Board will look at options for the 2022 Annual Meeting.

New Business - Bluemel opened it to the floor for new business items.

Citizen requested better marking the buoys. Bluemel explained that the DNR has strict regulations for adding buoys and Marks explained that the Town Police Department places the buoys. The Board agrees it is an issue and will address this issue.

Citizen commended the board for their work, which was followed by applause.

Any Other Business That May Properly Come Before This Board

None presented.

Adjourn

Motion from the floor to adjourn, seconded from the floor. Motion passed on a voice vote. Annual Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Board of Commissioners meeting was held immediately following the Annual Meeting

Mike Bluemel was re-elected Chairman.

Ron Mayer was re-elected Secretary.

Jeremy Sauld was re-elected Treasurer.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2021 at 7pm, at Norway Town Hall.