

PIPE LAKES PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
Johnstown Town Shed, 2181 County Road G
January 5, 2019

Attending:

Jan Breyer, Cindy Manwarren, Tim Larson, Jim McCarthy, Scott St Marie.

Absent: Tracy Le Banc (County representative), Joe Zaspel.

Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. The minutes of the prior meeting (October 21, 2018) were approved as submitted.

Loon's Nest Jan Breyer reported that John Ostrum was unable to appear as planned. The project involves a PVC structure that floats and provides a base for the loons' nest. It is put in when the ice goes out. It takes 28 days for the loon egg to hatch. It has been used on Beaver Dam and on Vermillion. John Ostrum will attend the April 6 commission meeting to explain and answer questions.

Treasurer Report:

The Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted. A copy of the report, dated Jan 5, 2019, is attached to these minutes.

Polk County Update:

Tracy Le Blanc was unable to attend, but reported by email:

* We are currently in the process of hiring a new County Administrator, negotiations are in place with a candidate as we speak.

*We are still working out the details of the Stower 7 Lakes Trail and the Gandy Dancer Trail (deciding motorized VS non-motorized).

*The Rural Addressing system still is a hot topic for those involved in this change, which we hope to have resolved soon.

*The Fairgrounds grandstand project is moving forward, but with a spin that it won't be constructed in 2019 like initially thought, it has been pushed off till 2020 so that the budget will support it.

* new highway shop was christened on September 29th with a nice open house for the public and a tour of the new facility followed by a nice meal.

Township Update:

There is a caucus on February 2019. Candidates can run for town board.

Sand and Salt is available at town shed.

There is an issue with trees on Pipe Lake Lane on west side of lake.

Old Business:

- Healthy Lakes Initiative: Healthy Lakes provides funds to lakeshore property owners to undertake small projects to protect the lakeshore such as native plantings, rain gardens and diversion. The projects will be supported by up to \$750 by the State and \$125 by the District with only a \$125 contribution by the property owner. 4 or 5 proposals were submitted and Greg Warner has submitted the 2019 grant request.
- Grant Proposal Updates.

Tim Larson reported that there are two large scale water surface grant requests were submitted on December 10, 2018 to the DNR in Madison, WI. Each proposal requested \$25,000. Jeremy at the County is optimistic they will get approved. The grants are typically funded 2/3rds by the State and 1/3 by the Commission. We should hear in February.

One grant will address North Pipe and shed light on the causes for water quality impairment on North Pipe. The other grant is a water balance study of both lakes.

- Monitoring:

The DNR now has a cap of \$4,500 on the Monitoring Grant, while the District cost each year for monitoring is approximately \$8,000. The Commission agreed to ask the Township Board to contribute 50% of the overage.

There was discussion about other sources of support. It was pointed out that Bone Lake has a donation box at its landing.

New Business:

Historical data collection and storage

There was discussion about data on the lakes that has been collected over the years. Years ago, a study was conducted by Cedar Corp., Then Blue Water Science (Steve Nokomis) did a conductivity study. Another study was done by Craig Roessler. There was discussion about the best way to store data and studies on the lakes. Who keeps the paper records and should a cloud storage option be explored? Larry Bresina agreed to speak with Dick Hollar's son and Scott St Marie's son-in-law to learn about options and cost.

Communication with lake residents

Progress is being made on both email list and website improvements. It is hoped that both will allow more regular communication from the commission to all lake residents. Scott St Marie suggested that communications be simplified to attract more interest. He observed that South Beach conversations reveal that many people do appreciate and care about the lakes. More direct, frequent and simplified communication may get them more involved in lake district protection activities. A suggestion was also made that residents be given the opportunity to select messaging by text or email. Scott noted that many people prefer text messaging over emails.

Lake resident email List

Progress has been made on creation of an updated lake resident email list. Info obtained from the Polk County and the response from the US post mailing sent to lake residents, together with several email lists, has resulted in a list of 227 addresses to date.

District Website Update

Cindy Manwarren reported that she is working with a consultant to update the site. She requests suggestions from the commission members and the public as to changes to the current site they would like to see and information that should be presented.

Public Comment:

Larry Bresina spoke about the various data that has been and is continuing to be collected. The role of Secchi disk collection was discussed. The utility of having additional volunteers will make the Secchi data more useful. Tim Larson agreed to give a presentation of Secchi disk data collection at the Annual Meeting.

Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim McCarthy, Secretary

**Pipe and North Pipe Lakes Rehabilitation District
Treasurers Report
January 5, 2019**

BEGINNING BALANCE			\$
42,846.36			
INCOME			
EXPENSES			
10/22/18	WEAL	\$85.00	
	Invoice 8000453		
10/22/18	WEAL	193.00	
	Invoice 8000454		
10/22/18	PCALR Membership	25.00	
10/26/2018	Matthew S. Berg	500.00	
10/27/2018	WEAL	239.00	
	Invoice 8000458		
11/2/2018	J & J Web Services	60.00	
12/22/2018	J & J Web Services	350.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$1,452.00	
BALANCE AS OF 12/31/2018			\$ 41,394.36