

PIPE LAKES PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Johnstown Town Shed, 2181 County Rd. G

April 6, 2019

Attending:

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

Absent: Tracy LeBlanc (County Representative), Joe Zaspel (Township Representative)

Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. The minutes of the prior meeting (January 5, 2019) were approved as submitted.

Artificial Loon's Nest

John and Nancy Ostrum and Doug and Sandy Stevens attended and discussed the Loon's Nest Project. It involves a PVC structure that floats and provides a base for the loon's 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 Lake and on Vermillion. Beaver Dam has had 16 baby loons since the project first started there. The DNR has given permission for it to be put on Pipe Lake and to position it near DNR property.

Treasurers Report:

The treasurer's report was approved as submitted. A copy of the report dated April 6, 2019, is attached to these minutes. Cindy pointed out the need to get clarification on sources for incoming tax and grant funds.

Commissioners approved a \$500 membership payment to the Wisconsin lakes association.

Polk County Update.

Tracy Le Blanc was unable to attend.

Township Update.

Joe Zaspel reported by email that the spring election was held and the 3 board members, clerk and treasurer have been reelected. Road surface on 220th St... from County Rd. G west past bridge (approx... 50 ft.) will be removed and replaced. Some bridge repair also. Start date not yet determined.

Old Business:

- Healthy Lakes Initiative – 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 approved by the DNR. 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. The official letter has been received on April 1, 2019 for the North Pipe study. Tim has heard that the load balance study has also been approved, but the official letter has not been received.

The Commission unanimously passed a resolution thanking everyone on the Water Quality Committee and others who have helped the District in obtaining these two grants. Tim Larson, Larry Bresina, Jeremy Williamson (Polk County) put in long hours over many months to put together these successful proposals.

There was discussion whether the professors and students will need help with boats or lodging when they are here to put in buoys and take measurements. Tim Larson will coordinate.

Landing Monitoring:

The DNR now has a cap of \$4500 on the Monitoring grant, while the District cost each year for monitoring is approximately \$8000. The Commission has asked the Township Board to contribute 50% of the overage. Since a milfoil-free lake is essential the property values and economic wellbeing of the township, the Commission is hopeful that Johnstown Township will share in the overage cost.

There was discussion about other sources of support. Scott St. Marie volunteered that he will obtain and install a donation box.

There was discussion about placing a video camera at the landing to provide additional monitoring. Will ask Bone Lake District about their success with a camera.

New Business:

Web Site Update: Cindy Manwarren reported on her work to update the current web site. She has reviewed the site, solicited and obtained suggestions from Commission members, reviewed web sites of other lake organizations and consulted with a web design firm. She is ready to proceed to upgrade portions of the full desktop web site (work on a mobile version will be put off until later). Cindy asked for thoughts on what historical information would be included and in what priority it should have on the web site. The Commissioners were unanimous in their support of her work and requested that she proceed to implement the proposed upgrades.

North Pipe Lake Monitoring: It was reported that Bill Radtke who has performed the monitoring of North Pipe Lake is moving. He has given the Secci equipment to Doug Stevens. The District needs to find a volunteer who will undertake measurements on North Pipe Lake.

Public Comment:

Continuing the web site and historical information discussion, Larry Bresina raised the issue of what are the current locations of historical data about the District and about Pipe Lake and North Pipe Lake and where it should be stored in the future. There was extended discussion about the various types of information (raw measurement data, prior studies, and historical documents (Minutes, budgets, newsletters, grant proposals, Healthy Lakes projects, etc.) It was noted that some paper files are maintained in the cabinets in the town shed garage. There was a discussion about the ability to access raw data to undertake manipulations and study of past data. There was discussion about whether it was worth digitalizing data and documents that are only in paper format. There was also discussion about storage possibilities on the Cloud and otherwise and about access portals – through the web site or otherwise. The suggestions of Dick Hollar's son on options and cost for storage and access were reported and discussed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am

Respectively submitted,

Jim McCarthy, Secretary