

PIPE & NORTH PIPE LAKES PROTECTION AND
REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Commission Meeting
Saturday October 16, 2021
Remote meeting by Zoom

Attending:

By Zoom conference call

Jan Breyer, Natalie Lovejoy, Tim Larson, Jim McCarthy, Gene Schultz

Prof Joe Magner - guest

Public attendees: over 11 lake residents participated in the meeting by Zoom.

Meeting:

The meeting was convened by Zoom video conference call at 9:00 am. The minutes of the prior meeting (Aug 7, 2021) were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The most current financials through 10/14/21 were presented and approved. Gene Schultz screen shared the year-to-date income and expenses, the account balances and the Grant summary. Total income YTD was \$17,745.50 and expenses were \$16,175.34. Account balances were \$68,085.06 in regular checking and \$25,475.66 in the Rapid Response savings account. Landing monitor expense was @ \$2,000 over budget. The 2021 expenses for the porta potty at the boat landing and the holding pond repair are still outstanding.

Town and County News

Joe Zaspel has served for a number of years as the ex officio member of the commission appointed by the Johnstown Town Board, as provided by statute. Joe has stated he does not want to continue in that position. There was discussion about the statutory requirement of a town appointed member and the utility of maintaining good lines of communication with the town and the county. Dan Low is one of the Town Board members and lives on the lake on Pipe Lake Road. The commission will ask Dan if he is willing to serve as the town representative.

It was commented that recently an EMT could not find a lake address for someone who had broken a femur. A question was asked about address numbers and street

signs. It was unclear whether the county or the town assigned the street numbers and erected the signs.

Water Quality Study Updates:

Prof Joe Magner attended the meeting and spoke about the Geochemistry study for Pipe and North Pipe. He noted the year began with normal precipitation and they obtained runoff measurements. Then the drought hit. He said there are not a lot of outside sources of pollution. The heaviest loading area was the NE corner of North Pipe but the holding pond was erected a number of years ago and was repaired this year. He thinks that lake quality will be influenced by lake owners' management and healthy lakes initiatives.

Natalie Lovejoy inquired why there has been such a large algae bloom this summer. Is it legacy phosphorous? She pointed out that lawns are more a Pipe Lake than a North Pipe Lake issue. She asked whether Healthy Lakes helps North Pipe much. North Pipe is mostly undisturbed shoreline. Prof Magner said that there was significant loss of tree cover on North Pipe and that he did see turbid water on the east side of North Pipe. Larry Bresina and Natalie commented that North Pipe experienced significant algae bloom before the recent storm blow down of trees.

Tim Larson said that the Internal Load study by Prof Bill James does not support theory of legacy phosphorous being a significant contributor to the problem. Tim reported that as a follow up to Prof Bill James North Pipe study, algae samples are being gathered for analysis. It was noted that prior algae measurements and studies were done in around 2014 and 2015. The studies are in the archive database and were provided to Prof James.

Algae Treatment - Sonic Buoys

There was discussion about an algae treatment device sold by LG Sonic. It sells a buoy that emits an ultrasound that causes algae to freeze up and fall down to the bottom of the lake. It also records lake statistics and the type of algae present. Gina Laliberte is the DNR specialist on algae blooms. She and Alex Smith, the regional DNR representative, had a call with LG Sonic to gather information. LG claims the buoy can reduce algae blooms up to 85%. The buoy is 3' wide by 5' long. It is solar powered. It costs \$61,000 per buoy plus an annual monitoring fee (\$8,000?). North Pipe may need 2 buoys. No LG sonic buoys have been used in Wisconsin. Little Green Lake and Shaw Lake have expressed interest. LG Sonic representatives claim the buoys work on recreational lakes although most uses to date have been on municipal water treatment ponds. It was agreed that we need

more information about the buoys and their track record on recreational lakes similar to North Pipe. There was also discussion of possible funding sources- state, county grants, lake owner contributions in addition to Lake district funds.

Healthy Lakes Initiative

The Commission considered and approved by unanimous vote the Healthy Lakes Grant Resolution that is attached to these Minutes.

Updated Lake Map

Natalie Lovejoy reported that work on an updated was progressing. Last edition was 2017. Natalie Lovejoy and Jeff Luikhart are undertaking the updating project. They are getting closer to finishing and have had cooperation from various sources in updating the data and getting new landowner names. There was also discussion about a “welcome packet” for new lake owners. A packet and a welcome letter had been generated some years ago. It was agreed updating the packet and letter and putting the information on the website was a good idea.

Data Archiving and Maintenance.

Jan Breyer reported that the district will pay for commercial hosting of the database. Dan Hollar will consult on maintenance on an as needed basis with hourly billing. Larry Bresina and Chris Wilson will help oversee maintenance of the archive. There was discussion about what items should be on the website and what should be simply links to the archive and whether the services of the Wisconsin Lakes association might be utilized.

Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 am

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim McCarthy, Secretary