

PIPE & NORTH PIPE LAKES PROTECTION AND
REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Commission Meeting
Saturday April 9, 2022
Remote meeting by Zoom

Attending:

By Zoom conference call

Jan Breyer, Tim Larson, Jim McCarthy, Gene Schultz

Public attendees: over 10 lake residents participated in the meeting by Zoom.

Meeting:

The meeting was convened by Zoom video conference call at 9:05 am. The minutes of the prior meeting (January 15, 2022) were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The most current financials through 3/31/2022 were presented and approved. Gene Schultz screen shared the year end income and expenses, the account balances and the Grant summary. Income was \$19,227.01, expenses \$18,282.52. The year-end totals do not reflect invoices of @\$11,000 for the Grant studies because they were received in January 2022. Bank balances were \$68,459.39 in checking, \$25,491.71 in Rapid Response Savings.

No Town or County reports

Landing and North Beach

The landing monitor positions are filled for the 2022 season. Butch will cover Monday – Friday. A Polk County employee will cover weekends. A lake resident expressed interest and may be back up.

A handicap capable porta potty has been ordered for Memorial Day – Labor Day and, on Butch's request, will be positioned next to the handicap parking sign.

Water Quality Committee Updates:

Tim Larson provided a summary of the April 7, 2022 discussion with the various experts who have been involved with the Pipe and North Pipe lakes. Steve McComas of Blue Water Science, Prof Joe Magner, Jeremy Williamson, Dr Uday Singh of the Mississippi Watershed District and Alex Smith of the Wisconsin DNR. Steve McComas was retained by the district to review the two DNR Grant studies and other historical data and recommend next steps. A link to the McComas' memo summarizing his findings is found on the front page of the district website.

Based on the studies, Steve McComas said there were several possible steps to consider:

1. Control of sources of phosphorous run off. (Installation of weirs, repair of sedimentation pond) (high priority)
2. Near shore lands – improve shoreline protection by maintaining or installing vegetative buffers (high priority) control of near shore development
3. Chemical treatments:
 - a. Alum. Not recommended – expensive and short-term fix. Not exactly suited for lake with little internal loading of sediment phosphorous.
 - b. Hydrogen Peroxide. Fairly expensive
 - c. Nano -iron impregnated media suspended in lake is being developed and tested at St Anthony Falls Lab. If successful in testing, could consider in future
4. Aeration – creates its own set of problems
5. Fish stocking and bio manipulation
6. LG Sonic ultrasound. Effective in laboratory and municipal water treatment facilities. No track record of success in recreational lakes. There is conflicting information from vendor and the research literature regarding algal nutrient release after algal dieback. Expense could be in range of \$150,000 initial costs with annual fees of \$5,000 - \$10,000. Prof Magner and Jeremy Williamson have expressed interest in applying for federal grants to conduct study with LG Sonic device. Amount, timing, terms and likelihood of federal grants is uncertain. Permits would be required to install floating pads on lakes. Alex Wilson of DNR outlined permit procedure in April 7 discussion.

In discussion, Larry Bresina said there are two measurements that are important: clarity (Secchi disk depth) and phosphorous. Core sample shows that in in pre -

development (1800s) era, the core showed 20 micro/liter. Now it is up to 32 micros/liter.

There was discussion about the 2018 – 2023 Lake Management Plan, whether we can lower phosphorous and chlorophyll in natural way without introduction of artificial means, whether there should be an internal load study of the shallow portions of the lake.

The Commissioners asked the Water Quality Committee to come back to the May Commission meeting with 3 recommended steps that can be taken this summer. Larry Bresina, a member of the committee, said that the committee needed more members. Chris Wilson was asked to participate. It was agreed that other individuals would be welcome and that a recruitment effort would be made.

Kent Wilson said he hoped some solutions could be identified soon because his grandchildren with allergies could not use North Pipe in mid- late summer.

Healthy Lakes

Jim Ladner expressed interest in undertaking a project this year. Greg Warner raised topic of a landscape assessment for the whole lake. One was done in 2014-15. Maybe it could be updated. Larry Bresina noted that there is a useful tool called “Score My Shore” on healthylakes.wi.com website.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim McCarthy, Secretary