

DRAFT
PIPE & NORTH PIPE LAKES PROTECTION AND
REHABILITATION DISTRICT
Minutes of Annual Meeting
Saturday September 4, 2021
County Line Tavern Picnic shed

Attending:

Commissioners: Jan Breyer, Cindy Manwarren, Jim McCarthy, Gene Schultz
Absent: Tim Larson, Joe Zaspel

Over 14 District residents attended in person; Bob Whitlock and Jill Luikhart attended by Zoom.

Meeting:

The meeting was convened at 9:08 am.

Minutes: The minutes of the prior Annual Meeting (Sept 5, 2020) were approved.

Election of Commissioners:

There were two open positions on the commission. Cindy Manwareen stated that she would not run for another term on the Commission. Gene Schultz stated he would serve another term. Gene Schultz and Natalie Lovejoy were nominated for the two open positions. A call for additional nominations was made but there were no additional nominations or volunteers. Natalie Lovejoy introduced herself. She has a place on North Pipe with her godmother. Since the two candidates were unopposed, and the vote of those attending the meeting was unanimous, Gene Schultz and Natalie Lovejoy were elected for 3-year terms.

Everyone at the meeting thanked Cindy Manwarren for her many years of generous service as a commissioner and as webmaster for the District website.

Treasurer's Report: 2020 Audit and Report and 2022 Budget and Tax Levy

An audit of the 2020 financials was conducted by Tom and Annette O'Hearn. The auditors reported that everything appeared in order and that invoice, payments and deposits were properly recorded. Upon motion, the 2020 audit was approved unanimously (with abstention by Tom O'Hearn).

Tax Levy

It was proposed that the tax levy be continued in the same amount as prior years (\$17,000). Upon motion, the tax levy of \$17,000 was approved unanimously.

2021 Budget

The Treasurer reviewed the proposed 2022 Budget (a copy attached). Upon motion, the 2022 budget was approved unanimously.

Ron Vantine inquired whether the Rapid Response fund needed to be increased. Jan Breyer reported that he had discussed the fund with Alex Smith of the DNR. Smith said the fund seemed about right. The State DNR has an emergency grant fund of \$25,000 that might be tapped if needed.

Larry Bresina inquired whether the cost of maintaining the district archive was included in the budget. He said that someone needed to be in charge of overseeing the maintenance.

Township and County Updates: There were no updates from the County representative. Joe Zaspel reported that the Township purchased a new truck and that the 2021 road works were complete.

Tom O'Hearn stated that the cost of the porta-potty at the North Beach landing was supposed to be shared by the District and the township. Tom had spoken with the Town when the porta-potty was first installed. He does not understand why the Town refuses to honor its agreement.

Healthy Lakes

Residents were reminded that project descriptions need to be developed this summer and submitted by November 1, 2021. The district then submits the proposals to the DNR for approval by December 1, 2021. Once approved, the projects are installed in 2022 and reimbursed in 2023. Unlike some former programs, the Healthy Lakes project agreement is NOT tied to the deed. Jill Luikhart suggested that photos of completed projects be put on the Pipe Lakes Facebook page

Water Quality Studies

Jan Breyer stood in for Tim Larson and gave an update on the water quality grant studies. The North Pipe study indicates that the phosphorous in the lake is highly

stratified and does not affect the algae growth. A separate algae study is ongoing this summer.

The Geochemistry study of both lakes could not measure any surface flow since April because of the draught. Prof Magner started measuring runoff and underground sources.

Lake Monitoring

It was reported that Matt Berg continues his underwater monitoring of the lakes. Matt did not find any evidence of invasive aquatic plant species.

The boat landing was monitored all summer. Monitors inspected 489 boats entering the lake. About 1,000 people. 90 boats had been on other lakes within 5 days prior to entering Pipe. (Numbers were up from 2020: 300 boats and spoke with 700 people.) Nothing was found on those boats by the monitor. Only 5 people refused to speak with the monitor.

Butch Knight has provided monitoring. The ramp is monitored 7:00 am – 10 AM M-Sat; 2:00pm – 7 pm Friday and Saturday and 7:00 am – 2 pm on Sunday.

Doug Stephens and Dan Woll performed Secci measurements on Pipe and North Pipe, respectively. North Pipe has not been good this summer. Approx 3' in 2021 compared to 6' in 2015. Pipe experienced a slight improvement: 14' in 2021 compared to 11' in 2020.

In looking at the last 25 years, the lakes have undergone significant changes that can affect water quality: 2 roads have been blacktopped, East Pipe Lake lane was created and 7 houses developed; many new structures were built on existing lots; mowed grass has been a dominant landscape feature around many of the new structures; the huge blowdown in the wind storm; and boat inflation (a 16' boat with a 60 hp motor was a big boat 25 years ago; today there are 4 wake boats, larger ski boats and 24' pontoons with 200+ hp motors.)

Resident Communications

Jan Breyer reported in his ongoing effort to improve email communications with all lake residents. He now has 250 email addresses. Some of the email addresses are not tied to a specific property. He has sent regular US mail requests to properties owners who do not appear on the lists asking for contact information.

Cindy Manwarren reported that the website had 156 sessions in the last 30 days. 516 pages were visited.

Ron Vantine inquired about reviving a newsletter. Discussion was held about paper v website v Facebook v email as the best mode of communication.

Map

Natalie Lovejoy is working on an updated lake map and hopes to have it finished for the Spring 2022 meeting. Someone asked if the map could be put on Facebook.

Public Comment

Larry Bresina and Kent Wilson asked what are the next steps in improving water quality in North Pipe. Kent asked if the professors could offer some concrete actions to be undertaken. A brief discussion of LG Sonic buoys v Alum treatment ensued.

Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McCarthy, Secretary