

Draft not reviewed or approved

PIPE & NORTH PIPE LAKES PROTECTION AND
REHABILITATION DISTRICT
Minutes of Annual Meeting
Saturday September 2, 2023
Christ Lutheran Church meeting room

Attending:

Commissioners: Jan Breyer, Tim Larson, Jim McCarthy, Gene Schultz, Natalie Lovejoy, Brad Olson
Absent: Dan Lowe

District residents: (add list of attendees)

Meeting:

The meeting was convened at 9:10 am.

Minutes: The minutes of the prior Annual Meeting (Sept 3.2022) were approved.

Election of Commissioners:

There were two open Commissioner positions. Jan Breyer decided to retire as Chair and as a Commissioner. Prior to the meeting, Jim McCarthy, Tom Klein, Tom McIntee and Carla Gillespie expressed interest in the open Commissioner positions. A call for additional nominations was made but there were no additional nominations or volunteers. Secret ballots were distributed and tabulated by the election judges. Jim McCarthy and Tom McIntee were elected..

Jan Breyer thanked Tom Klein and Carla Gilespie for their willingness to serve on the commission and invited their continued participation in the District's activities.

Treasurer's Report:

2022 Audit and Report

An audit of the 2022 financials was conducted by Mike Linden and Marc Schulte. The auditors reported that everything appeared in order and that invoice, payments and deposits were properly recorded.

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 for 2024 was approved unanimously.

2024 Budget

The Treasurer reviewed the proposed 2024 Budget (a copy attached). Upon motion, the budget was approved unanimously.

Township and County Updates:

Brad Olson reported that Polk County is considering a change in rooming house regulations. The county is being sued by the Association of Realtors for its cabin rental policy. The docket of the Land Use committee has been consumed with conditional use variance requests. Brad noted that a number of requests seem to be coming from commercial investors who buy lake properties solely for investment as rental properties.

Currently, Polk County has stricter standards than the state mandated minimum. Polk County currently allows rentals of 7 days per month for 6 months. The state allows unlimited rentals of a 7 day minimum duration in a 180 consecutive day period. The proposed change in Polk County rules would increase the allowable number of rental days from 7 days per month to 28-33 days per month.

To date, no opposition has been raised to the proposed change. It will be considered by the Land Use committee next week and by the County Board in the next month.

There was no township report.

Dick Hollar Resolution and Plaque

The District members unanimously approved the following resolution:

The Pipe and North Pipe Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District wishes to recognize Dick Hollar for his decades-long service to improving the quality of our lakes. Dick has served as leader of the Pipe Lakes Association and was a founder of the Pipe and North Pipe Lakes District. Dick served as the Chair of the District Commission. He has been the water sampling guru and has supervised the landing monitor program for years. Dick enlisted his son Dan to volunteer to create the invaluable database to store and preserve the water quality data gathered by Dick, consulting experts and many volunteers. Through the decades, Dick has been a superb water quality activist and an invaluable contributor to Pipe and North Pipe Lakes.

In recognition of his years of dedicated service, the District hereby resolves to honor Dick Hollar with a plaque expressing the thanks of the Pipe and North Pipe Lakes residents for all his contributions and service. The District further resolves the boat landing shall be known as the Dick Hollar Landing.

Jan Breyer presented Dick Hollar with an engraved plaque honoring Dick's many years of volunteer service to the Pipe and North Pipe lakes and the District.

Water Quality Committee

Tim Larson reported on the progress on a new grant application to update the District Lake Management Plan. The Committee is working with a consultant, Buzz Sorge, to prepare a pre- application by Sept 15 and a final application by Nov 15, 2023. \$3,000 has been budgeted for the application preparation. The application will ask for a grant of approximately \$30,000.

Healthy Lakes

Lou Fornetti and Tom McIntee expressed interest in Healthy Lakes projects and asked about vendors who can help.

Dick Braun urged everyone to get leaves off their beach this fall.

Culvert Drain from Agricultural Pond to Pipe Lake near South Beach

Beth Fox is a resident who lives at the southwest corner of Pipe Lake just west of South Beach. She asked about the agricultural run-off pond that drains into Pipe Lake next to her property.

She said that there is a large agricultural run-off pond located on the farm land south of 205th Ave. Most people do not know it is there. Years ago a culvert was placed under 205th Ave to drain the pond toward Pipe Lake. The direction of the runoff stream was slightly altered by the prior owner of Beth Fox's property in connection with the recent house building on the empty lots just north of Beth's property. She said that the stream now drains into the lake between the white house and boat house. In the spring, there is a heavy flow of water from the culvert. Beth inquired whether the farm owner's runoff pond could be drained to the stream running through the farmer's field south of 205th St. rather than into Pipe Lake.

Beth's report was news to those attending and it was agreed that it needed to be looked into to determine how the drainage was happened and what can be done to stop the agricultural drainage into Pipe Lake.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McCarthy, Secretary