

**CROOKED LAKE AREA LAKES
PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

July 18, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District was held on Saturday, July 18, 2020 at the Crooked Lake Community Center in the Town of Riverview, Wisconsin. The following were in attendance:

Commissioners: Matt Connell, Chair
Barry Babler
Curt Hoffman (alternate)
Bob Sipiorski, Treasurer
Dave Van Zeeland
Brian A. Webb, Secretary

Also present: Judy Buhrandt, Oconto County Board Supervisor
Jane Porubcan
Pat Porubcan

Chair Connell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. CDT. He began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance then conducted a roll call confirmation of attendees and verified that all participants could hear each other speak. Mr. Connell presided and Mr. Webb acted as secretary.

After affirming that no directors present declared any conflicts of interest with any agenda topics Mr. Connell asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, he proceeded with the meeting.

Approval of the minutes of the May 9, 2020 was delayed as it appeared not all commissioners received copies of said minutes. Mr. Webb stated that he would re-distribute the minutes and the approval of those minutes could be made at the next meeting scheduled in September.

Mr. Sipiorski then presented the treasurer's report and reported that the District's bank balance at the end of July would be \$18,871. Expenditures since the last meeting included \$300 for tractor storage, \$288 for office supplies, \$720 for weed cutter storage, \$500 for weed cutter and fuel, and \$8,800 for herbicide treatment and permits. Expenditures for the remainder of the year will include the fall lake survey by Onterra. End of year cash on hand is expected to be \$12,580. Mr. Sipiorski then shared the forecasted 2021 budget that reflects expenditures of \$27,905 and an income stream of only \$10,493. He agreed to present these figures at the upcoming Annual Meeting to support the District's plan to propose an increase in the tax assessment to \$100 per property parcel.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Mr. Van Zeeland presented a resolution upon a motion duly made, seconded by Mr. Babler and carried; the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the report of the Treasurer of the Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District and presented to the Board of Commissioners at this meeting, be and hereby are, approved.

New Business

Mr. Sipiorski addressed the potential risk the District may face if it continued to lack workers' compensation insurance. He shared a document which stated that a lake district cannot avoid workers' compensation liability exposure to its elected commissioners. He recommended the expenditure of approximately \$550 annually to be covered.

Approval of Insurance Proposal

Mr. Van Zeeland presented a resolution upon a motion duly made, seconded by Mr. Connell and carried; the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District would secure workers' compensation insurance protection and presented to the Board of Commissioners at this meeting, be and hereby are, approved.

Mr. Porubcan described the chemical herbicide treatment conducted on July 6, 2020. Treatment was applied beginning at 5:00 am and conditions were ideal with calm winds and little boat traffic. Fifteen different water samples were taken from the treated area at measured intervals over the next two days. The Wisconsin DNR agreed to pay \$2,700 to conduct the lab analysis of the samples. Onterra will survey the entire lake including the treated area this fall using underwater cameras.

Mr. Connell then discussed the agenda for the Annual Meeting scheduled for September 5 at 11:00 am. Topics will include herbicide treatment, zebra mussel survey, the Firewise program, the proposed change to the annual tax assessment, and the election of commissioners. Mr. Connell reminded the board that the terms of Mr. Webb and Mr. Van Zeeland were expiring. Both commissioners agreed to serve an additional term if voted in at the Annual Meeting.

Mr. Connell then asked if any commissioners would consider serving as Chair and Secretary, respectively. Mr. Webb agreed to be considered for the Chair position and Mr. Van Zeeland agreed to be considered to fill the role as Secretary. Mrs. Porubcan agreed to continue her role supporting the Secretary.

Election of Board Officers

RESOLVED, that Brian Webb has hereby been elected to serve as Chair of the Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District Board for a term of one year. The resolution presented to the Board of Commissioners at this meeting, be and hereby are, approved.

RESOLVED, that Dave Van Zeeland has hereby been elected to serve as Secretary of the Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District Board for a term of one year. The resolution presented to the Board of Commissioners at this meeting, be and hereby are, approved.

Mr. Sipiorski raised the issue of the John Deere tractor used historically to transport the weed cutter not currently being insured. Previous insurance coverage assumed the value of the weed cutter at \$27,000 and the trailer at \$22,000. Mr. Sipiorski suggested that the value of the equipment should be reduced by 50% thereby reducing the cost of the premiums.

Education

Mr. Babler reported that the laminated cards detailing boating safety rules have been distributed at the boat landings. He also noted that the display boards have been fabricated to display at various events to educate the public on lake rules and watercraft safety.

Clean Boats Clean Water

Mr. Webb reported that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, few volunteer hours have been recorded thus far. Mr. Webb stated that he has volunteered several hours this year and plans to do more in the immediate future.

Zebra Mussels

Mr. Webb reported that Christopher Kolasinski from the Oshkosh DNR office responded to Mr. Webb's request to share the results of the 2019 zebra mussel survey. Samples from the five zebra mussel collection plates showed no evidence of any zebra mussels present. Mr. Kolasinski suggested that either there was little or no natural reproduction of zebra mussels on the lake or, that the plates were not placed in optimum locations. Water depth may also be a factor if wave activity "washed" zebra mussels from the sample plates. He suggested that the plates be cleaned and distributed again this year. Messrs. Webb,

Connell, Van Zeeland, Porubcan, and Hoffmann agreed to place the zebra mussel plates in the water at their respective properties. They will be collected by Mr. Webb sometime in September and the samples shared with the DNR.

Firewise

Mr. Connell shared that eight different homes in the Crooked Lake area agreed to have their homes assessed by Firewise volunteers to evaluate their forest home fire risk. He also reported that brush pick up from Crooked Lake properties would commence the week of July 20. Volunteer hours will also be recorded in the efforts to reduce fire risk through October 2020.

Other Business

Mr. Connell addressed the commissioners with a proposal to recognize a long-time advocate for the preservation of the Crooked Lake area lakes. Dick Firehammer, a 93 year-old former resident of the area was instrumental in the organization of the original Crooked Lake Association. He also spearheaded the transition of the lake association to the current Lake District. Mr. Connell proposed that the District recognize Mr. Firehammer's many years of volunteer service with a plaque to be presented via family members. The commissioners agreed unanimously to recognize his efforts.

Adjournment

There being no further business and upon a motion duly made (Mr. Webb), seconded (Mr. Babler) and carried; the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m. CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian A. Webb, Secretary