

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

May 29, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District was held on Saturday, May 29, 2021 at the Crooked Lake Community Center in the Town of Riverview, Wisconsin. The following were in attendance:

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

Also present: Judy Buhrandt, Oconto County Board Supervisor

Jim Zittlow, Town of Riverview, was absent and excused for the meeting.

Chair Webb called the meeting to order at 9:01 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. Webb presided, and Mr. Van Zeeland acted as secretary.

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

Mr. Webb started the meeting having the Board of Commissioners introduce themselves and then asked the attendees to sign in on the sheet that was being passed out, as well as verify their email addresses.

Approval of Minutes from Prior Meetings

Approval of the minutes of the May 8, 2021 meeting. Mr. Webb presented a resolution upon a motion duly made by Mr. Van Zeeland, seconded by Mr. Babler, and carried; the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

***RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the Crooked Lake Area Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District Annual Meeting held on May 8, 2021 and presented to the Board of Commissioners at this meeting, be and hereby are, approved.*

Presentation of Treasurer's Report

Mr. Sipiorski then presented the Treasurer's report and described the revenue to date of \$21,500 and reviewed the current fiscal year (2021) versus the previous years of 2019 of \$30,496 and 2020 of \$14,971. He went on to explain the review in 2019 was much greater due to a grant which was received in the amount of \$24,033 which is no longer available. In 2020, the Lake District had a negative cash flow of (\$4,676) due to no grant money and the expense of the chemical treatment of \$9,026. In reviewing the projection for 2021, he noted that the District received a grant of \$1,000 for Clean Boat Clean Water, but we must meet the 200 volunteer hours, or the grant will need to be paid back to the state. He noted that there will still be other expenses for 2021 but is projecting that the cash flow will be a surplus of \$4,240.

Several items that he wanted to note is there will be a Lake Study (Point Intercept Survey) that will need be done this year as well as there will be no costs for chemical treatment as there is nothing being treated in 2021.

(\$30,496) and 2020 (\$14,971). and expenses of \$944 resulting in a net operating surplus of \$20,056. He further explained the Lake District currently has approximately \$42,000 in the checking account and a CD of \$15,646. The expected expenses for 2021 is approximately \$29,260, which will result in a negative cash flow of (\$7,760). He projected that the checking account will have approximately \$14,347 at the end of 2021.

Mr. Webb explained the property owner tax assessment, which was increased to \$100 per property in 2020. He then stated the commissioners are recommending the assessment remain the same for 2021 and asked if anybody had any questions. Hearing none, Mr. Babler 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 has authorized a tax assessment of \$100 per each riparian tax parcel on Crooked, Gilkey, and Bass Lakes respectively, for the 2021 tax year. The resolution presented to the Board of Commissioners at this meeting, be and hereby are, approved.*

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Mr. Connell presented a resolution upon a motion duly made, seconded by Mr. Van Zeeland 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

There was no new business.

Committee Reports

Clean Boats Clean Water

Mr. Webb explained that the Lake District has received a grant for \$1,000 this year as part of the Lake Study. He stated that the grant could be as large as \$4,000 if we get more than the 200 hours at the boat landings off Black Bass on Crooked Lake and the Bass Lake landings. He stated the simple approach of talking to the boat owners and making sure if they are aware of the compliancy laws, making sure they remove any weeds and dump their live wells. He again asked for volunteers to meet the 200 hours. The CBCW forms can be found at the Crooked Lake Convenience Store or downloaded from the Lake District's website. He said that in 2019 we did receive a grant for \$1,000 but did not meet the 200 volunteer hours and had to pay the grant back.

Education

Mr. Babler presented the Onterra Lake surveys and maps and where problems with the invasive weeds were located prior to treatment in 2019 and what the lake looks like now post treatment in fall of 2020. There were dramatic results in the eradication of the invasive weeds and no treatment is necessary in 2021. However, he stated there will be another survey done in June by Onterra and there will be a Point Intercept Survey completed later this year.

Pat Porubcan reported the treatment last year was highly successful in the eradication and was much costly than the DASH (hand pulling by divers) which was costing the district \$3,000 a day. He also stated the treatment last year was done much later than other previous years treatments due to the high water. However, the treatment exceeded expectations and only targeted the Milfoil. Mr. Webb then recognized Mr. Porubcan for his significant contributions and work in working with Onterra and the lake surveys.

Lake Management Plan

Mr. Porubcan described the Point Intercept survey to those in attendance and explained the survey is needed every 5 years. The survey uses fixed points on the lake and records everything there, which includes all native as well as invasive plants. He went on to state that the survey is necessary and must be done of the district to receive grants and the DNR requires it. He said the information we receive tells us a lot about the health of all the lakes. He did state that there is a lot of Milfoil in Bass lake and encourage people that

if they wanted to, they could hand pull it if they had the time. He went on to say that there is also some in Gilkey Lake. Regarding a question about the Curly Pond Leaf, he stated that we will know more after the survey in June as well as they Point Intercept Survey.

Firewise Program

Mr. Connell explained the Crooked Lake area is a sight that is part of the Firewise program. It gives our area access to resources that we would not have, which includes a Wildland Urban specialist. Mr. Connell then introduced Laura Hayes from the Wisconsin DNR.

Ms. Hayes explained that most wildfires occur in Spring and so far in the state of Wisconsin in 2021 there have been 675 wildfires. She went on to explain that so far, 1,880 acres have been burned and 41 structures, of which 18 were homes. There has been one home and one structure that has been burned in Oconto county due to wildfires.

Ms. Hayes handed out the fire landscape map, which shows the state divided into 16 areas, of which 4 of them are very high risk. Crooked Lake is in one of those very high-risk areas, which is why the area is part of the program and being targeted. Firewise is a national program and Ms. Hayes went on to explain on how the homeowners in our area can help. This year, the Crooked Lake area is targeting a focused area of 25 to 30 homes, basically located from Oak and West Crooked Lake Lane (basically the peninsula on the lake). She explained they will be working with those homeowners to clear the Home Ignition Zone around their residences, which is approximately 100 feet from the structure.

Ms. Hayes and Mr. Connell explained that in 2021, the Crooked Lake district received a grant for \$6,625 which will cover the costs of roadside chipping, mailings, and home ignition zone assessments. The chipping will take place on June 2nd and 3rd, and there will be another set of dates for chipping later this fall (to be determined). Mr. Connell also explained that the district needs to meet the 200 volunteer hours but expects that these should easily be met. A mailing was already sent to the Crooked Lake property owners that detail how they can keep track of their hours. Mr. Connell ended by stating the home assessments will be done around June 25th.

Zebra Mussel Update

Mr. Webb reported that in 2019 there were some Zebra mussels found in the area around where the Pines used to be. However, after monitoring for them for the past two years, we still have not found any. Mr. Webb explained that we will continue to monitor for them in other areas of the lakes and if there are any volunteers for putting the monitoring devices off their piers, to see him after the meeting.

Recreational Officer

Mr. Webb introduced Deputy Jess Keplinger from the Oconto County Sheriff's office. Deputy Keplinger is the patrol officer for the seven northernmost towns in Oconto County. Besides his regular patrol duties, he is also responsible for the enforcement of any laws pertaining to county forestry ordinances, safe operation of recreational vehicles, including snowmobiles, ATVs, and watercraft.

Deputy Keplinger introduced himself and spoke about his duties and how he works in coordination with the Wisconsin DNR. He stated that his patrol area covers approximately 400 square miles and although he may at times be stretched thin, he will investigate and follow up on complaints. He asked for patience as sometimes it appears that these things are not getting resolved, but that it takes time to research the complaint as well as the laws and regulations (sometimes town ordinances) that govern them.

Deputy Keplinger also explained that in the event of an emergency, to call 9-1-1, but if there is a non-emergency item, to call the Oconto County Sheriff's non-emergency number at (920) 834-6900 and use Option #1.

Approval of Committee Reports

RESOLVED, that the Committee Reports 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.

Other Business

Mr. Webb then explained that there were two commissioners' terms that were ending and wanted to thank them for their many years of service. Mr. Webb then recognized Mr. Babler and Mr. Connell.

Next Meeting

A reminder that the Annual Meeting is scheduled for 9:00am on Saturday, September 4th at the Crooked Lake Community Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business and upon a motion duly made (Mr. Van Zeeland), seconded (Mr. Sipiorski) and carried; the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m. CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Van Zeeland, Secretary

