

White River Flowage Lake Management District
Spring Meeting Minutes
Saturday, May 4, 2019 - Town of Dakota Town Hall

Chairman Geier called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Mike Blija motioned to accept the agenda as submitted, Gordie Loehr seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. All District members were either mailed or e-mailed the minutes from the September 1, 2018, Budget Hearing/Annual Meeting that were taken by Lynn Bockenbauer in the absence of Secretary/Treasurer Fran Geier. Marty Koslucher motioned to approve the minutes as written, Dennis Dirindin seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved. Next, Bill Van Dongen summarized the minutes of the three previous Board of Commissioners meetings (September and November of 2018 and March of 2019). Among the items covered were the upcoming treatment of Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) this June, the contingency fund, the Silver Springs Lake contract, muskrat and beaver trapping on the Flowage, and Lake Management Plan updates. Van Dongen reported that the annual audit of the District's financial records conducted this past January found everything in good order.

Chairman Geier introduced guest speaker Todd Wahler, Director of the Waushara County Land Conservation and Zoning Dept. Wahler stated that the focus of his presentation would be on water quality and quantity. Regarding water quality, he reported that the County would be conducting free random testing of private wells under a 3-year program begun in 2018. The eastern part of the County was done in 2018 with 450 tests completed, the central part will begin testing in May or June of 2019, and the western part of the County will be done in 2020 unless the County receives a grant. Nitrates (either bovine or human is yet to be determined) were found in some of the samples already tested. A joint coalition comprised of Adams, Juneau, Portage, Waupaca, Waushara, and Wood counties is working on establishing guidelines for the control of nitrates without forcing those farmers who are following the proper procedures to be forced out of business. Those individuals who do not receive a random well test kit can still obtain one free at the UW-Extension Office in the county courthouse. Regarding the surplus water present in the county, Wahler stated that the county is actually at flood stage. Some lakes are restricting water activities (temporarily establishing "no wake" rules) to limit the shoreline damage. The high water problem on Silver Lake has led to flooding along Hwy. 73/21. Stantec was contracted to find a solution, but their initial suggestion of channeling the surplus water south into the White River Flowage was found to be too costly, so Silver Lake is looking to channel the water north through Lake Irogami into Lake Alpine and then into the Willow Creek, but that may not be feasible either. Wahler noted that the water levels generally follow a seven-year cycle and this just happens to be a very high point of the cycle.

Chairman Geier stated that the contract with Silver Springs is for one treatment only tentatively scheduled for August 5-7, 2019 (rain dates of August 8 & 9), which will add \$3750 to the contingency fund.

Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC will be treating approximately 7 acres of EWM in early June just south of White River Trail landing. Treatment must be completed before the water surpasses 60°F.

Lynn Bockenbauer and Fran Geier discussed the proposed hand pulling operation on the Flowering Rush bed with the help of AmeriCorps volunteers and Golden Sands. This year, the volunteers will be staying with the Bockenbauers (in their guest cottage) and the Geiers' home. They are expected to arrive on Sunday, July 21st and stay until July 23rd. Lynn asked the members to donate the use of their kayaks and participate in a potluck picnic to welcome them on Sunday. The hope is that with the help of the AmeriCorps volunteers, Flowering Rush can finally be completely eradicated. However, another chemical treatment may be necessary, depending on the size of the weed bed.

Fran Geier reported the District finally was approved to conduct water quality tests on the Flowage under the Citizens Lake Monitoring Network (CLMN). It is part of the District's Lake Management Plan. She and Mike received training at the Oshkosh DNR office on how to properly collect water samples for testing at a lab in Madison. The District was provided with testing supplies as well as a thermometer to check the temperature of the Flowage. The Geiers will conduct water clarity and water quality tests as well check the temperature four times a year (May, June, July, and August).

Chairman Geier noted that any District members having issues with dogs at large to contact the Waushara County Sheriff's Department. The District will not get involved in this matter. Bill Van Dongen stated that Town & County Vet on Hwy. 22 south is looking to start a shelter later this year.

Marty Koslucher asked Gary Grenier, Town of Dakota Representative, about parking the tow vehicle and trailer at the White River Trail landing. Grenier responded that due to complaints at another lake about overnight parking, the Town was forced to ban overnight parking at all their landings in the Township. Marty asked that an exception be made since District members maintain the landing and the harvester keeps the Flowage looking good. Gary stated that the Town Board will be discussing this issue at the next Town Board meeting, so a solution may be forthcoming.

Geier announced that the Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 31, 2019.

Adjournment: ***At 10:25 am, Eric Priggemade a motion to adjourn, Brian Soldner seconded, and the motion carried.***

The WRFA met immediately at the conclusion of the Spring Meeting.

The Board of Commissioners convened after a 10 minute break at the conclusion of the Spring Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Fran Geier, Secretary/Treasurer