

White River Flowage Lake Management District

Budget Hearing/Annual Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2023, Dakota Town Hall

Budget Hearing:

- Chair Lynn Bockenbauer called the Budget Hearing to order at 9:00 a.m. All District Board Members were in attendance except Bill Van Dongen. Lynn stated that each District member should have received a copy of the proposed 2024 budget with their meeting notice and asked if there were any questions or comments. There were no questions or comments.

Annual Meeting:

- Chair Bockenbauer called the Annual Meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by those in attendance.
- **Agenda** – Eric Prigge motioned to accept the agenda as written, Jack Marcoe seconded and the agenda was approved.
- **Spring Meeting Minutes** – Jack Marcoe motioned to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2023, meeting as written, Randy Weinberger seconded, and the motion carried.
- **Board Minutes** – With the absence of Bill Van Dongen, Lynn Bockenbauer briefly summarized the minutes from the April, 2023, Board meeting. Among the items discussed were the 2023 budget, the P.I. survey by either Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource or Golden Sands planned for 2024, and a review of the proposed budget for 2024.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Secretary/Treasurer Fran Geier reported on the income/expense activities of the District since the April 22 2023, meeting. Highlights include: Current balance of \$37,659.33; Expenses of \$681.57 for harvester expenses; \$409.79 for insurance; and \$567 for harvester & tow vehicle storage. Fran noted that some payments were not included in the 2023 budget that was sent out to the members because of the time constraint. They were for \$50 donations to both Golden Sands RC&D and Waushara County Land Conservation for Conservation Days and \$567 to Waushara County Parks for the harvester/tow vehicle storage.
- **Proposed Budget for 2024** – Lynn Bockenbauer explained that a P.I. (point intercept) survey is planned for 2024 by either Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource (who would likely do any chemical treatments in 2025) for \$4,909 or Golden Sands RC&D for \$3,877. Also, Steve Dahlke noted that the remote control on the harvester trailer is not working properly and was quoted approximately \$3,600 to replace it (this was not included on the 2024 proposed budget since the estimate just arrived on August 28th). Steve explained that the tow vehicle operator has to constantly stop the tow vehicle to start and stop the conveyor when offloading. Laura Soldner motioned to approve adding the remote control repair to the 2024 budget, Christine Prigge seconded, and the motion carried. Randy Weinberger motioned to approved the amended 2024 proposed budget, Brian Soldner seconded, and the amended budget was passed unanimously by those in attendance.
- **Aquatic Plants** - Lynn Bockenbauer reported that there is still some Flowering Rush (FR) present on the Flowage, but it is manageable with hand pulling. She noted that FR is also present below the dam. In response to a question from Greg Neu regarding weeds by his property, Lynn stated that it was elodia which is a native plant. She also mentioned that there was a lot of algae due to an early bloom (early April). The Board will bring photos of the aquatic plants on the Flowage to the next meeting in April 2024.
- **Fish Shocking** – Gordy Loehr stated that the DNR's fish shocking in May of 2022 revealed that the fish population is unchanged from the last time they did it around 10 years ago.
- **Harvester Operation** – Gordy Loehr and Steve Dahlke reported that thanks to a number of new volunteers, the harvester operation is in good hands, but there is still a need for tow vehicle operators to transport the harvested aquatic plants. They personally recognized the following new volunteers: Ralph Slabosheski, Jack Marcoe, Randy Weinberger, Eric Prigge, and Lynn Bockenbauer. All volunteers must be at least 21 years of age.,
- **Water Quality/Clarity Testing** – Fran Geier reported she has been conducting temperature and clarity testing. She asked for a volunteer to take over this task and Mike Braun expressed interest in volunteering for this since his mother used to do it and his house is close to the "deep hole" by the campgrounds where these tests must be done.
- **Board Member Elections** – Steve Dahlke announced that Lynn Bockenbauer and Gordy Loehr's terms expire in September of 2023, but they both indicated that they were willing to serve another 3-year term on the Board of

Commissioners. Patty Wendtland motioned to re-elect Lynn Bockenbauer, Jack Marcoe seconded, and Mike Woreck motioned to re-elect Gordy Loehr, Randy Weinberger seconded. After no one else indicated an interest in joining the Board of Commissioners, Christine Prigge motioned to close the nominations, Brian Soldner seconded. Both members were unanimously re-elected to the Board for another 3-year term re-elected unanimously and will serve until September of 2026.

- **Comments** – Lynn Bockenbauer noted that Ed Hernandez of Waushara County Land Conservation will be on the Flowage next week Wednesday or Thursday with a drone to survey the shoreline. Also, the dam owners create an Emergency Plan annually. Fran Geier stated that a member had inquired about when the last time a drawdown was done on the Flowage. Steve Dahlke stated that it was 1992 because the dam owners needed to do some concrete repair. Fran commented that if the District requested a drawdown, it could cost \$25,000 or more and not really permanently eliminate the weeds anyway.
- **Future Agenda Suggestions** –
 - Fran Geier stated that she would bring samples of the aquatic plants present in the Flowage to the Spring meeting.
 - Lynn Bockenbauer asked Greg Neu if he would be willing to do a presentation of the wide variety of birds who visit the Flowage which Greg agreed to do.
- **New Members** – The following new members were introduced at the meeting: Mike Braun, Jack and Marilyn Marcoe, Ralph Slabosheski, and Brian Zenker and Jennifer Achterberg.
- **Town of Dakota Updates** – Town Rep. Gary Grenier checked with the Town of Dakota Town Board about bringing food and beverage to the meetings, but the cost would be \$250 plus \$100 security deposit as opposed to \$100 plus \$100 security deposit without refreshments for each meeting with no exceptions. The District members decided to forego refreshments at future meetings. Gary also noted that the Town had done some improvements to the landings, but due to budget constraints, no further work is planned. He asked for feedback from members if there are more issues at the landings.
- **Adjournment** – Dean Bockenbauer motioned to adjourn at 10:20 am, Greg Neu seconded, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

The White River Flowage Association (WRFA) held a brief meeting at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

The Board of Commissioners met immediately after the WRFA meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fran Geier, Secretary/Treasurer