

White River Flowage Lake Management District
Budget Hearing, Annual Meeting Minutes
Saturday, September 24, 2016 - Town of Dakota Town Hall

Note: The Board of Commissioners held a special meeting at 8:30 am to review changes to the previously approved 2016 budget as well as revisions to the proposed 2017 budget that was sent to all District members. The Board also discussed whether the District should apply in 2016 for an A.I.S Grant to chemically treat Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) and Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) (for treatments in 2017-2019) or postpone the grant application until 2017 (for treatments in 2018-2020) in order to reach a consensus on a recommendation to present to the full membership. One Board of Commissioners member, Forest Wilcox, was absent.

Budget Hearing: The Budget Hearing commenced at 9:00 a.m. Board Member Bill Van Dongen noted that it was necessary to revise the 2016 budget by adding \$3,640 for Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource LLC (WLPR) chemically treat the Flowering Rush bed with Diquat plus an additional \$95 for the DNR treatment permit. Also, another \$1,800 was added to cover the cost of having WLPR conduct a pre-treatment survey of EWM and CLP in preparation of writing an A.I.S Grant. Chairman Mike Geier reported that Mark Kordus of WLPR said that the results of that survey would not be ready for two to three weeks, but Mark could not find much EWM in the Flowage. The CLP generally disappears in June so there wouldn't be any visible in the fall. Therefore, another pre-treatment survey will likely be needed in 2017. Treasurer Fran Geier pointed out the following changes to the proposed 2017 budget that were made after the meeting notices were sent out: 1) Remove \$18,822.10 to WLPR – no treatment of EWM & CLP is planned for 2017; 2) Remove \$470 for a DNR chemical treatment; 3) Remove \$55 for public notices; and 4) Add \$1,800 for another pre-treatment survey by WLPR.

Annual Meeting: Chairman Geier called the Annual Meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Geier introduced Mike Kapp as the new County Board Representative to the Board of Commissioners. ***Gordie Loehr motioned to approve the agenda, Carol Van Dongen seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.*** All members received a copy of the minutes from the April 16, 2016, meeting along with their Fall Meeting notification. ***Jim Herzog made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Brian Soldner seconded, and the minutes were approved by all members in attendance.***

Board of Commissioners Minutes: Bill Van Dongen summarized the minutes from the last Board of Commissioners meetings as follows: 1) The Board recommends postponing applying for an A.I.S. Grant application to treat EWM and CLP until the fall of 2017; 2) The District's new 5-year Lake Management Plan has been approved by the State (which is needed in order to apply for DNR grants); and 3) A special Board meeting was held via e-mail this summer to approve amending the District's Early Response Grant to add chemically treating the Flowering Rush (FR) with Diquat.

Treasurer's Report: Fran Geier gave the Treasurer's report and briefly reviewed the major expenditures that occurred since April as follows: \$9,185 to WLPR for chemical treatment of approx. 10 acres of EWM and CLP, \$2,186.66 to First Merit Bank (first loan payment on \$10,000 short-term loan), \$1,820 to WLPR for the first chemical treatment of FR. She stated that another \$1,820 must be paid the WLPR for the second FR treatment and approx. \$6,265 is due to Golden Sands for this year's FR hand pull operation. The District also received \$1,083.93 in additional District fees. Bill Van Dongen stated that no change in the District fees was expected and that the harvester would be paid off in 2020. Chairman Geier suggested continuing the \$70 harvester fee after that to build up an emergency fund.

EWM and CLP Treatment: Chairman Geier reported that WLPR treated approx. 10 acres of EWM and CLP in mid-May. WLPR conducted a pre-treatment survey in September, but the results will not be ready for a couple of weeks.

Flowering Rush Treatment: About 14 volunteers assisted Golden Sands for three days this summer hand pulling FR, but it became obvious that chemical treatment would also be needed. An amendment to the Rapid Response Grant to include chemical treatment was submitted and was quickly approved by the DNR. WLPR was contracted to treat ground zero with Diquat twice in 2016 (July 26th and September 12th) and once more in June of 2017. The pre-treatment survey conducted by WLPR in September showed good results with the surface plants, but a lot of new shoots are coming up from the root

system. There is little FR south of Steve Dahlke's property, but north of Dahlke's, there is a lot of FR present. Golden Sands will conduct a post-treatment survey in September. Chairman Geier stated that he would like Mark Kordus and Ted Johnson of the DNR work together to find a chemical treatment to kill the root system. Bill Van Dongen noted that due to the recent rains, the current on the north end is good. He also mentioned that a couple of Christmas trees broke free from the channel system created by Sean Sullivan of the DNR.

Harvester Operation: Chairman Geier remarked that probably due to the chemical treatment of EWM and CLP this summer, the harvester operation hours were down this year. The harvester is going into storage in early October, but he noted that the rent went up again another \$14 to \$299.25. He thought it was still a good deal.

Revised 2016 Budget and Amended Proposed 2017 Budget: The changes to the 2016 budget and proposed 2017 budget were previously reported during the Budget Hearing and Treasurer's report. ***Steve Dahlke motioned to approve the revised 2016 budget as presented, Carol Van Dongen seconded, and the motion carried. Brian Soldner motioned to approve the amended proposed 2017 budget as presented and keep the District fees unchanged, Gail Groth seconded, and the motion carried.***

Election: ***Gordie Loehr nominated Bill Van Dongen to remain on the Board of Commissioners, Brian Soldner seconded the nomination.*** Bill Van Dongen was unanimously re-elected to another three-year term by those in attendance.

White River Flowage Association: President Laura Soldner reported that the brat fry netted \$311. The next brat fry is tentatively scheduled for July 15, 2017. Laura is now licensed by the State to manage the food booth. The Association held their meeting immediately after the District's Annual Meeting.

Other: Chairman Geier is looking to move the date of the fall meeting to Labor Day weekend due to the low turnout, but it will have to be approved by the full membership. Fran Geier asked for volunteers willing to collect water samples and conduct clarity tests using a Secchi disk. She stated that they are goals in the District's new Lake Management Plan. Gail Groth indicated that she would be willing to collect water samples. Fran will get the necessary instructions and supplies to her. Dean Bockenbauer previously volunteered to do clarity testing, but was not present at this meeting. A discussion took place about possibly getting Sean Sullivan or Ben Mott of the DNR to do another presentation. Chairman Geier suggested getting Dave Bartz, a fisheries biologist with the DNR for Waushara County, as a guest speaker for an upcoming meeting instead.

Adjournment: ***Judy Hughes motioned to adjourn at 10:50 am, Gail Groth seconded, and the meeting adjourned.***

The Board of Commissioners met immediately after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. Refreshments were provided by the White River Flowage Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Geier, Secretary/Treasurer