

# LAKE JOHN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 15, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Benzschawel, Kirk Lindholm, Alan Isaacson, Dave Owens, Chris Snowdon, Dan Ventrelli, Peter MacMillan. **MEMBERS ABSENT:** . Doug Van Metre, Paul Fliegel. A quorum of the Board was established.

LJID Property owners present: None.

There were no others present.

The meeting of the Lake John Improvement District Board of Directors ("Board") was called to order at 6:36p.m., by Chairman Steve Benzschawel.

**SECRETARY'S MINUTES:** The minutes of the August 18, 2022 meeting as proposed by the Secretary were reviewed. M/S/P to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2022 meeting of the Board of Directors.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

## **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**

**Communications** –Website is being updated.

**Finance** –Opening August 1, 2022 checking account balance of \$22,683.53. \$3,879.40 in expenditures – payment to Aquatic Solutions for treatment. Ending August 31, 2022 checking account balance of \$18,804.13 and savings account balance of \$12,117.00.

**Resource Management** –EWM and CLP treatments are done for the year. One starry stonewort assessment has been completed. The second assessment is scheduled in October.

**Administration** –The issue of authority to participate in bog removal was reviewed. The original charge from the County Board included a directive to act to regulate water surface as provided in MINN. STAT §103G.621, which reads:

A county board, lake improvement district, or governing body of a municipality under section [459.20](#) may regulate the mechanical and chemical means of removal of weeds and algae from the body of water in a manner consistent with the rules of the commissioner.

That seems to cover bog removal. We can propose approval of funding for this effort from the District Members at next year's annual meeting as a part of the budget proposal. We could pursue this in conjunction with the Lake John Association, which has the necessary DNR permit for this and has a working process established.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Bob Erickson farm update – The property sale has apparently not yet closed. Information is that nine of the twelve lakeshore lots have buyers committed and that excavation is still planned to commence this fall.

EWM, CLP, Starry stonewort treatment/assessment update – Covered in Resource Management report.

Farm/Lake run-off – No new information.

Wake boats, water quality and aquatic plants – Clarity - Secchi disc readings are at 5-1/2 feet, very shallow historically. Water clarity is obviously diminished, with the brown water coloration and the algae bloom observed close to shore. Water testing results are now available through July – better results than the May results. No August or September results as of yet – the lab is still behind in their work. Water levels are @ 3 inches above ordinary high water level (OHWL).

## NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Report – A draft of the Annual report was provided to the board members prior to the meeting. M/S/P to approve the draft as presented, with a few noted changes. And the September 30 financial reports will be included in the report filed. The report is due prior to October 25. Administration Committee will tend to that.

Certification of district property list to the County for assessment – We are required to certify to the county the accurate list of properties included in the Lake John Improvement District by property identification number. The list of 149 properties approved by the District Membership at the annual meeting was reviewed. M/S/P to certify that list to the County for this purpose.

Meeting Schedule – The issue of board meetings and the desire of some directors to forego winter meetings, as we have little business at the board level. The Resource Management committee has their annual tasks of grant proposals and AIS assessment and treatment scheduling/contracts in that timeframe, but those items can be reviewed and ratified by the board after the fact or a special meeting called if issues arise. M/S/P to modify the regular meeting schedule of the Board of Directors to the third Thursday of each month, March through September of each year.

**Adjournment:** There being no other business - M/S/P to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:14p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter MacMillan  
Board Secretary

**NEXT MEETING:** At the Southside Township Hall, Thursday, September 15, 2022, beginning at 6:30 p.m.