

MINUTES
LAKE JOHN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING

June 24, 2023

Call to Order. The Annual Meeting of the Lake John Improvement District was called to order at 9:06 a.m., by Board of Directors Chairman Steve Benzschawel.

Approval of Agenda. M/S/P to approve Agenda as presented

Roll Call of Board. **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Alan Isaacson, Steve Benzschawel, Chris Snowden, Peter MacMillan, Paul Fliegel, Dave Owens, Dan Ventrelli. **ABSENT:** Doug Van Metre.

Informational Presentation: Steve Bruggeman from Oak Realty spoke briefly about the development being built on the Bob Erickson farm on the east shore of the lake, named the Preserve at Lake John. There will be twelve lake lots and eleven back lots. None have been sold yet – pricing has not been set. The road way construction has not yet started. The water pumping from the property is for purposes of draining the wetland down so sewer/water connections can be made to City of Annandale service lines.

Approval of Secretary's Minutes. M/S/P to approve minutes of the June 25, 2022 Annual Meeting as distributed to the members via e-mail.

Open floor for Member Comments/Questions. – Steve Benzschawel asked if there were any general comments from the members present.

Bob Fleskes asked about the I-Lid equipment. Dave Owens and Pat Liebsch advised that the equipment is being repaired and updated and will be installed – the I-Lids device will continue to broadcast the reminder message to boaters to check for weeds on their vehicle, boats and trailers. It will have no video recording capability.

Elaine Fleskes requested clarification on member voting. Each District property has one vote in elections. Information packets are mailed to each property owner.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS:

Chairman. Steve Benzschawel reviewed the activities of the Board in pursuit of its objectives since the last Annual Meeting:

1. Curly leaf Pondweed – Treatment of CLP has been deferred for this year due to little plant growth, at recommendation of vendor and DNR. Will be reviewed again for next year;
2. Eurasian Water Milfoil – We will be pursuing ProcellCOR treatment of 9.2 acres in the south end and west bay for EWM at a cost of @ \$8,500. This is a newly approved chemical to be used in place of 2,4-D. The available information is that this is more

effective that 2,4-D and safer for the water lilies. The increased cost is offset by a bi-annual application, rather than annual;

3. Starry Stonewort - Blue Water Science has been contracted for surveys twice per year – at this point no presence of SSW detected;
4. Chemical costs for invasive treatments continue to rise – we have budgeted that increase.

Vice-Chairman. David Owens - LID Board meetings are the third Thursday of each month, March – October, at 6:30 p.m. at the Southside Township Hall. All are welcome

Secretary. Peter MacMillan – Still seeking volunteers to serve on the LID Board or anyone who wishes to help with projects. Minutes of board meetings are posted on the LID website as they are approved by the Board.

Treasurer. Dan Ventrelli – Treasurer, Dan Ventrelli, reviewed detail of financial transactions for 2022 and through May 31, 2023. Beginning balance in checking account on 01/01/2022 - \$27,333.21. Ending balances on 05/31/2022- \$26,126.87 in checking account and \$17,434.00 in Emergency Reserve Fund. Written report attached to minutes.

Financial report was reviewed and discussed earlier in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Grant Funding. Wright County Soil & Water has a program funding lake management projects, which the Resource Management Committee is investigating.

AIS management efforts and schedule. covered in Chairman's Report.

Budget proposed for 2024. Individual projected 2024 expenditures of \$5,000.00 or more were reviewed for approval.

M/S/P to approve the budgeted funding for the curly leaf pondweed eradication of \$7,845.00.

M/S/P to approve the budgeted funding for the Eurasian milfoil eradication of \$11,800.00.

M/S/P to approve the budgeted funding for bog removal/Emergency Reserve Fund of \$5,005.00.

The proposed list of properties to be included in the LID assessment in 2024 was included in the packet mailed to all members and a copy is attached, along with the list of new properties in the new Preserve development.

M/S/P to approve the proposed list of properties to be included in the LID assessment in 2024.

The proposed total assessment of the 161 properties included in the LID assessment for 2024 of \$30,000.00 was included in the proposed budget.

M/S/P to approve the proposed budget of \$30,000.00 - total assessment of the 161 LID properties for 2024. 2024 budget as approved attached to minutes.

Election of Directors – Election for 3 Board of Director seats – all three year terms - ending at the Annual Meeting in 2026. Ballots were mailed to all members in the information packet. The ballots returned to the Board of Directors prior to the start of the Annual Meeting had been counted. Ballots were also distributed to the members personally attending the meeting.

Seat G: 26 votes for Adrienne Owens. 21 votes for Jolene Sytsma. No other votes cast

Seat H: 40 votes for Paul Fliegel. No other votes cast.

Seat I: 40 votes for Dave Owens. 1 vote for Jim Vos. No other votes cast.

NOTE: With this election the Board is comprised of 7 full-time Lake John Residents and 2 part-time Lake John Residents. We are required to have a majority of full-time Lake John residents as members of the Board. 8 mail-in ballots and 39 ballots returned at the meeting were counted.

Discussion regarding the water pumping at the Preserve. The DNR and the City of Annandale had been contacted regarding the water being pumped. The pumping has been properly permitted. The lake level is being monitored and has fluctuated minimally. A question was raised regarding effect of the water pumping on residence well levels in that area. Property owners were advised to contact the City of Annandale Public Works to address their individual concerns. Impact on bogs was raised as an issue. There has been no noted increase in the presence of bogs. Topher McKinley advised that all lake association members are covered by the bog removal permit held by the association and can manually remove bogs up to 10' x 10' from their shorelines under that permit.

Meeting date for next year's annual meeting. M/S/P to hold the 2024 Annual Meeting of the members of the Lake John Improvement District on June 22, 2024, beginning at 9:00, at the South Haven City Hall.

Adjourn. There being no further business to come before the membership, M/S/P to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter MacMillan
Secretary
Lake John Improvement District Board of Directors

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LAKE JOHN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP: Is scheduled for Saturday, June 22, 2024, beginning at 9:00, at the South Haven City Hall.