

Lost Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

Annual Electors' Meeting Approved Minutes-- Vandervort Park

September 4, 2022, 11:00 a.m.

1. The Annual Meeting of the Lost Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District was called to order by Chairperson Eckerman at 11:00 a.m.

2. **Roll Call:** Present: Commissioners Ulett, Truppe, Heeler, Guckenberger, Ritter, Eckerman, and Anderson.

Excused: None

Also Present: There were 75 other District members present.

3. **2021 Minutes Approval:** On a motion by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Bill Rameker, the minutes of the 2021 Electors' Meeting were approved.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Truppe explained his 08-31-2022 Treasurer's Report (which was previously sent via email to property owners) showing deposits made and checks he had written from 09-05-21 to 08-31-22. The account showed the District had \$105,817.40 in its checking account as of 09-05-21 but that amount has increased to \$118,187.23 as of 08-31-22. Much of the increase in year-end balance was due to the DNR's denial of a herbicide treatment permit for CLP treatment this past spring.

5. **Audit Report:** Jim Jandrain of the Audit Committee presented the report. Full copies of the report were distributed; a summary of the report includes the following: (1) Checking account and other figures agreed with minutes and treasurer's reports. (2) All minutes of the LLPRD were reviewed and found to be approved, and all motions were approved and passed. (3) The annual budgets appear to be consistent in scope with adjustments where necessary. (4) The recommendations of past audits have been carried out by the LLPRD. As a final statement, Jandrain stated that "Everything is fine" as far as the audit committee is concerned. The Commissioners thanked the Audit Committee members, Jim Jandrain, Andrea Thomas, and Josh Hessing.

6. **Concern or Comments by Attendees:** Eric Eade of the St. Germain Lakes Committee highlighted a Watercraft Regulations poster put together by the committee that he hoped people will take home with them and post so that all guests and visitors will be aware of boater laws within the state of Wisconsin. Bob Ryan brought up the issue of water clarity/quality in hopes that we would spend more time looking for cures rather than just treating the symptoms. He mentioned wake boats and others being too close to shorelines causing damage, and said "We all need to be good neighbors on the lake." Trish Walters of the Lost Lake Community Club (LLCC) gave an overview of the club's activities and urged more people to get involved with its many social activities around the lake. She said to contact her or log-on to the club's Facebook page (Lost Lake Group) to get up-to-the-minute info about on-going events. John Eckerman brought up the just published *Our Wisconsin* magazine article which had a great historical perspective of Vandervort Park (submitted by Gwenn Nyhagen) as well as a current-day perspective of the park from Gary and Linda Heeler.

7. **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Report:** Chairperson Eckerman reported on AIS activities mentioning that the proposed curly leaf pondweed (CLP) herbicide treatment permit for last spring was denied by the DNR. As for Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) in our east bay, that plant has rapidly grown to the point of affecting boat traffic throughout the area. The DNR wants the LLPRD to redo its Lake Management plan in order to do any active treatment of EWM or CLP. In addition, Eckerman has set up a meeting with the DNR and Lac du Flambeau tribe to work on moving forward on our treatment of AIS. Even with this meeting, it is improbable that the LLPRD will be able to do any active AIS treatment in 2023. Eckerman also attended the WI Lakes and Rivers convention in Stevens Point last spring where he met face-to-face with many of the decision makers at the DNR, so he hopes that his interactions with DNR will help us with our AIS issues in

the future. Eckerman also stated that the lake-wide stakeholder survey conducted by our lake consultant, Onterra, from last spring is just about in its final form, so we will be sending a copy out to all on our lake email list. Lastly, Eckerman reported that Onterra and the LLPRD started a project this summer to identify water quality issues and try to mitigate them. Because of the need to start the project immediately in July but having no funds budgeted for it, the LLCC agreed to fund the project until such time as the LLPRD could reimburse them.

8. Vote by Electors on Possible Local Boat Patrol: Eckerman started the discussion explaining a proposed Town of St. Germain project to completely fund a local boat patrol to town lakes. He stated the vote today will be advisory with the results being sent to the Town of St. Germain for a final determination of the project. Discussion ensued with many questions asked and points of view expressed. One question asked how do we report a violation if the boat patrol issue is defeated combined with DNR and county sheriff's department hardly ever being on the lake? In answer, County/LLPRD Board member Anderson said to call the Vilas County sheriff's non-emergency phone number at 715-479-4441. After further discussion Chairman Eckerman called for a vote. The results were 8 in favor of the boat patrol and 55 against the boat patrol. The vote total will be sent to the Town of St. Germain.

9. Walleye Stocking in 2022: Heeler stated that last year's planned stocking never occurred due to our contracted hatchery never delivering the walleye nor did they return any of our phone calls for an explanation. This year we contracted with a different hatchery (Silver Moon Springs) for walleye. The LLPRD has allocated the \$5,000 approved for stocking from last year's annual meeting plus another \$2,000 was donated by the LLCC for walleye stocking, bringing the total available to \$7,000. Based on a price of \$2.40 to \$2.80/fish, we can expect approximately 2,700 walleye to be delivered. Heeler noted that if anyone is on the lake in early to mid-October the fish will need to be distributed around the lake, so if you have a motorized boat and may be available to help, let Heeler know at 920-860-1660 or reply via this email with your name and phone number if you can help deliver fish.

10. Clean Boats Clean Waters Report: Commissioner Heeler reported that the UW Oshkosh interns who were checking boats at our landing during the summer have finished their time with us. It is now up to our volunteers to continue with boat inspections through mid-October. The LLPRD is in need of 84 hours of volunteer boat inspection hours in order to have a grant, not the LLPRD, pay for all of the intern's time. So far Eric Eade has completed about 40 hours of inspections plus lake volunteers received 20 hours of boat inspection training (which also counts toward our 84 hour goal) leaving about 24 hours still needed at our landing. If you can volunteer time at the landing please reply to this email or call/text Heeler at 920-860-1660 to arrange a time and get the paperwork and CBCW vests to use at the landing. A question was asked how do new people get training to work at the landing. Heeler responded saying Cathy Higley with Vilas County sets up training every spring, and Heeler will pass these training dates on via lake-wide email when the information becomes available.

11. Presentation/Vote on Proposed 2023 Budget: Treasurer Truppe presented the proposed 2023 LLPRD budget showing \$6,100 for non-AIS expenses and \$64,000 for AIS expenses, with the expectation that \$50,000 of the AIS budget for active management (herbicide etc.) would most likely never be approved by the DNR. Truppe also listed the 2022 carryover amount as \$112,000 and 2023 revenues projected at \$7,000. A motion by Joe Evans, second Bill Rameker, to approve the proposed \$70,100 budget was approved on a unanimous vote by electors.

12. Presentation/Vote on Proposed 2022 Tax Levy: Based on the 2023 budget, Truppe proposed a tax levy of \$7,000 to support 2023 spending. On a motion by Bill Rameker, second Jerry Morris, the motion to set the 2022 tax levy at \$7,000 passed unanimously by electors.

18. Election to Fill Expiring Term of Commissioners Truppe and Guckenberg: Nominations were taken from the floor. Bob Truppe was nominated by Joe Evans. Jim Guckenberg was nominated by Bill Rameker. Eckerman called three more times for nominations from the floor but none were received. A secret ballot was taken and Guckenberg and Truppe were elected by unanimous vote to three-year terms.

19. Set Date, Time, and Location of 2023 Annual Elector Meeting: After minimal discussion, a motion was made by Eckerman, second Truppe, to hold the 2023 Electors' Meeting at the same place, day, and time as this year's meeting; motion passed. Therefore next year's meeting will be held on Sunday, September 3, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Vandervort Park.

20. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m

Minutes prepared by Gary Heeler---LLPRD Secretary