

Lost Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District
July 6, 2023, APPROVED Minutes
7:00 p.m. Vandervort Park Pavilion

- 1. Call to Order:** Chairman Eckerman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
- 2. Verify Posting of Meeting:** Heeler stated the agenda was posted on 07/03/23 in kiosks at the Post Office, Community Building, and Camp's Market.
- 3. Roll Call:** Quorum was established.
Present: Heeler, Ulett, Anderson, Eckerman, Guckenberg, and Truppe (via phone)
Excused: Ritter
Others Present: Vilas County Zoning Administrator Dave Sadenwasser and 11 other Lost Lake people
- 4. Approval May 4, 2023, Meeting Minutes:** On motion to approve May 4, 2023, minutes by Anderson, second Ulett, the motion carried unanimously.
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Truppe explained the 4th fiscal quarter ending report (ended 5/31/23) highlighting new transactions since the May 4 meeting. Checks were deposited from property tax distribution (\$97.72) and 2023 CBCW grant advance payment (\$750.00). One check was written for \$220.00 to J&J Services for buoy installation and \$75,000.00 was transferred from our checking account to a 12 month CD at Nicolet Bank, bringing the quarter-ending balance to \$118,238.69. Truppe also listed transactions since start of the 1st fiscal quarter showing checks written to Rolyan Buoys for 4 new marker buoys (\$1,059.15) and to Jim Guckenberg (\$7.31) and J&J services (\$25.00) for marker buoy repairs, bringing the July 6, 2023, balance to \$117,147.23.
- 6. Public Comments:** None given
- 7. Vilas County Zoning Issue on Short-term Rentals:** Commissioner Anderson and county Zoning Administrator Sadenwasser explained a growing problem in the state where people are renting homes for short-terms (a few days to a few weeks) with no regard to the number of people staying in the unit, especially when it comes to the septic system's capacity. Over-burdened septic systems can lead to all kinds of environmental problems, especially in rentals close to lakes like in Vilas County. As a result, Sadenwasser urged everyone to contact their state legislators to ask for better state regulations tying rental home capacities to septic system capacity. He also provided the board with "talking points" for contacting state lawmakers. On motion by Anderson to have the LLPRD Chair contact our two state legislators to urge corrective action using the "talking Points," second Guckenberg, the motion passed unanimously.
- 8. Approve/Disapprove the Updated 2019 Lake Management Plan Recommendation:** Eckerman explained the on-going process of updating our lake master plan including meetings with our lake consultant Onterra, the DNR, and the LDF tribe as well as how the district is now doing water clarity and chemical testing of the lake on a regular basis. In addition, Eckerman related that it is highly unlikely the DNR will approve any herbicide treatment for AIS in the next few years. With all these meetings and other information in mind, (including the lake-wide opinion survey completed by property owners last year) Eddie Heath of Onterra put together a proposed updated lake management plan which was sent to all commissioners for review. On a motion by Ulett, second Anderson, the motion to approve the updated lake management plan provided by Onterra was unanimously approved. Once Onterra cleans up the wording and adds a final summary the updated plan will be shared with all lake property owners and submitted to the DNR for approval.
- 9. June 2023 Lake-wide Survey Results for EWM and CLP:** Onterra was on Lost Lake in late June to map occurrences of EWM and CLP. They found abundant CLP in the far western bay (where it has been for several years) as well as finding EWM again in the eastern bay. Even though the AIS density in most areas is not as bad as a few years ago, it can still be a problem to motor through in places.
- 10. Reimbursement by the Town's Lakes committee for Buoy Replacement:** On a motion by Anderson to have our St. Germain Lake's Committee representatives (Eade and Guckenberg) request reimbursement from the Lakes Committee for the 4 marker buoys we just purchased, second Guckenberg, the motion passed unanimously.
- 11. CBCW Boat Landing Coverage:** Heeler stated that the UW-Oshkosh interns have been at the boat landing on weekends checking watercraft for AIS under a DNR grant. Now that we are past the busy 4th of July week, he's hoping that more Lost Lake CBCW volunteers will be able to spend a few hours at the landing so that we can put in the 84 hours needed to meet the grant requirements. Eric and Ginger Eade have been putting in limited hours but more are needed. Eric mentioned that new CBCW guidelines are such that volunteers are to have more of a CONVERSATION with boaters about AIS than an INSPECTION of the watercraft. Anyone wishing to spend an hour or two "conversing" with boaters at the landing this summer/fall should

contact Heeler for open times and the paperwork needed to record contacts. As reported by Onterra, our participation in CBCW is crucial to being awarded lake-rehabilitation grants by the DNR.

- 12. Report on Water Testing in Lost/Stella Lake:** Eckerman reported that he, Guckenberger, and Eade have received water testing training by the DNR and have started taking water samples at Lost Lake while also doing Secchi disk readings at both Lost and Stella Lakes. Secchi disk (water clarity) readings at Lost Lake have shown clarity out to 8-feet which is the clearest water sample they've taken to date. The unusually clear lake water for this time of year is attributed to the lack of rain this summer which limits the amount of sediment-laden run-off going into the lake.
- 13. Discussion on LLPRD Policies Related to Open Meetings laws:** Eckerman related that he and Commissioner Ritter have been working on a resolution defining LLPRD policies in reference to open meeting laws, but since Ritter was unable to attend tonight's meeting, this subject will be put on the next regular meeting agenda.
- 14. Set up info for 2023 Annual Electors' Meeting: Budget, Mailings, Agenda:** Truppe led the discussion on next year's fiscal responsibilities by giving an overview of his projected spending and income for 2024. After much discussion Ulett made a motion, second Eckerman to set the 2024 tax levy at \$7,000; motion passed unanimously. The suggested budget and tax levy will now go before the electors for their consideration at the elector meeting.. Heeler will send out a proposed Elector Meeting agenda and cover letter to commissioners for approval before sending them to Business Connections for printing and mailing. The annual Elector Meeting is scheduled at Vandervort Park for Sunday, September 3, at 11:00 a.m.
- 15. St. Germain Lakes Committee Update:** Eade presented info on the Town's Lake Committee activities including discussions on the following: (1) WI Lakes Public Trust Doctrine and its effect in helping to prevent damage to lakes by enhanced wake boats. (2) The zoning issues dealing with over-taxing of some septic systems of short-term rental units. (3) The Lake's Committee supplying watercraft rental agencies with key tags and other information with boating laws and responsibilities. (4) The possibility that the Lakes Committee will be able to work with the town board to purchase an oxygen sensor for use in checking oxygen levels in town lakes.
- 16. Adjournment:** Eckerman announced that he is up for re-election at the annual meeting, and that any interested person is also welcome to run for a seat on the commission. Eckerman adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Gary Heeler
LLPRD Secretary