

Lost Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District
APPROVED/Amended Minutes
July 7, 2022, 2nd Qtr Commissioners' Meeting

- 1. Call to Order:** Chairman Eckerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2. Verify Posting of Meeting:** Commissioner Heeler stated the meeting was posted 07-03-2022.
- 3. Roll Call:** Quorum was established.

Present: Heeler, Ritter, Guckenberger, Anderson, Eckerman, Truppe, Ulett

Excused: None

Others Present: Six Lost Lake property owners

4. Approval of May 5, 2022, Commissioner Meeting Minutes:

On Motion by Ulett, second Guckenberger, minutes of the May 5, 2022, LLPRD commissioner meeting were unanimously approved.

5. Treasurer's Report: Truppe reported that at end of 4th fiscal qtr (May 31, 2022) treasury was at \$126,979.00 and that since then he wrote checks to Onterra for \$1,656.75 and \$3,821.27, and to Chairman Eckerman for \$1,900.00 for reimbursement for goose control invoice he paid. Truppe deposited \$939.00 from St. Germain Lakes Comm/Room tax funds bringing 07-07-2022 balance to \$120,539.98

6. Public Comments: None given.

7. CLP/EWM Treatment/Containment Planning: Eckerman started the discussion stating Eddie Heath of Onterra was to meet with the DNR to work on our AIS issues, especially EWM in our eastern bay. But so far the DNR has been dragging its feet working with us and Onterra. In response, Eckerman sent an email on June 20 to Mr. Yach of the DNR asking what has happened to the promises he made to move forward with our AIS issues. Yach responded saying, while one meeting has taken place the DNR hopes that the LLPRD will do more research into alternative ways to handle AIS such as DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) or hand removal of AIS. Commissioners stated that apparently Yach never read our past AIS reports because BOTH of those methods were tried on Lost Lake with no benefit. Yach also said there are tribal concerns with herbicide treatment due to wild rice a few miles down Lost Creek, to which commissioners responded that apparently Yach also didn't read Onterra's concentration monitoring report showing that the herbicide concentration was almost negligible when measured just upstream of the wild rice site. Commissioners took Yach's generic responses (he also couldn't even spell Chair Eckerman's name correctly) as a "smoke and mirrors" insult to both the LLPRD and Onterra. Heath went on to say that the DNR has NO current lake biologist on staff in our area, and this coupled with the DNR's inaction means that we will not have time to write a grant for partial funding on any AIS abatement plans we may come up with. Much discussion ensued about next steps, but it was finally decided that Eckerman would send an email to Yach and his superiors telling of the DNR's shortcoming in handling our AIS concerns. In addition, Commissioner Anderson will check with his LDF tribe contacts on the Vilas County board to get their comments on the wild rice on Lost Creek.

8. Review Goals and Action Steps of 2019 Lake Management Plan: Ritter stated that we need to review goals and action steps periodically from our 2019 Lake management plan to see if we are accomplishing what we intended. Heeler reminded commissioners of the 2019 action steps/goals were: 1. Manage AIS. 2. Maintain water quality. 3. Increase communication with stakeholders. 4. Improve the lake fishery. Due to lack of time tonight, Ritter asked that we put this item on next meeting agenda so we can review goals and action steps of our 2019 Lake

Management Plan. The goals and action plans can be found on our Lost Lake web page, (found on Town of St. Germain website) starting on page 94.

9. St. Germain Lakes Boat Patrol Revisited: Ritter informed the group that last year's vote on the boat patrol might have been skewed due to incorrect information sent to many property owners just days before the annual meetings/vote were to take place, so the Town Lakes Committee is requesting a re-vote after the correct info is sent to property owners. Eckerman agreed with a new vote so there is no question as to property owners' opinion on the issue and also to lessen commissioners' liability if we were to block a new vote and an accident would occur. Motion by Eckerman, second Heeler to send out the correct boater safety patrol information and hold a vote on the issue at our Labor Day Weekend Elector Meeting. Anderson questioned why have a new vote when the previous vote was voted down 39-12. Guckenber responded saying there are changes to the new proposal including the town now paying for the entire cost. Motion passed 6-1 (Anderson).

10. Planning/budgeting for the 2022 Elector Meeting: Truppe addressed budget concerns for 2023 saying it's too early to budget for herbicide treatment or other major costs. Ritter and others suggested that we have a large surplus so perhaps no tax levy is necessary while others requested a levy to at least cover normal operational expenses (non-AIS). Motion by Anderson to have a zero 2023 tax levy died due to lack of a second. Motion by Ulett, second by Heeler to set levy at \$13,000, which is the amount of the 2023 non-AIS budget. After discussion it was determined \$6,000 of the non-AIS budget was not needed in 2023 due to walleye stocking being done in 2022 NOT 2023. The motion was defeated 5-2 (Truppe and Ulett). Motion by Ritter, second Anderson, to have a 2023 tax levy of \$7,000 passed 6-1 (Ulett.)

11. Annual Meeting Voter Eligibility Procedure: Ritter shared state laws as to who can vote at lake district annual meetings. As general rule, the owner/spouse/co-owner listed on the deed are each allowed one vote, but properties within a trust or other gov't organization are allowed only one vote. To ensure the correct following of WI law Ritter volunteered to provide an up-to-date county tax listing to all St. Germain lake districts along with colored cards to be given out to those attendees who are eligible to vote in annual meeting elections. The colored card can then be used as the secret ballot for the election of commissioners at the end of the meeting. Commissioners were in favor of following this procedure, so Heeler will arrange for two greeters at the annual meeting to check listings of electors and hand out colored cards for voting. This voting procedure (along with other info) will be sent out to all electors in the letter that announces the the annual meeting to be held at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 4, 2022, at Vandervort park.

12. Walleye Stocking Update: Heeler is working with Silver Moon Springs fish hatchery to stock walleye in the lake this fall. He reported that at the 2021 annual meeting LLPRD electors approved spending \$5,000 to stock extended growth walleye in Lost Lake at a price estimate of \$2.35 to \$2.70/fish. Heeler also announced that the Lost Lake Community Club board has voted to add \$2,000 to purchase walleye, bringing the total funds for stocking up to \$7,000 for approximately 2,700 fish. Heeler will call the hatchery to confirm the number of fish to purchase.

12. Geese over-population Update: Eckerman explained that the goose abatement procedure occurred in early July and went well. He praised the joint effort of the USDA staff and local volunteers to round up and capture 99% of the geese.

13. St. Germain Lakes Committee Report: Eric Eade of the Lakes Committee presented report listing main items discussed at last Lake Committee meeting: (1) The committee put together a poster entitled Boater Courtesy Code which was posted on its Facebook page and will be

distributed locally. (2) Discussion was held on revisiting the St. Germain Boat Patrol issue due to inaccurate information put out last summer. (3) The committee's Facebook site is up and running with up-to-date safety and other info being shared. (4) The fishery committee met, but little headway was made getting the DNR to take an active step in helping stock more walleye in Lost Lake due to its low per-acre count of existing walleye (.9/ac) whereas lakes with 3+ walleye/acre will receive state stocking.

15. Clean Boats Clean Waters 2022 Update: Heeler reported that the UW-Oshkosh interns are now inspecting boats several days a week at our landing. He reported that local volunteer Eric Eade has already put in 20 hours of boat inspections. Other local volunteers are expected to join Eric in the coming weeks as we work toward the 84 hours needed of volunteer time.

19. Commissioner Communications, Meeting Agenda Items, and Concerns: (1) The next LLPRD meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 4, immediately after the annual electors meeting. (2) Ulett thanked the commissioners and Eric Eade for all their work on the issues that have been brought before the Lost Lake District. (3) Anderson requested that we put an item on our October meeting entitled "Records Retention."

20. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Gary Heeler
LLPRD Secretary