

BLAKE LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Annual Meeting Minutes 2021

Meeting Date: August 21, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sam Rivers Weber at 9:09 am. Board Members attending: Sam Rivers Weber/Chair. Megan Langer/Treasurer, Commissioner Peggy Lauritsen, Commissioner Shelley Rodriguez. Special guest attending: Jeremy Williamson, biologist and consultant. Meeting held at Georgetown Lutheran Church.

Welcome was extended to those new to lake. Introduction of board members followed.

Thank you was extended to all volunteers.

Motion to adopt agenda was made by Sue Budd, seconded by Jim Maxwell.

Approval of Minutes from 2020 annual meeting was requested. Motion to approve by Mike Rogge, seconded by Andy Aplikowski. The proposed budget total of \$31,200 is correct. Lake management sb \$5700. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report motion approved.

Dam committee report by Scott Bassett. Slides of his presentation can be found at www.blakelake.org/records.

Lake management plan update by Commissioner Rodriguez. Our plan ends Dec 31, 2021. We need a committee to work on revisions to our 5-year plan. Volunteers requested. Biologist Jeremy Williamson shared AIS monitoring going in, out of our lake is being done. 2006 was the first plant survey performed on our lake. He is working on new mapping and a timeline of plant density change for Curly leaf pondweed (the largest invasive species problem). The status of our lake's nutrient budget is needed in the new lake plan update. In 2004, Blake Lake District was the first lake in Wisconsin to qualify for a state grant to improve water quality. We have a strong legacy. See complete report at www.blakelake.org/records.

Clean Boats Clean Waters report by Commissioner Lauritsen. We continue to have volunteers and paid workers checking boats at 2 landings until October. Thank you to all volunteers. See complete report at www.blakelake.org/records.

Healthy Lakes report by Commissioner Lauritsen. There will be a tour next weekend of 7 shoreline buffers and 2 rain gardens completed. Self-guided tour. See website for information. Flyer was available with information and addresses. Opportunities to apply for Healthy Lakes Grant #3 by February 1, 2022. See complete report at www.blakelake.org/records.

APM Harvester report by Jim Maxwell, APM Coordinator. Started harvesting on May 24th. Last year it was on June 6th. Curly leaf done on June 25th. We had 31 loads of curly leaf this year. Fifteen on the north end and 16 on south end. Last year we had 21 loads. Very few turions (seed pods) this year. On July 2nd started with coon tail. We have had 40 loads already this year compared to 72 loads last year. We have 102 hours on harvester this year. Harvester is 17 years old, 1782 hours on it.

Annual business

Proposed 2022 Annual Budget. Motion to approve for 2022 made by Jim Filkens, Gail Rustad seconded it. Approved.

Commissioner elections. Commissioner Rodriguez and Smith are exiting the Board. No volunteers from the floor. Jeff Schoenick was the only candidate on the ballot. Voting resulted in 41 votes for Jeff Schoenick and he was elected Commissioner as the votes were tallied and reported by the end of the meeting.

Harvester replacement and votes to approve 3 resolutions. Reporting by Chair Rivers Weber and APM Coordinator Maxwell. A committee needs to be formed to explore the purchase and funding of a new harvester over the next 3 weeks. Volunteers requested. We need to apply for a state loan so we can spread the assessment over 5 years. That matches how we handled the Dam Construction assessment. Our old harvester can be resold at \$30,000. A new harvester life expectancy is 30 years now. The one we have is 17 years old, past its life expectancy of 15 years. We bought the current one in 2005 from Spooner Machine, but they no longer build them. In 2005 we hired a company to do our harvesting for \$14,000 per season until we had funds to use towards the purchase of our own harvester. We had issues with getting enough cutting done with the timing we needed. Back then, we had a grant that covered 50% of harvester labor costs each year. We do not have that now, but we could apply again.

We received 3 estimates for new harvesters ranging from \$227,000 to \$327,000 from Inland Lake Harvesters. This includes a new trailer cost of \$48,000. A state grant, if awarded, will cover 37-50% of the costs. We would apply for a 5-year loan from The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) at a rate of 2.5%. To have a new harvester for the 2022 season next May, we need to allow for 180 days of manufacture which means getting our order placed by October 1, 2021. Three Resolutions were presented and read aloud by Chair for approval:

- 1) VOTE: Approval of Resolution 21-HR001 Replacement of Harvester (see attached resolution for purchasing harvester and trailer). Discussion: Funding for Replacement of Harvester. A motion to approve was made by Scottie Johnson and second by Jim Filkens. Unanimous. Motion carried. Sid Soland made a motion to authorize the Board to move forward with the purchase up to the amount of \$327,000. Motion to approve by Sue Budd and second by Sheila Munson. Unanimous. Motion carries.
- 2) VOTE: Approval of Resolution 21-HG002 Harvester Grant (see attached resolution to apply for a DNR grant). Discussion. Motion to approve by Mike Rogge and second by Ken Knutson. Unanimous. Motion carries.
- 3) VOTE: Consideration of Borrowing Funds*** for Replacing Harvester Resolution 21-HF003. (see attached resolution to borrow funds from BCPL for weed harvester and trailer). Motion to approve resolution and not to exceed \$300,000 by Mary Wasler and second by Vince Tieber. Unanimous. Motion carries.

Motion to adjourn by Ken Knutson and second by Sue Budd. Meeting adjourned at 11:42am.

Respectfully submitted, Roxanne Smith, Secretary and Peggy Lauritsen, Commissioner.