

MINUTES ANNUAL MEETING
PINE LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
July 5, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kloehn at 9:00AM. Commissioners Gehl, Sprenger, Gagnon, and Tarcin were present. 50 members of the District were also present and participated in the meeting.

Notice of the meeting was placed on our Web site, the Spring 2014 Newsletter, and published in the Forest Republican prior to the meeting.

Copies of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of July 6, 2013 were distributed to the members prior to the meeting. Dennis Schumacher moved to accept, Tom Knaus seconded, motion carried.

Commissioner Sprenger presented the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for Year Ended December 31, 2013. Total Revenue, \$36,614, Total Expenditures, \$37,659 resulting in negative Revenues over Expenditures of \$1,045. Total Assets, \$335,987, Total Liabilities, \$0. Balance Checking, \$14,433; Tax Freedom Account Money Market, \$20,142; Tax Freedom Account CD, \$69,729; Regular Money Market, \$129,716, for total of \$234,020 cash deposits. Expenses increased for weed cutting, clean boats clean water program, insurance for pier at boat landing, fish stocking, and newsletters; decreased for lake management plan. Dob Dixon moved to accept the report as read, Tom Knaus seconded. Motion carried, Report approved.

Old Business:

Dennis Schumacher gave the District the original paperwork from the LMP Survey.

Commissioner Gehl reported on progress of scanning official District documents and posting on the web site. Many years are missing.

Question was raised on progress of septic inspections. Commissioner Tauer replied that all systems that are on record with Forest County have been inspected. Any failed systems are handled through the Zoning Office in Crandon, Pam LaBine. Older systems that are not on record will also be inspected this year or next. It was requested that the Commissioners give a report at the next Annual Meeting of the status of septic inspections. Commissioner Tauer offered to do this.

Chairman Kloehn reported on contacting an attorney to update the By-Laws with Resolutions and other wording to bring them in agreement with Chapter 33 of the State Statutes.

New Business:

Jim Grafelman of Chequamegon Bay Group presented a report of his work performed to date of a Feasibility Study for the removal of silt buildup in Pine Lake as authorized by the District at the last Annual Meeting. Jim's prior experience was with the Wisconsin DNR as a water management specialist, and is familiar with the procedures necessary to investigate and implement a project of this nature. The greatest accumulation is along the west and north shorelines. It was believed that the predecessor to the DNR, the Public Service Commission, allowed opening of the dam to flush out the silt. This has not been allowed or done since 1963. A Feasibility Study was done by the DNR in 1978, however the data is no longer valid and therefore the District hired Chequamegon Bay Group to perform a new study to determine if it is feasible to hydraulically dredge parts of Pine Lake. Mechanically removing with a back hoe would not work for this project. Tasks yet to be completed include determining sediment volumes via use of Bathymetric Surveys and chemical analysis of the sediment for possible metals, pesticides and toxic chemicals. It is not believed that this will be a problem. Estimated costs for these tasks have been received. Next, possible dewatering sites, not wetland, have to be determined. Property owners along the west shore will be contacted. Forest County Land and Water Conservation Department has expressed an interest in disposal of dewatered sediment as a farm soil builder. Possible funding may be available. The final report of the Feasibility Study will be completed by August 31, 2014. The District will then have to determine if it is cost effective to proceed.

Questions from the floor:

Is it possible to deposit the sediment in an island created in the lake? Answer, not likely, as significant regulation requirements would have to be met.

What happens to the lake when it is dredged? Better flow of water, removing sediment removes nutrients which contribute to weed and algae growth.

Where will the dredging take place? Generally along the shore line from 10 to 100 feet out depending on the depth of sediment, as this is where the recreational activity occurs.

Why is Pine Creek not part of the study? The limiting factor is available funding. Quotes to date estimate costs of \$4 per yard for dredging plus \$1 per mile for pumping. At 100,000 yards this equals \$500,000.

Why doesn't the District get the surveys done? When the Feasibility Study is complete, and all costs are determined the District will decide if it is feasible to continue.

Has past work by the Hiles Lumber Company contributed to the silt buildup and is Superfund money available for cleanup? The EPA would have to be involved and this is not likely.

What will happen to the fish population? If past experience is an indication, it will increase as the water quality is improved with dredging.

Does dredging do anything to the levels of the lake? No, however the volume will increase.

When is dredging done? Normally when there is no ice on the lake. For a project this size it may take multiple years from ice out to late in the fall.

Is there mercury in the lake? This will be determined by the sediment analysis.

Is there a budget for dredging? There is an approved budget for the Feasibility Study only, not for the dredging.

Will dredging affect the southeast shoreline with weeds from harvesting? Experience has shown that dredging will reduce the weed growth and therefore reduce the harvesting load.

Will the study produce a map of the lake bottom? Yes, this is done with the Bathymetric Survey. The DNR will require this information in order to get a dredging permit. This will be a public document.

What is the time table? If everything falls into place, the earliest dredging would occur is probably 2016.

Is there grant money that can be applied for? While not part of this study, it behooves Chequamegon Bay Group to investigate this further.

Why was the Forest Service not interested in using the old dump site for this project? Chequamegon will check this out as there are actually two sites in question, one being an old gravel pit. It was noted that when the Forest Service cleared out the boat landing a few years ago the material was put at the old dumpsite. This information will be pursued further.

Can the material be dumped on the DNR land on the north end of the lake? This is a wetland and cannot be used.

There being no further questions, Jim Grafelman concluded his presentation and was thanked by the members.

Next on the Agenda was the recommendation by Chairman Kloehn to re-roof the small garage storage building on the District property for an estimated cost of \$790 or sell the building. Motion made and seconded to repair the roof. Member questioned whether the District intends to sell the big building or the property itself. Response from Chairman Kloehn was no. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gehl reported that 2,500, 7 to 9 inch walleyes were stocked last fall and will be budgeted to be stocked again in 2015. Dennis Schumacher reported on the spear fishing done by all Chippewa Bands. 9 fish were speared on Pine Lake in 2009, since then none have been taken. A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes. Dennis also questioned if the District can apply for DNR 7 inch walleyes now that their hatcheries are again in operation. Commissioner Gehl will follow up on this.

Commissioner Tarcin reported on the weed cutting. Because of the late ice out the cutting has been delayed until next week, rather than before the 4th. A decision to cut a second time in August will be determined at a later date if necessary.

Commissioner Gagnon reported on the CBCW program. A DNR grant of \$4,000 has been received to offset some of the cost for operating the program in 2014. Modifications were made to the District pier to improve the boat landing.

Chairman Kloehn made a motion not to rent out space in the existing large storage building for boat storage. Commissioner Gehl seconded. Discussion followed. The District had been advised that the building would have to be available at all times and would require additional insurance. The net revenue would be minimal. Motion carried.

Next on the Agenda was election of 3 board members. The current commissioners up for re-election were, Terry Kloehn, Jim Gehl and Paul Gagnon. All agreed to run for an additional three year term. There being no other nominations from the floor, nominations were closed. Terry, Jim and Paul were re-elected unanimously.

The Budget Hearing followed. Treasurer Mary Sprenger presented the 2015 proposed budget as approved by the Board. Tax Assessment would remain the same as 2013 and 2014 at \$30,000. CBCW Grant income projected at \$4,000 and misc. interest income at \$200 for total Revenue of \$34,200. Expenses for Admin., CBCW, Dredging Study, Fish Stocking, Plant Harvesting and Tax Freedom Account, total \$56,000 for a Budget Deficit of \$21,800. Discussion followed. It was noted that cash needed to fund budget deficit must be taken from existing money market fund balances, not from the Tax Freedom Account. Motion made from the floor to accept the Proposed Budget. Seconded. Motion carried.

There being no other business, motion made to Adjourn. Seconded. Motion carried.