

Agenda for May 9, 2015 meeting of the Lower Turtle Lake Management District:

May 9, 2015, 8:00 a.m. Almena Town Hall

1. Declaration of Quorum and Call to Order

Meeting was called to order and a quorum declared. Present: Jerry Dietzman, Randy Rheingans, Corry Walbridge, Gary Warner, Jim Gores, Mike Mullin and Mary Jo Bonner

2. Treasurer's Report was approved and follows:

Checking Account Balance: \$21,107.93

CD Balance: \$14,067.40

Due from Grant: \$30,000.00

Total Assets: \$65,175.33

3. Secretary's Report: Minutes were read and corrected. The minutes were approved with corrections.

4. Old Business:

a. Grant progress update

The West Project is a go, at an estimated cost of \$2,500. Tyler Gruetzmaeker is handling it.

Dave Blumer will put together the final grant report. The exact cost of the report is not known and if there is not enough grant money left for this then the Lake Management District may have to help pay for the cost of the report.

\$1,500 has been designated for the 2015 Aquatic Planted Management Plan: Nuisance and Navigation Addendum.

The grant has been extended to Dec 31 2015.

b. Clean Boat Clean Water Monitoring Update

Sue Rheingans reports that the grant was successful. However, supervising the workers was extremely time consuming and Sue is not recommending that we proceed with this in the future. It was difficult keeping some of the 16 and 17 year olds interested and showing up and on time. The bonus from the District really worked. If not for the bonus it would have been impossible to keep the monitoring program going through Labor Day. If we are interested in doing this again through a grant then the due date for the next grant is Dec 1 2015.

5. New Business

a. Plans for 2015

Four topics were presented for discussion by Randy Rheingans.

1. **Curly Leaf Pond Weed Treatment.** The Curly-Leaf Pond Weed Treatment concerns 5.27 acres. It costs \$5,554.00 yearly for 3 years to spray the Curly Leaf Pondweed, represents approximately 7% of the nutrient load of the lake. In comparison, agriculture, native weeds and lake shore can contribute as much as 80% of the nutrient load. Randy moved that Curly Leaf Pondweed beds 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, according to the Curly Leaf map provided at the meeting by Randy, be treated by spraying at the above referenced cost of \$5,554 and that this cost may exceed that amount by as much as 10%. Also, our permit must be approved by the DNR and lake conditions must be right in order to proceed; i.e. water temperature cannot exceed 60 degrees. The motion was seconded and

approved on a 9 to 5 vote. Jerry made a motion that we pay the permit application cost and the consulting cost associated with the permit application in an amount up to \$500. The motion was seconded and approved on a 9 to 5 vote.

2. **Mechanical Weed Harvesting.** Randy and Dave Blumer discussed mechanical harvesting of weeds. There are benefits to harvesting for navigation purposes through heavily weeded area. It is likely that the District would have to purchase its own equipment. It was noted that there can be drawbacks to harvesting because of the amount of floating weeds in the lake. This discussion will be ongoing as more information is gathered. No decisions were made today.
3. **Shoreline Restoration and Rain Garden Projects.** Randy discussed that continuation of shoreline restoration and rain garden projects as part of the District's efforts is a very good idea and that those efforts should be continued.
4. **"Ton of Fun Saturdays"**. Individual owner weed harvesting is something that the District may want to encourage. Owners can clear an area of lakeshore 30 feet wide. Randy displayed a razor rake which he uses to do so. This would benefit the land owner and the lake. Again, a lot of nutrients would be removed from the lake. Randy suggested we might want to have a gathering of lake owners on a Saturday and make this a friendly competition of some sort to see who can harvest the most, or give a prize for harvesting a minimum amount.
5. A potential **wetland project** that was not able to be addressed by our current Grant project was presented by Corry Walbridge. Dave Blumer said it was on the Harland Becker farm and it was also mentioned that the Hanson wetland project, of years past could be revisited. Both, perhaps, with the help of Tyler at the County. It was mentioned that the Hanson project would be difficult.

6. Open Forum

Sue suggested we move forward with education on identifying weeds. This had been discussed last year and was generally considered a good idea. This would be done on a pontoon boat, possibly with the assistance of Dave Blumer.

Ken Bonner suggested we establish an Emergency Fund of 40% of the total assets and asked that it be brought to the Annual Meeting.

Ken and Sue expressed in attending the 2015 Eurasian Water Milfoil conference in Cumberland on June 20th. Both will be reimbursed for the cost of the conference.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15

Mary Jo Bonner, Secretary.