



BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Board Meeting May 18, 2024 8:30 AM Central Time

Call in phone number 612-508-0879

Thomas Kelly is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83784222829>

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Commissioner Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM

2) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- Tom Kelly, Gary Schneider, Terry Palmberg, Dale Ulbrich, Gary Schneider, David Mariani

3) OTHERS PRESENT:

- Marisa Wieder, Lake District Manager
- Patty Kabus, Recorder

4) APPROVE AGENDA:

- Commissioner Schneider motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Palmberg seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

5) APPROVE MINUTES: April 2024

- Commissioner Palmberg motioned to approve the April Meeting Minutes, Commissioner Mariani seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

6) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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7) TREASURER REPORT:

- Financials / Schneider
- Commissioner Schneider presented the April Financials.

- Commissioner Mariani motioned to approve the April financials, Commissioner Kelly seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

8) Water Quality

- Alum Solitude / Weider & Kelly
 - Public notices will be sent out Monday for the alum treatment
 - The University was out this week taking their measurements, and Cheryl Clemons is coordinating the resources
 - Scheduled to arrive June 4th, application 5-7, leaving 8th (based on weather conditions)
 - Commissioner Ulbrich noted there are a number of homes on East Balsam that mow right down to the lake. He asked about a targeted communication to those homes to let them know that this contributes to pollution in the lake
 - Commissioner Palmberg will write an article for the Dockside asking residents to create a barrier between the lawn and the lake. Commissioner Ulbrich will review it

9) Aquatic Plant Management and Invasive species

- CBCW / Mork
 - Launch monitors are up and running for the year. 2 tournaments are happening today
- Purple loosestrife yellow Iris eradication / Mork
 - No update
- Harvesting CLP & Navigation / Weix
 - We are in the permitting process, awaiting a permit to treat about 30 acres in East Balsam. Once we get the permit, Tigress is going to treat the beds. This should be done before the alum treatment
 - Harvesting will begin after the alum treatment is completed
- Zebra Mussels /Ulbrich
 - All trays are in for monitoring, and Matt Berg has been made aware
- Watercraft CLEANING STATIONS CD3 / Ulbrich
 - All cleaning stations are in and the lake maps are in the brochure tubes
 - The 46 store station had a defective battery, which has been replaced under warranty

10) Water Patrol / Schneider

- 2023 water patrol / Schneider
 - Boater Safety class is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend (Friday and Saturday)
 - We have no applicants for posting. Commissioner Schneider expressed concern for the future of the water patrol program. Hours will be cut by about half this year since we have only one officer

11) OLD BUSINESS

- Rice Creek Conservancy - signage / Palmberg
 - The signage has been updated and plans to add a few more signs has been incorporated into the plan
 - (1) 4 at Stumps Bay
 - (2) Dever – needs no signage
 - (3) Spares – 4 full size and 2 posted

- (4) Total of 16 posts
- (5) Bid at around \$1700, assuming we do the installation
- (6) The signage will also be included on the website
- (7) Commissioners Kelly and Schneider volunteered to help with the installation
- (8) Commissioner Palmberg has a post hole digger, as does Patty Kabus
- (9) Signs will be ordered shortly
- Construction Project Little Balsam Hillside cave in / Palmberg
 - On 5/16, Commissioner Palmberg got a call from Zoning. Carson Peterson, and analyst from Land and Water, is going to create a remediation plan. He confirmed it has not yet been done properly. The silt fencing needs to be cleaned up and repositioned, with erosion blankets, and a diversion around the boathouse, pits at the top to slow water runoff.
- Nanno Technology – sediment remediation / Ulbrich
 - Marisa and Commissioner Ulbrich have taken muck samples and are sending it out for analysis, to see how much of the muck will break down. The bays have a lot of algae. They also measured the muck layer depth to some extent. If we get the funding, we will have a sonar done to measure it more precisely. Most of the muck layer is 2-3 feet, possibly even 4 feet in Boston Bay
 - A question was asked about using a dredger instead. Dredger requires 3 months, and all docks have to be out of the water. Also, dredgers can only go to a certain depth, where the nanno technology can go anywhere with no dock removal
 - A number (75% or more) are mowing right down to the lake, so maybe the article Commissioner Palmberg is writing can help with this
- Egg oiling / Wieder
 - This program is done for the year
- L & W runoff project / Wieder
 - This is tabled for the year
- Stumps Bay Conservancy / Kelly
 - Commissioner Kelly communicated with landowners yesterday and this is in process. More info to come later
- 2025 Budget / Schneider
 - Commissioner Schneider has sent out the budget to the commissioners. Budgeting process is close to begin finalized (hopefully this week)
- 24 Summer Dockside / Kelly
 - Commissioner Kelly thanked everyone for their Dockside articles. He is just waiting for a couple more articles
 - The public notice needs to be modified to note significant projects

12) NEW BUSINESS

- Lakes conference / Wieder
 - Marisa attended the annual Lakes Conference. They had a lot of good sessions on water projects around the state. This year was the 50-year anniversary of the statute 33. Bill James gave a presentation on his 40 years of work on Wisconsin Lakes

- There is a lot of detailed analysis around water impacts of wake boats
- Fish management, especially walleye
- Marathon County did some runoff projects and presented on their work, utilizing a Trim grant (which Polk County also has access to)
- Water patrol boat
 - The Homeowner’s Association would like to update and eventually fund the patrol boat. Our attorney has been speaking with their attorney, and it has been recommended that we have a 5-year agreement in place, where the Homeowners Association will help to subsidize the boat expenses. This will hopefully be in place in the next month or so. This has been a very positive relationship

13) OTHER REPORTS:

- Milltown / Palmberg
 - Milltown did not meet last week, postponed until this week
- County / Mariani
 - There are a few projects going on. This summer, there will be a lot of focus on Balsam, Wapogasset and other nearby lakes
 - There will be a new program beginning on June 6th, to teach people to recognize specific species on the lake
 - Lakes and Rivers Partnership training coming up on May 30th

14) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Commissioner Palmberg rode around to the lake and noted there are graders right down by the lake with just dirt and no silt fencing. Commissioner Kelly noted that Ben Campbell should immediately be notified, and they will take action immediately. This applies to the full lake other than the Village of Balsam Lake. We could consider entering into discussions with the Village to suggest runoff mitigation requirements. Commissioner Kelly will look into the differences between the county and village requirements
- Commissioner Kelly noted the greenspace requirements on the lake is 70% with the county, and 50% with the village

15) ADJOURN:

- Commissioner Palmberg motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Schneider seconded, all approved, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:12 AM