

**MOUNT MORRIS LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
QUARTERLY COMMISSIONERS' BOARD MEETING**

September 3, 2022 – 9:00 am- Mountainview Community Center

1. **Call to Order:** 9:05 am by Chairman Rob Adams
2. **Present:** Rob Adams, Joe Slezak, Peggy Thiel, Karen Tschurwald, Mary Rohr (Lake B), John Jarvis, Paul Jarvis, Bob Jozwowski, Cory Hedrick, Jeff Williams
3. **Public Comments:**

There were no public comments or questions
4. **Approval of meeting agenda:** A motion was made to approve the meeting agenda.
5. **Meeting Minutes:** Joe Slezak
 - The May 7 and July 16, 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes were pre-mailed to the Board
 - The text was reviewed, modified and changed and correction re-mailed to the Board members
 - The minutes were approved by vote.
6. **Election of District Board Officers:**
 - Changes in the assignment of new roles, goals, and transition of responsibilities for each Board member were discussed by Rob Adams with each Board member prior to this quarterly meeting. The current roles will be:
 - Chairman: Rob Adams, AIS liaison and Lake Plan
 - Treasurer: Peggy Thiel: Weed Harvesting Manager (with her husband, Mark Stratton)
 - Secretary: Joe Slezak: Meeting Minutes, Annual meeting set-up, Archives
 - Karen Tschurwald: Social Media, website management and communications
 - Gil Steffanides: Dam maintenance
 - The roles and responsibility changes were accepted and voted for approval for 2022-2023.
7. **Treasurer's Report – Complete details deferred to later part of the meeting, #12 - Peggy Thiel**
8. **Harvester Operations: Peggy Thiel**
 - Discussion of the safety issues and possible solutions assumed with the harvesting operation
 - Harvesting Committee will discuss and review any safety issues assumed with the work in upcoming meetings
9. **Labor Payroll Management Sub-Committee: Mary Rohr (Kathy Croft could not attend)**

Mary Rohr reported results of last sub-committee meeting:

 - Joe Slezak pointed out that it has been the historical decision of the District since 1987 to not directly hire labor employees, but to use the services of a temporary employment firm to undertake that responsibility.
 - Mary Rohr pointed out that one option discussed was that the District is can use Associated Bank's PayCor services to pay employees... but the responsibility for the employee will remain as part of the District.
 - Joe Slezak contacted USTF and informed them that a review of their services and the District's employee situation was underway. This resulted in USTF reducing the labor multiplier rate for 2022-2023. The District will now save \$4,000 a year due to a lower labor multiplier rate.
 - Several other scenarios for paying District Labor were discussed by the committee. Joe Slezak supplied his research of local lake districts to the committee and reported that payroll is implemented in three ways:
 - Employees are hired and paid by a local construction type business contractor. The District buys and supplies the harvesting equipment, but employees are paid by the contractor as part of their business.
 - District laborers become employees of the Town of Mt. Morris and are paid by the Town. The District still buys its own harvesting equipment and the daily management responsibility of the harvesting team is the District's responsibility.
 - The District can hire an outside harvesting contractor to either harvest the lake by using their own equipment, or operate the District's harvesting equipment. This was found to be expensive and inflexible.
 - Paul Jarvis agreed to pose the question of the Town of Mt. Morris to hire our laborers as employees of the Town with the Town Board in an upcoming meeting.
 - The Harvester Payroll and Labor Management Sub-committee will report the committee's continued discussion on this at our December 3 Meeting

10. FOMML Report – Bob Jozwowski

- Improved rates; recovered status; Contributions of \$2,500 came in since annual meeting resulting in a balance of \$92,000 since annual meeting
- More T-Shirts have been produced and the annual appeal letter will come out

11. Treasurer’s Report: Peggy Thiel

- The report was emailed prior to the meeting for Board review.
- \$62,277 Cash balance with enough money in the fund to cover
- All first quarter transaction reported and expected.
- Harvester expenses are in line with the budget increases approved at the annual meeting.
- There were no changes, and the report was voted as approved.

12. Slow No-Wake Proposal for Lake B: Rob Adams

- The issue of a slow-no-wake zone in Lake Be was proposed at the annual meeting.
- Paul Jarvis is aware of this and will be prepared to discuss this with the Town Board when the proposal is presented by the District.
- Historically, Lake A (and possibly B) was a slow no-wake lake since the resolution passed in 1995
- Paul will do some research of Town records as to what the past historical regulation has been.
- We will do a non-binding referendum to the electorate to approve a proposal for this to the Town Board.
- Joe Slezak will write a draft resolution to send out to the electorate to propose that a slow now wake condition be made from the entrance into Lake B on the east side through Lake A.
- Cory Hedrick pointed out the discrepancy in buoy placements based on where they now are and the correct GPS coordinates as to where they should be. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

13. County Drone Surveillance: John Jarvis

- The drone Surveillance of Mt. Morris Lakes has been completed...Ed Hernandez has the video results. It was shown that more people are e-establishing vegetation growth along their shorelines.
- The County will review the videos and suggest changes.
- An increase in the illegal establishment of sand beaches on our shorelines was observed from the video.

14. Discussion of post-drawdown results: General remarks and comments by all

- The drone video seemed to show success in achieving it goals.
- Reports of good fishing with successful winter spawn

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Dam Toe Drain Repair Report: Rob Adams

- Rob had a conversation with Gil regarding the Dam Toe Drain repair and timing
- We are having difficulties securing a contractor to quote the work to be done
- There was extended discussion of toe drain repair, its condition, and an estimated costs and nature of repair to be done. The project could cost anywhere from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Gil is seeking a report of the type and cost of the repair estimate of the toe drain. The preferred process is to implement the repair for less than \$10,000.
- A maximum of \$20,000 was approved at the July 2022 annual meeting.

2. Website upgrade: Karen Tschurwald

- Rob reported that in the last edition of Lake Tides UW EX LAKES financially the website they use. Lake Districts are encouraged to use this website provider.
- Karen will research formats used by Lake Tides to partner with their supplier.
- Budget Approved for developing new site and new provider at annual meeting
- Web hosts at the present time will remain with Karen & Joe for the old site until it is migrated to a new site.

3. Updated By-Laws Text: Joe Slezak

- All the By-laws text is in archive as a PDF format. Joe Slezak will re-type the PDF text into an MS Word format for editing and making modifications when needed.
- Text to be revised in the By-laws as approved by the July 16 Annual meeting
 - ✓ Article II - Voting Section 6: Change of wording (See new version)
 - ✓ Article VII Section 4 – Quorum – Elimination of this section since no quorum is specified by Chapter 33

4. Identification of bills not previously submitted: Peggy Thiel

- Gabe's Tree Service for downed tree at the upper boat landing.
- Harvester parts and mileage
- Vehicle mileage to Cory

NEW BUSINESS

Discussions of Future of Harvester Repair, Harvesting Docking, and Harvesting Sheltering Issues

- Joe suggested that we consider the repair of the harvester pier.
- Cory pointed out that Gabe came up to determine what he could do to repair the harvester pier
- Cory pointed out some issues with safely moving around the harvester while at the dock area
- Karen Tschurwald volunteered some information about possible land sales that may help with planning future harvester docking and sheltering improvements
- Cory suggested various improvement scenarios to the harvesting docking situation
- Cory will arrange for Karen and Peggy to look at the dock area to determine future action
- We will have to send out a separate referendum to approve any plans for extensive repairs to the pier.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

10:30 AM