

Lake Life

MMLMD

**The Official Newsletter of the
MT. MORRIS LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

Number 69 – June, 2021

Tim Dahlstrand Chairman Wautoma, WI 54982	Peggy Thiel Treasurer Wautoma, WI 54982	Joe Slezak Secretary Wautoma, WI 54982	Karen Tschurwald Commissioner Wautoma, WI 54982	Robert Adams Commissioner Brookfield, WI 53008	Paul Jarvis Mt. Morris Town Board Rep	Randy Loehrke Waushara County Rep.
---	---	--	---	--	--	---------------------------------------

Be sure to access the MMLMD website at www.mtmorrislakes.org for expanded new information about the articles published in this newsletter.

DRAWDOWN REFERENDUM VOTE PASSES: 70% YES – 30% NO

Vote to be Ratified by All District Electors Present at the Annual Meeting on July 17

The voting rules put into place by County lake advisory meetings were challenging to Lake Districts during his COVID-19 season. While ZOOM meetings were allowed, voting on-line could not be allowed since there was no method in place to verify a large vote taken in such a manner.

However, we found that we could be prepared to respond to a result before our annual meeting by administering an advisory referendum vote to learn about the opinion of our District electors. Now that we know that most of you are in favor of a first step, a 6 foot lake drawdown over the winter, we are better able to prepare and propose action plans with budgets.

The official certification of the voting result occurs at our annual meeting. The Board recommends that the referendum “YES” vote should be certified. Your opinion matters to the Board, and views the referendum vote as the membership’s final word on the matter.

The referendum was sent using the official County tax role in effect for the 2020 tax season. If you did not get a ballot, please contact MMLMD and check with the Waushara County tax office to make sure you are listed. Total ballots sent out: 198; Total ballots returned: 168; Rate of return: 85%; Total votes cast YES: 190; Total votes cast NO:78. Ballots sent and vote totals are separate since two votes were allowed per property.

DISTRICT CHAIRMAN’S REPORT - Tim Dahlstrand

The District Board of Commissioners met four times since our last annual meeting. Three open meetings conducted via Zoom teleconference (due to COVID meeting restrictions) and the May meeting was in person. The meeting schedule, agendas and meeting minutes are published on the District website.

The District Treasurer, Peggy Thiel, has prepared the 2020-2021 financial report, which was audited by an independent third party. Peggy will also present the this report and the proposed 2021-2022 District spending plan at the annual meeting.

As a result of changes in the invasive plant populations, quantities of floating plant debris and aging harvesting equipment, the board has begun new harvesting equipment research and options. These preliminary findings will be presented at the annual meeting by Joe Slezak. Will continue to operate and maintain aquatic plant harvesting equipment. The principal equipment operator is Cory Hedrick. Jeff Williams is the back-up operator.



As required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, a 10-year inspection was conducted by Becher-Hoppe Engineers on the dam and flume structures. Although the report concludes the dam is in good condition with no immediate dam safety conditions, the inspection did identify several deficiencies to be corrected in the next 18 months. These are related to the toe drain repair, concrete flume intake wingwalls, mill building concrete deterioration and updates to the Operation and Maintenance and Emergency Action Plans. A copy of the 2021 dam inspection report can be viewed on the District website.

A Closing Thought After A Difficult COVID Year

The District is regularly welcoming new property owners to the lakes who are joining our long-time members. They, in general, do not have an appreciation of the many state and county-imposed requirements and limitations as to the use of the lakes and their properties. These include such issues as safe boating procedures, shoreline and property development limitations, septic system integrity and combating aquatic invasive species. The District is constituted under the State of Wisconsin and Chapter 33 Statutes.

The elected commissioners are responsible for lake care and rehabilitation. Despite the difficulties and limitations of the last year, the commissioners have performed responsibly as representatives for the District and are to be commended. As volunteers, however, they do not have policing authority of member non-compliance. If conflict matters cannot be mutually resolved, they will be referred to county and state authorities. We are all members of the District and everyone is encouraged to know the requirements of membership, comply with them and to treat each other respectfully.

45th Annual Mt. Morris Lakes District Meeting Saturday, July 17, 2021
World War II Veteran’s Memorial Hall – 440 W. Main St., Wautoma
BREAKFAST: 8:00 – 9:00 AM ANNUAL MEETING: 9:00 AM

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order, Agenda Approval, & Intros – Commissioner & District Members
2. Minutes: 07/20/19 Annual Meeting, - Joe Slezak
3. Chairman’s Report – Tim Dahlstrand
4. 2020-2021 Treasurer’s Report – Peggy Thiel
5. Endowment Fund Report –Bob Jozowski
6. Drawdown Referendum Results: Tim & Joe

OLD BUSINESS

1. Lake Drawdown Q&A: Rob Adams & DNR
2. Boating Safety – Joe Slezak & DNR Rep
3. Aquatic Plant Harvesting Equipment- Joe Slezak

NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation & Approval of the 2021-2022 Budget- Peggy Thiel
2. Election of Commissioners – Nominee for a 3 year term is Rob Adams
3. Other Topics for discussion as brought up from the floor .Adjournment

Pre-Meeting RSVP Requested

Leave a note of your meeting attendance at jeslezak@earthlink.net or call 920-787-7111 to allow an accurate breakfast food count & and meeting preparation.

Shoreline Modifications During The Drawdown

Information on what one can or can’t do, and how much can be done to your shoreline will be addressed by DNR agents present at the Annual Meeting. Even during a lake draw down, the zoning and land modification regulations for the WDNR prevail, and you need to observe these guidelines of face fines.



Thank You Friends of Mt. Morris Lakes Endowment Fund

FOMML was established in 2014 to provide long term capital to manage invasive species, mitigate silt build up and maintain our dam for generations to come. Year 2020 was a very successful year for the fund growth. Twenty new donations \$4,215 to our fund.

With market increases the fund gained \$11,580 this last year for a total balance of \$74,337 as of 12/31/2020. While this is a very satisfying gain, we still have a long way to go to reach our goal of \$600,000 which represents an average goal of \$3000 per property ownership. We sincerely thank the following donors to the Endowment Fund since its inception. Together, they have started to build our "Wall of Support" that will keep our lake secure for the future:



MT. MORRIS LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT Proposed 2021-2022 Budget

Budget Account Description	Approved Budget 2020-2021	Actual Spend 2020-2021	Proposed Budget 2021-2022
AIS Monitoring & Control	\$ 8,000	\$ 2,940	\$ 15,000
Drawdown		\$ 4,256	\$ 9,070
A-P Harvesting			
Harvester Labor (see note)	\$ 25,298	\$ 29,094	\$ 35,487
Parts/Equip	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,763	\$ 7,000
Fuel Oil	\$ 400	\$ 622	\$ 700
Storage	\$ 3,152	\$ 3,118	\$ 3,247
Insurance	\$ 2,632	\$ 2,049	\$ 3,028
Commissioners	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,250
Archives & Website	\$ 1,200	\$ 758	\$ 1,200
Dam Ops & Maint	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,467	\$ 10,886
General Operating	\$ 2,329	\$ 3,186	\$ 3,599
Total Expenses	\$ 64,261	\$ 59,503	\$ 90,466

NOTE: Mt. Morris Lakes does not employ the harvester operator, helper, or dam operator. US TEC:H employs these seasonal employees and they receive an 80% fee for performing all timekeeping, payroll services, and employer payroll taxes. The amounts received by the operators are: Dam and Harvester Operator, \$15,893 and Back-Up Operator \$6,666. Operator is reimbursed for approved expenses up to \$1,000 in total.

BE NICE TO THE WEED HARVESTER WEEK

Well, it's not just one week but all weeks. Our harvesters spend much time on the lake, and they may not always know if their efforts are doing any good. Here's a few tips to ensure a happy harvester: Speed boats and weed harvesters do not make good lake buddies. Keep to a slow no wake condition when around a loaded harvester. A kind word of appreciation goes a long way to let our harvesting staff know that you appreciate their work.



If you can receive your District news & information by e-mail, please send your e-mail address to: jeslezak@earthlink.net

Editor: Joe Slezak - W6346 Bighorn Lane, Wautoma, WI. 54982

MT. MORRIS LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
 The Official Newsletter of the
Lake Life

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 9:00 AM District Meeting
 WWII Veterans Memorial Hall, 440 W. Main St. Wautoma
BREAKFAST: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM MEETING: 9:00 AM

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO ATTEND:
 The District has to conclude important business - Certifying the referendum, voting a Commissioner, passing a 2021-22 budget, and setting next year's agenda, and discussing new harvester equipment needs for the next 5 years.
 Rob Adams is the Commissioner nominee up for another 3 year term.
 Pontoon Boat Parade: Line up for parade only at 4:00 pm, 07-26-2021
 Learn how to plan for improving your shoreline at the Annual meeting.
 A DNR representative has been invited to attend the meeting and will be on hand to discuss what you can and can't do to your shoreline.
 We have gained many new families and we have lost some long time residents. Remember the good times spent with friends passed away.

Return To Editor

Stamp Here