

Porters Lake Management District Annual Meeting Minutes

Saturday, June 25, 2016

- I. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Don Dalton at 9:00am. 22 members were in attendance.
- II. Introductions of attendees
- III. Veterans recognized for their service:

Ron Skinvik-air force
Greg Foster-air force
Dick Hansen-army reserve
Skip Hansen-army reserve
- IV. Minutes from June 27, 2015 meeting reviewed. Dave Hansen made motion to approve the minutes. Shawn Kraemer seconded. Motion approved.
- V. Guest speaker, Greg Foster, town supervisor gave update.
 - Mount Morris applied for and received TRIP (Town Road Improvement Funds). A portion of Porters Lake Road is scheduled to be repaved. The water line repair across the road will be repaired at the same time at the landowner's expense.
 - A group of people have been working on revitalizing the 4th of July Parade. It will be on July 2, starting at 11:00am.
 - Monies for the Town of Mount Morris Beautification project have been used to provide a fence around the park and inflatable buoys in the water to keep the geese out and improved restrooms and park facilities.
 - Community Wildfire Protection Program:
 - Information regarding wildfire prevention is on the marquee at the Community Center.
 - Volunteers are needed for the Wildfire Project. The committee is most active in the fall. Contact Greg Foster if interested.

A request was made to cut the tall grass on the corner of Hwy 152 and Porters Lake Road due to impaired visibility looking west. Greg reported that the county is responsible for this, but since the town will be doing work on Porters Lake Road, they will make certain that is resolved.
- VI. Election of Chairperson:
Don Dalton's three year term is over as of June 30, 2016. Greg Danielson renominated Don Dalton for another three year term. Dick Hansen seconded the nomination. Don accepted

the nomination, vote was taken and Don was voted in for another three year term commencing on July 1, 2016.

VII. Pan Fish Regulations:

Dick Hansen reported on the Porters Lake pan fish restrictions effective April 1, 2016. The daily bag limit is reduced to 15 pan fish with no more than 5 of each species: i.e. 5 bluegill/sunfish (bluegill and sunfish are the same species), 5 crappie, 5 perch. He reported that the new restrictions are a result of the bottom structure of the lake being damaged and until that is better managed, we will not be able to stock fish (for approximately 5-10 years). If there is no improvement in that time frame, limits could even be lowered.

There was discussion re: that the Northern pike may be eating the perch and that perhaps the size limit should be taken off of the northern. There also seems to be an overabundance of bluegills and bass, and perhaps there should **not** be a “catch and release” mentality.

The actual “fishery” of the lake is only 25-20 acres.

Concern was voiced about the number of ice fishermen on the lake.

Dave Bartz is considering changes in the size limits on the lake.

Ron Skinvik recommended that everyone makes sure their prop is properly adjusted for the depth of the lake because if the marl is taken in by the motor, your motor may develop “prostate” problems (inability for the water to properly flush through the motor) and could cause damage to your motor, as well as to the bottom of the lake.

VIII. Porters Lake District Management Plan 2016

Skip Hansen reviewed the plan and explained why a new plan was developed. The new plan is formatted in a way that meets criteria to qualify for future grants.

Some key aspects of the plan:

- 1) It recognizes that the lake is subject to degradation as a result of the high capacity wells in the area.
- 2) There are 55 identified native aquatic plants in the lake. This number is 3 xs greater than the average lake in the area. This quality is beneficial for qualifying for future grant applications. There are 2 species of special concern, 1) Robbins spike rush and 2) Small purple bladderwort, which is a carnivorous eating plant.
- 3) There are 115 identified native plants along the shoreline of which 3 are native orchids.

The updated lake management plan will be available for viewing on Porters Lake website, www.porterslake.org.

IX. Wisconsin Lake Association Lake Conference Review-Greg Danielson

Greg and Susie Danielson attended the conference this year in Stevens Point. Greg reported that it was very beneficial and informative to attend.

Highlights included:

- It is extremely important to prevent property run off directly into the lake. The way this can be minimized is to leave or create a naturalized buffer to the shoreline.
- He reported that he felt that the problems we are dealing with on our lake are minuscule compared to other WI lakes.
- Skip and Dick Hansen also attended the conference as guest speakers re: the EWM treatment and success on our lake.

Kris Helms offered free native plants for anyone that wants to come dig some for their shoreline restoration in the spring. If interested, please contact her at khelmsy@yahoo.com.

Volunteers are needed to attend the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention April 5-7, 2017 in Stevens Point. Your attendance and lodging is reimbursed by the lake management district. Anyone interested, please notify Don Dalton.

X. Central Sands Water Action Coalition update-Skip Hansen

Skip Hansen explained that this group was started about 6-7 years ago in response to the explosion of high capacity wells in the area. There are 43 groups, representing about 23,000 families. One example of the effect of the high capacity wells is Long Lake in Plainfield which went from a depth of 12' to 3'. Their property assessments were reduced by 60%. A high capacity well can pump up to 650 gallons per minute or 936,000 gallons per day. There were ground water bills in legislature last year, but none of the really bad ones were passed. There are scheduled meetings with legislators in the near future and Skip is a constituent on the board. The Attorney General, Brad Schimel, issued a "formal opinion" that DNR regulators can't consider the cumulative effect that hundreds of high-capacity wells exert on lakes, streams and groundwater when deciding whether to approve new wells. A formal opinion of the attorney general does not create a binding legal precedent, but it can have a strong effect. It can be persuasive to courts and is presumed to be correct as long as the Legislature doesn't pass a law contradicting it. It was stressed by Skip that as legislative actions come up, we, as land owners on a lake, should call, email, write or show up at our assemblymen's office. We have "numbers", but not a lot of "dollars". Legislators receive financial support and often make decisions based on the funds received. When contacting our legislator, it should be the one where we live to make the most impact.

Statistics in the Central Sands area:

- Economic impact of ~ \$1.6 billion from agriculture and ~\$1.6 billion from tourism.
- Waushara County: Lake and waterfront property constitute 3% of the land owners, but they pay 30% of the property taxes.

Randy Behringer has a monitoring well on Porters Lake.

XI. Emergency Response Grant update-Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM)-Skip Hansen

The grant was received in 2013 after EWM was identified in 2012. In 4/2013, the herbicide was applied to the area that had the greatest density of EWM. Later that year, there were a few plants that were identified and were hand pulled. No additional herbicide was applied in 2014 or 2015. In the fall of 2015, a few scattered EWM plants were identified and were hand pulled. The 3 year grant expired in 12/2015, but a grant extension was approved for 2016. In June 2016, 1 plant was identified and was hand pulled. The DNR official that was involved with extending the grant was extended an invitation to visit our lake.

XII. Jarvis shoreline property acquisition discussion-Skip Hansen

There was discussion re: the possibility of applying for a grant to purchase 3 of the 4 shoreline lots that John and Cindy Jarvis have for sale. The purpose would be to preserve the nature and the natural shoreline in that corner of the lake. It is a sensitive area of the lake and keeping it undeveloped would benefit the health of the lake as a whole.

- Current asking price is \$110,000/lot, total assessed values for 3 lots is ~ \$230,000.
- If a grant is given, it is based on the appraisal that is provided by one of 100 DNR certified appraisers (the lake management district hires) and the grant pays 75% of that appraisal.
- Approximate cost of the appraisals would be \$750-\$1000/lot (\$2400-\$3000 total).
- The grant needs to be submitted by February 1, 2017. The appraisals can't be greater than 6 months old at the time of the grant application.
- Skip has had an initial conversation with the Jarvis' re: this possible proposal.
- Jarvis' are willing to finance the debt for 20 years.

There was much discussion regarding this proposal.

Mary Kluth made the following motion:

- 1) Skip to meet with John and Cindy to inquire if they would accept the DNR's appraisal price as the offer price

- 2) Ron Skinvik will accompany Skip.
- 3) An email will be sent out to lake property owners regarding the outcome of that meeting. There will be an opportunity for any landowners to ask questions, either by phone or email, if they have concerns.
- 4) If Jarvis' would agree to the DNR's appraisal price, and the response from the property owners is positive, then Skip will proceed with getting the appraisal completed by the DNR approved appraisers.

Shawn Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion approved.

XIII. 2016-2017 budget discussion and approval

Skip reviewed the budget with some revisions. (See the attached revised budget).

Proposal is to keep the property assessments at \$100/year.

Dave Hansen made a motion to approve the budget. Barb Dalton seconded the motion.

Motion approved.

XIV. Other Business:

Ron Skinvik did secchi disc readings on May 29. The north end the reading was 7.5' with 13.5-15' visibility in 17-18' of water.

Muskrat trapping has been done on the lake. It is done in the fall. Five were trapped last fall. Muskrats can be shot on your own property.

Greg Danielson reported that there is a woman from Green Lake, Lisa J. Reas, from LJ Reas Environmental Consulting Corp that will come out and help design a shoreline for restoration for free if there is a minimum of 300 square feet and if you buy the plantings from her. Her contact information is ljreas@charter.net. Kris Helms again reminded everyone that she has free plants available to anyone who may want them in the spring.

Michelle Schacht is still taking water samples and submitting them to the Citizens Lake Monitoring website. Results are posted at <http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/clmn>. Secchi disc results should also be entered.

Vicky Zagorski wants to continue to be in charge of the Sunshine Committee. Please notify her by phone or email of any significant events that should be recognized.

Don Dalton complimented Skip Hansen, Dick Hansen and Dave Hansen for all of the work that they do involving the lake. Dave continues to manage the control of the purple loosestrife on the shoreline.

There is a teenage girl that lives on the lake with her parents that is hired to assist with the Clean Boats monitoring at the boat landing.

Next year's annual meeting is on Saturday, June 24, 2017 at 9:00 at the Mount Morris Community Center. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

XV. Adjournment:

Dave Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pat Doyle seconded the motion. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:15.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Helms, Secretary.

Porters Lake Management District Budget Overview

	<u>2015-2016 Approved Budget</u>	<u>2015-2016 actual</u>	<u>2016-2017 Approved Budget</u>
--	----------------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------------------

Item			
Income:			
Assessment	\$6,400.00	\$6,401.00	\$6,400.00
Interest	\$12.00	\$9.32	\$12.00
Grant #1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grant #2	\$2,400.00	\$2,836.02	\$1,600.00
Transfer from surplus	\$4,488.00	\$1,952.90	\$5,338.00
Total Revenue	\$13,300.00	\$11,199.26	\$13,350.00

Expenses:			
Lakes Conference	\$900.00	\$1,040.30	\$900.00
Lakes Council	\$150.00	\$185.00	\$160.00
Insurance	\$1,800.00	\$1,627.00	\$1,800.00
Web Site	\$400.00	\$275.53	\$400.00
Stamps/Mail	\$1,100.00	\$418.84	\$800.00
Meeting Gifts	incl	incl	incl
Meet Expenses	incl	incl	incl
Meet Notice	incl	incl	incl
Fish Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Loose Strife	\$500.00	\$210	\$250.00
Divers	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Water Quality	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Discretionary	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Land Invasives Control:			
Garlic Mustard and			
Buckthorn	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Boat Landing	\$3,300.00	\$2,818.08	\$3,300.00
Grant writing	\$0.00	\$393.75	\$0.00
Shore land restoration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lake plan update	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grant #2	\$1,600.00	\$3,954.82	\$2,200.00
Legal	\$1,000.00	\$176.25	\$1,000.00
Donations/Law Enforce.	\$1,000.00	\$100.00	\$1,000.00
Total expenses	\$13,300.00	\$11,199.26	\$13,350.00

(Deficit) Profit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
------------------	--------	--------	--------

Cash on hand as of	Cash on hand as of 5/10/15	Cash on hand as of 6/30/16
Checking	\$2,241.11	\$3,857.85
Passbook	\$21,705.76	\$17,868.68
Total Cash	\$23,946.57	\$21,726.53