

PLMD Board of Commissioners Board Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2017

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Helen Fischer at 9:30am. Commissioners present: Helen Fisher, Skip Hansen, Kris Helms. Absent: Greg Foster, Bernadette Krentz.

Introductions were done. There were 14 additional lake district members present.

- I. Jarvis Land Acquisition Proposal discussion and plan for disseminating information
 - Skip summarized why the meeting to vote on the possible land acquisition was tabled for a year. The vote will occur at the annual meeting on June 23, 2018.
 - Skip provided a handout outlining the steps that must be followed in order to apply for and possibly receive a land acquisition grant. This handout was provided to district members in attendance and will be emailed to those not in attendance. There was a suggestion to put a timeline that would be required on the steps
- A. Points to be communicated to district members
 1. If property were to be acquired:
 - There would be no property tax because we are a governmental body
 - No improvements of the property are required (state requirements)
 - We are not allowed to post “no trespassing signs”
 2. Voting guidelines
 - Summarize the WI Lake District statutes, ie: who can vote, who can not vote
 - Electors voting
 - Owners -if both spouses are not listed on tax roll, there must be proof that both are owners in order for both to vote (ie copy of deed with both names listed). Pay attention as to how your tax bill is addressed and there is a public website that can be accessed <http://gis.co.waushara.wi.us/GCSWebPortal/Search.aspx>
 - Trust, LLC or LLP-one member must be designated as the official representative (must have letter indicating this)
 3. Explain the expenses related to the acquisition, amount that the DNR grant would pay, those that are reimbursable, those that are not
 4. Funding-cost estimator
 - Jarvis’ financing a loan over 12 yrs
 - Bank financing
 - DNR financing
 - Impact on the district members
 5. Provide a summary of why we are pursuing the acquisition (for new members and as a review for current members). This should be the first mailing. With this, there should be information as to what members can expect in the following months (ie monthly mailings/emails)
 6. Explanation if there are any DNR restrictions that will be put on the land
 7. Presentation of harder numbers as to what this could cost district members

II. Boat Landing Volunteers

- In trying to reduce our budget, we are requesting volunteers. In the past local kids have manned the landing a few hours every week. Having the boat landing manned, is a huge criteria that the DNR considers when applying for any type of grant.
 - The boat landing is manned on weekends (15) and holidays from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend. Times are from 7am-10am and 4pm-7pm. This would be for a total of ~ 33 days/year. The role of the worker is to provide information to prevent migration of invasive species from lake to lake. The inspect the boat, trailer and motor for any plants.
 - We are requesting that district members volunteer time to man the boat landing, with the goal of reducing lake district costs. Currently costs are ~\$3000/year. If costs are reduced, there could be funds available in the district's accounts to reduce member's assessment if the Jarvis land is acquired.
 - Members also recommended that a request could be made to the Boy Scouts or Future Farmers of America, in the area, to do volunteering as it is generally a requirement for them. A donation of up to \$1000 could be given if they volunteered. Schools may also have students that have requirements to do volunteer work.
 - Recommendation that a log is kept to track the number of boats coming in and frequency of finding hanging plants.
- A. Mailing/email will be sent out to all lake district members requesting them to volunteer and a date they would be interested in assisting. Skip Hansen indicated that he will draft the request and he will coordinate the scheduling of the volunteers and training. If there are not enough members that volunteer, request outside of the district (as above) will be made.

III. Arrangement for Audit of the 2016-2017 budget

- Beth and Lyle Buettner volunteered to do the audit. They will meet with Skip Hansen. Thank you to Beth and Lyle.

IV. Aquatic Invasive Plant Update

- Purple Loosestrife: Dave Hansen reported that he has continued to put beetles out in the areas of loosestrife in the spring. There is concern that the plants on Jarvis hill are getting worse. Dave needs assistance to distribute the beetles. Golden Sands has provided the loosestrife plants and the starter beetles are obtained from the DNR. Dave needs some assistance in the spring to put the beetles out.
- Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM): Skip summarized that the first herbicide was applied in the spring of 2013, in the SW bay, off shore of Jarvis hill. Since then, there have been scattered plants located in the same area as a result of visual spotting. Plant growth in that area is very thick, especially in August and September, so it is difficult to navigate the waterway in that area. EWM easily fragments, so one needs to be very careful when navigating through the area. Skip, Golden Sands RC&D Council and a friend of the lake with students from Stevens Point have hand pulled plants. Majority are in 1-3 feet of water in the SW bay and are accessible with the use of kayaks. The invasion should be manageable with hand pulling.
- Narrow Leaf Cattail: In the SE bay, there is an invasive cattail species that looks very similar to the native, which is a Broad Leaf Cattail. On the native plant, the leaves are 1" or wider. The narrow leaf cattail has leaves that are ½" width or less and their brown seed stalk is in 2 sections

with approximately 1" of green stem between the 2 sections of brown seed stalk. The best way to try to eradicate them is 1) by cutting them off below the water line, which strangles the plant. This needs to be done twice or 2) an herbicide treatment. Golden Sands is applying for a grant to acquire equipment to mechanically do the cutting. They asked if Porters Lake could be a test site, and Skip told them yes. They would do a manual treatment on one side and an herbicide treatment on the other side, to see what works best. If they get the grant, they can provide the equipment at no cost, but we would have to pay for the labor.

- Members voiced concern about other plants getting cut in the process.

If Golden Sands gets the grant, it would be early in 2018. Further discussion could occur at the annual meeting.

V. "Welcome to the Lake" Informational Packet

- Dave Hansen has volunteered to create a welcome packet for new lake district members. He is obtaining lake ownership informational pamphlets and/or brochures from Stevens Point Extension that will be included in the packet. Also to be included could be Clean Boats Clean Water brochure, Porters Lake fishing regulation, lake directory and annual meeting information. He will also be seeking out some gift cards from local restaurants to include.

VI. Other Business: none

VII. Adjournment

- At 10:28 Skip Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kris Helms seconded it. Motion so moved.

Following the meeting, there was a question and answer session re: the proposed Jarvis Land Acquisition with district members present.