

## **PORTERS LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING**

**Saturday, June 27, 2015**

Call to order

Introductions

Special Guests: Mark Theis, President of Johns Lake Management District, Francie Rowe, Pleasant Lake Management District Commissioner, Greg Foster, Mt. Morris Town Supervisor, Bernadette Krentz, Waushara County Supervisor, Ben Mott, DNR Conservation Warden

### **Francie Rowe, Biology Professor & Pleasant Lake Management District Commissioner:**

Pleasant Lake, SW Corner Waushara county/Marquette County east of Adams County. July, 2010 Milk Source Inc. applied for high capacity well permits for mega dairy project. Requested up to 132 million gallons per year. DNR granted permits in Jan 2011 despite concerns about water draw down and manure contaminating nearby wells. July 6, 2011 WI Supreme Court - Lake Beulah Decision - High capacity wells cannot do harm to surrounding waters. Pleasant Lake sued DNR. UW Stevens Point hydrologist prepared scientific models demonstrating harm to Pleasant Lake, Chaffe and Tagatz Creeks and surrounding wetlands. September, 2014 administrative law judge ruled there would be an adverse impact – permit reduced to 52.4 million gallons per year. Milk Source has not yet set up their mega dairy on this site. Pleasant Lake spent \$300,000+ fighting the case.

Two new applications for high capacity wells close to the lake filed June 15, 2015. Analysis of proposed Bula well - draw down Pleasant Lake 4' if pumped to capacity of 216 million gallons. The proposed well on agriculture property currently not irrigated. Pleasant Lake has challenged this latest request for permit. No ruling yet from DNR.

Porters Lake contributed \$750.00 for legal fees. Francie thanked us and many others for donations.

Color photos of Pleasant, Patrick, Pine, Huron and Huron Lakes were distributed and they show dramatic declines in lake water levels on these lakes due to many surrounding high capacity wells. Long Lake has practically dried up.

Question asked by Porters Lake homeowner: Is the DNR usually against high capacity wells? DNR should be neutral – they are charged with protecting the waters of the State for all its citizens. Recently political decisions by top DNR officials seem to favor economic interests.

No groundwater bills have been introduced and being debated in the legislature although there are numerous bills being circulated.

**Bernadette Krentz**- Waushara County Board Supervisor discussed JUNE Dairy Breakfast in Coloma.

### **Greg Foster-Town of Mt. Morris Supervisor:**

Late last summer DNR approached board regarding high risk wild fire exposure in Waushara County. Town is now trying to assess the exposure and what to do. 5 year planning process – key will be property owner education. Special thanks to Dick Hansen who has attended the meetings representing Porters Lake.

Reevaluating Property Assessment – are lake properties over assessed? This is currently being examined.

New Park Pavillion Cnty G. In process of completing to include covered seating, 12 picnic benches, serving area to rent, prepare food. Two flush toilets in new facilities.

Renewed interest for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, July 4<sup>th</sup> 11:00 a.m. Big Horn Lane to Town Park. 2016 to include 4H selling food and a larger event.

Electrical supplies stolen from park.

**Paul Zagorski, Porters Lake Secretary- Review of 2014 minutes.**

Motion to approve minutes of 2014 Dave Hansen

Randy Behringer 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion

Motion Approved

**2014 Budget Review-Skip Hansen, Treasurer of Porters Lake:**

**Reported cash on hand of \$4,228.91 in checking account and \$16,706.57 in savings account.**

All assessments paid. DNR grant reimbursement check of \$3,052.10 just received and will be deposited immediately.

Question asked "Why the discrepancy with higher cost than previous year?"

*State statute requires lake districts to purchase workers compensation insurance on the officers. We needed to purchase public officials professional liability because personal homeowner's liability insurance policies do not cover work performed for governmental entities even if officers are not compensated.*

Ron Skinvik-discussion of bad shape of boat landing. Complaints from Black Hawk Marine when putting boats in.

Don Dalton suggested Town of Mt. Morris look at.

**Ben Mott, DNR Conservation Warden.**

Call him on his cell phone at 920-896-3383 or on the DNR hotline at 1-800-847-9367

If you witness any violation on the lake gather the following information: What is the violation? When is/did the violation taking place? Also, get Boat registration and description. These are easy ways for DNR or Sheriff to identify quickly and expedite situation correctly. Remember: Smart phones photos and videos are great way to capture things and are sufficient proof to issue tickets. The Sheriff can issue tickets for game and lake violations as well as the DNR.

Porters Lake is a no wake lake. Definition of no wake is the slowest speed to control your boat.

Muskrat issues...Mott can handle coming out to shoot muskrats. Many will need shoreline restoration. Porters Lake can get permits for nuisance trapping.

Ed Hernandez with County Conservation Dept. has maps that identify shorelines for numerous Waushara County lakes including Porters Lake.

Call Ed to have him come and review your shoreline.

State wide law: Trolling is legal as of July 1, 2015. 1-line per angler, 2 lines per boat. Check by county on map.

**Secretary is up for re-election – 3 year term**

**Don Dalton opened the floor for nominations**

Floyd Busse nominated Kris Helms-Doyle

Dave Hansen nominated Paul Zagorski

Motion by Barb Dalton to close the nominations. Motion seconded by Dave Hansen. Motion carried.

Voting opened, discussion on Paul continuing with further involvement in different capacity. Kris bringing change and new homeowner to Board.

By unanimous vote Kris Helms-Doyle elected Secretary beginning July 1, 2015 through 2018.

**Dick Hansen**-Resident on Porters Lake


Thanked Greg Foster, Town Board and provided additional information on:

Community Wildfire Protection. Program includes: Emergency management, fire departments functionality for Mt. Morris Lake, Johns Lake and Porters Lake. Can fire trucks access areas where they need to go? Is brush and trees away from buildings? Propane tanks at least 10 feet away from buildings? Code Red: Code red evacuation.

ALL burning requires burning permits. Can go online. They are free

Update your e-mail address to the Porters Lake Directory. Great way to quick notification.


Porters Lake District-Letter talked about lake management study on Johns Lake and Porters Lake: This request driven by the county. County wants a lake management plan to include plan for every lake in county. Open to the public. Next meeting is July 10, 2016 at 3PM at the Mt. Morris Community Center building.

 **ACTION** for every Porters Lake property owner: Please complete survey at: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/porterslake2](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/porterslake2)  
Raises awareness for Porters Lake. If questions please call **715-346-2497** Center of Water Shed Water and Conservation.

**NO MORE FISH STOCKING OF PORTERS LAKE:**

Fish Planting in Porters Lake on May 12, 4800. 100 % survived. 14,800 crappies, 23,000 total over past few years  
Fish stocking permits are provided to Porters Lake by DNR, Dave Bartz. Porters Lake has always received a lecture and asked "Why stock fish when we don't take care of our own lake?" Boat motors scarring the shallow bottom and destroying fish spawning beds. No future stocking of any fish species will be allowed by DNR until pontoon boats stop bottom scarring.

January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 Porters lake will become one of only 110 lakes out of 15,000 lakes in Wisconsin to have fishing bag limits reduced. You cannot keep more than 5 pan fish over 7" long.

 **ACTION:** Please be conscientious of your recreational boat usage on Porters Lake. We have unique species of plants, wild life, fish. **DO NOT** drive your boats with motors down in shallow areas. If you see someone doing this please bring it to their attention. Boats with motors should not be in the bays in the southwest and northeast areas of the lake.

No additional money in fish stocking budget because we will not be permitted to stock any more fish.

Points of concerns:

- Big motors that are destroying the bottoms of our lake. Trim up motors on pontoon boats and stay in deeper water
- Ice Fishing diminishes fish volume. Fishing Pressure significant.

Greg Foster-Town of Mt. Morris will supply signage for fishing limits and any updates to be posted on the Porters Lake Boat Landing.

Lake Management Plan update is part of the 2012 grant we received from DNR. Pat Doyle has copy of the updated plan. The update will be posted to our website at: [www.porterslake.org](http://www.porterslake.org)

50 species of native aquatic plants have been identified in Porters Lake including fresh water sponges. The average native aquatic species count for Waushara County lakes is about 18. 4 invasive aquatic plants have been identified including purple loosestrife, narrow leaf cattail, reed canary grass and an invasive forget-me-not. One invasive animal has been identified – banded mystery snail.

### **2016 State Lake Conference-**

Stevens Point Holiday Inn & Convention Center

March 31 thru April 2, 2016

Lake Association will pay costs for registration, hotel, meals and supplies up to \$900 per couple

Greg & Sue Danielson volunteered to attend in 2016.

### **Dave Hansen, Homeowner Update on Purple Loosestrife**

Controlled by releasing beetles Dave has raised. We will be releasing the beetles in several areas around the lake. Golden Sands RC & D Council dug root stalk and provided beetles. Dave spent 17 hours of volunteer time caring for the root stock, raising the beetles then releasing them. We donated funds to Golden Sands RC & D Council for their assistance.

### **Randy Berhringer, Homeowner, Update on Porters Lake monitoring well in his back yard**

Waushara County supplied and installed the well with a 10' pipe that sticks up 2 ft. above ground. The lower the number the better

- Started 2013-Aug 3.8' is the lowest the lake has been. Several readings 3' or more
- 2.3' ( 2.4'-2' from August 2014). Hasn't seen much fluctuation from the current high capacity wells which surround Porters Lake due to heavy rainfall.
- 1.7' April 2015.

Skip Hansen, homeowner update on Emergency Response grant

Emergency response grant - spring 2013 herbicide application for about 2.3 acre infestation of Eurasian water milfoil in southwest corner of lake. 2013 treatment so effective no treatments required in 2014 or 2015.

2015-Paul Skawinski from UW Extension, Dillion Epping of Golden Sands, Dick Hansen, Sharon Hansen, Skip Hansen and Vicky Zagorski snorkeled several areas that could possibly have contained EWM. Fortunately no plants found. Being proactive and been one reason Porters Lake gets the attention it does.

Skip Hansen update on Central Sands Water Action Coalition

Central Sands Water Action Coalition is attempting to have meaningful groundwater legislation passed in Wisconsin. Focus on Waushara County. Not anti-farm but irrigation agricultural interests seem to have little interest in protecting our lakes, streams and wetlands. If you are asked to reach out to your Assemblyman and State Senator asking them to support meaningful groundwater legislation that strikes a balance between groundwater and agricultural interests we hope you will do so. Elected State legislators will listen to constituent requests.

**Skip Hansen, Treasurer, 2015-2016 Budget *Please see attached approved 2015-2016 budget.***

- We did not spend as much as we thought in 2014-2015 fiscal year
- No one attended Lakes conference
- Insurance less than expected
- No legal expenses
- Boat Landing – we pay to have boat landing monitored about 15 hours per week plus Memorial, July 4, Labor Day. Saturdays and Sundays morning and late afternoons and one late afternoon during the week
- Lake management plan update
- Legal, donations and law enforcement: people over fishing, excess wake, pontoon boat
- Zero for fish fund since DNR will no longer give us stocking permits

**2015-2016 Upcoming year- \$100.00 per member assessment.** At this assessment \$4,488 will need to be taken from our cash account to balance budget.

Aquatic invasive species grant, Grant 1, is complete and no further revenue will be received.  
Emergency response grant, Grant number 2, report writing is all that remains.

Tom Depka-Motion to Approve Budget  
Dave Hansen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion  
Motion Approved.

**ADDITIONAL UPDATES:**

- 2014 DNR top officials, congressman came for pontoon boat tour on Porters Lake. Annette Gelbach offered her cottage.
- Recognition of Veterans, Flags presented by Dave Hansen to World War II veteran Buzz Busse. Other veterans recognized include Andrew Hansen, Tom Depka, Skip Hansen, Dick Hansen, Ron Skinvik and Greg Foster.
- July 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Collection of items for Habitat for Humanity Annual Rummage Sale.  
July 18<sup>th</sup> Habitat for Humanity Rummage Sale at fair grounds.

**2016 Porters Lake Management Meeting-June 25, 2016**

**9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.**

**All residents are requested to attend.**

Meeting Adjourn by Don Dalton 11:25 a.m.

Porters Lake Management District Budget Overview			
	2014-2015 Approved Budget	2014-2015 Final Budget	2015-2016 Approved Budget
Item			
Income:			
Assessment	\$6,400.00	\$6,401.00	\$6,400.00
Interest	\$25.00	\$10.00	\$12.00
Grant #1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grant #2	\$4,500.00	\$3,052.10	\$2,400.00
Transfer from surplus	\$6,975.00	\$3,362.67	\$4,488.00
Total Revenue	\$17,900.00	\$12,825.77	\$13,300.00
Expenses:			
Lakes Conference	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
Lakes Council	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Insurance	\$2,400.00	\$1,645.00	\$1,800.00
Web Site	\$400.00	\$16.00	\$400.00
Stamps/Mail	\$1,100.00	\$303.22	\$1,100.00
Meeting Gifts	incl	incl	incl
Meet Expenses	incl	incl	incl
Meet Notice	incl	incl	incl
Fish Fund	\$2,500.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
Loose Strife	\$500.00	\$276.95	\$500.00
Divers	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Water Quality	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Discretionary	\$1,000.00	\$564.50	\$1,000.00
Land Invasives Control: Garlic Mustard and Buckthorn	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Boat Landing	\$2,900.00	\$2,922.50	\$3,300.00
Grant writing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Shore land restoration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lake plan update	\$0.00	\$413.75	\$0.00
Grant #2	\$4,000.00	\$3,052.10	\$1,600.00
Legal	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Donations/Law Enforce.	\$1,000.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
Shore Line Inventory	\$0.00	\$481.77	\$0.00
Total expenses	\$18,400.00	\$12,825.77	\$13,300.00
(Deficit) Profit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cash on hand as of	Cash on hand as of 7/1/14		Cash on hand as of 7/1/15
Checking	\$2,775.40		\$3,651.20
Passbook	\$23,996.15		\$19,758.67