

MEETING MINUTES



February 26, 2021

Present from Board: Kevin Horrocks, Gary Pulford, Mark Laustrup, Jeff Aspenwall, Dave Zimmer, Mike Persson, Jim Coors

Present from Committees and Guests: Alf Sivertson, Rick O'Neill, Dan Tyrolt

Recording **Secretary:** Mark Laustrup

Kevin Horrocks called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the June minutes was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Gary Pulford. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Bedwell was out of town and unavailable.

Aquatic Plant Management Plan: Kevin Horrocks announced that the draft is available on the website for public comment through March 30. Gary Pulford mentioned that the notice was also mentioned in the Sawyer County Record. There was discussion about what to do with comments received. Dan Tyrolt said that comments do not have to be addressed unless there is a deficiency pointed out. Kevin Horrocks asked whether we need to go back through the plan and extract things we need to get done. Dan replied no.

Eco-Harvester: Kris Sivertson was unavailable so Kevin Horrocks covered the topic. The payoff is due April 15. Chris Bedwell will get the money from the Eau Claire Foundation and then cut a check to the vendor. Gary Pulford mentioned that we may need to include nearby residents in a notification for Eco-Harvester activity and that the mechanical permit application is geared to native plants. Dan Tyrolt suggested speaking with Scott to see if there is a streamlined mechanical harvest permit for AIS. Gary wants to submit the permit without property owners. Dan said that the mechanical permit has a lake wide scope and we may not need to worry about it. Kevin Horrocks is working on workload allocation and volunteers. Kris Sivertson told Kevin that we need to line up trucks to transport the Eco-Harvester and dump trailer. Dan Tyrolt will check with his crew about what they can help with. Jim Coors asked if we should send out an email blast looking for volunteers. Kevin Horrocks replied that we have a good list of volunteers already. Gary Pulford said that Dave Newswanger said that they did not run last year on Lost Land/Teal because of Covid. Dan Tyrolt suggested asking them for a copy of their permit application. Kevin Horrocks said that we did get a grant extension and DNR is looking at allowing us to use those funds for operation of the Eco-Harvester. Kevin and Gary will speak with the DNR to clear up details. Dan said that the cost of the Aquatic Plant Management Plan update can be reimbursed through the AIS grant. Paul Eckerline mentioned that he asked his neighbor about storing the Eco-Harvester and

she said yes for the boat but not the dump trailer. Dan Tyrolt said that LCOCD is looking at putting up a structure and it could be winter stored there.

2021 Budget: Kevin Horrocks showed projected expenses of \$121,000 and \$119,000 funds in hand. In the past, we have relied on the Foundation to cover overage. That option is no longer available. A discussion on the ramp camera showed that there are too many unknowns to move forward this year. Mark Lastrup will ask the county sheriff if they would enforce AIS violations that might be recorded by the I-LIDS camera. Mark Lastrup suggested postponing the purchase of the AIS camera until next year and go with traditional ramp monitoring. Dan Tyrolt suggested that COLA check to see if ESRI software costs can be covered by the AIS grant. Kevin Horrocks asked about the picnic and annual meeting. Jim Coors said that annual meeting will be important to bring people up to speed. Do one meeting late in the summer and show off the Eco-Harvester. Kevin will write up an outline of this discussion and get it out. Kevin asked about shoreland restoration and the need for education, lining up plants, etc. for next year and are there any 2021 expenses. None were identified. Dan Tyrolt mentioned that Spider Lake has a preorder plant program. Dan said to check with the county to see what is available. Gary Pulford said that Kris Sivertson has a list of businesses that do planting from work a couple of years ago.

Musky Bay: Mike Persson reported that Limnotech took sediment samples Wednesday or Thursday. They are working on the permits. Mike is also looking at disposal sites. Dan Tyrolt reiterated that the tribal money (\$30,000) they have is for sediment analysis. Dan will talk to his contracts person to see how to move forward. Gary Pulford said that we need to make sure that the Limnotech invoice will pass muster with the tribe. Talk with Limnotech so that sediment analysis is a separate line item. Discussion followed about where LCO muskies spawn. Dan Tyrolt said that muskies spawn almost exclusively in Musky Bay. This year WDNR will again remove northern pike when they are netting for muskies. Large pike removed will go to the Couderay River or other lakes. Small pike will be turned in to fish paddies.

Historical Records: Steve Umland has historical records he received from Chuck Gunderson and Mark Lastrup. Jim Coors suggested depositing with the Historical Society or the library. Steve Umland wants a statement as to where the stuff should go. A motion for Jim Coors to send the material to the historical society or library was made by Gary Pulford and seconded by Mike Persson. The vote was unanimous.

Wolf Point Construction: Kevin Horrocks reported that the DNR and county are working on a response. We should know more next week. Alf Sivertson will talk to Dale Olson to see what he thinks. Gary Pulford said to keep an eye on the Sawyer County Record for any notices.

Little LCO Water Levels: Jay Keslowski sent out Sawyer County's analysis of LCO water levels. Gary Pulford wants to meet with Jay to have him go through his calculations. Dan Tyrolt said that there is nothing nefarious about what they are doing. They are moving the benchmark elevation to the staff gage. Jeff Aspenwall said that we need to educate the big lake property owners as to the effect of the dam on lake levels. Dan Tyrolt said that the focus should be on the effect of the dam on Little LCO. Gary said that they want to use the gage on the bridge to regulate water levels rather than the gage on the dam.

Closed Session:

SSC Scope Statement:

Limnotech Recommendation:

Open Sesson:

Shoreland Buffers: skip

Watershed Forestry: skip

Adjourn 5:10