

Spring Brook Watershed Lake Management District Draft Minutes

Monday 6:30 PM on 7 June, 2021,

**Due to the Covid virus this meeting will be a virtual meeting using computer, smart phone or telephone access. We will utilize Microsoft Teams for this meeting. This virtual meeting and the following notice meet Wisconsin open meetings law.
Mukwonago, Wisconsin 53149**

Special Activity Open Meeting Notice

Please be aware that the Department of Natural Resources will conduct an electrofishing survey of Willow Springs Lake one evening during the weeks of 3 or 7 June, 2021. A motorized boat with a generator and high intensity lighting will sample the fish in the lake to provide fish population information, species present and size and health information. An electric current temporarily stuns the fish and they are netted and will recover on the electrofishing boat. Persons observing this survey are cautioned not to wade or swim in the water during this nighttime survey. Multiple commissioners may be present during this survey, however no lake management district business or actions will be taken during this event.

Order of Business:

6:30 PM Call Meeting to Order: Meeting called to order by Chairman Topczewski at 6:30 PM. All commissioners were present. Citizens in attendance included Karen McNelly, Cherie Pritzlaff and Kathryn Bell.

Open Forum (Citizens should raise their hands when they wish to speak during this segment):

Bruce Pritzlaff reported recently finding an area along the shoreline on the northern portion of the lakeside of the dike, which was undercut and suggested it may need repair. Chair Topczewski indicated the board could not act on it as it was not place on the agenda for this meeting, but this would be placed on the next meeting agenda for the commissioners to address.

Correspondence: Secretary McNelly reported that he provided a report to the town board of supervisors at the Town of Mukwonago Annual meeting on 21 April describing activities of SBWLMD and an update on the use of Willow Springs Lake. McNelly also reported that he received a renewal questionnaire from BITCO insurance asking questions that they will use to determine a premium for lake district liability insurance. McNelly completed the questionnaire and provided the requested copy of our 2021 annual budget.

Secretary's Report:

- Review and act on the attached Secretary's draft minutes for the 22 March, 2021 meeting. Motion made by Dan Bell to approve minutes as drafted. Topczewski second the motion, which was unanimously approved.

- Future meetings – decide future meeting format – virtual, in person or hybrid. Commissioners discussed various options to hold future SBWLMD meetings. Chair Topczewski related that the Town Plan Commission attempted to use the hybrid format and had communication issues caused by the use of zoom and inability of the people that attended in person to hear the computer outputs. He suggested considering face to face and offered use of the town hall with appropriate social distancing. The commissions tended to agree that face to face presented minimum health risks and to use that format for the upcoming meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

- Review June 7, 2021 Treasurer's report and tax levy receipts. Treasurer Casilynn Hansen provided an update of the finance records, Interest income continues to be low on SWIB Investment Pool accounts. SBWLMD received a \$118 tax levy payout from Waukesha County and a refund of \$20 from Citizens Bank on the return of the safe deposit box. Expenses since the last treasurer's report included \$516 for workers compensation insurance and \$50 for a lost key replacement charge and the \$20 safe deposit box payment which was reimbursed. Total SBWLMD assets as are currently \$47, 392.61.

- Take action on bills. No bills received during the recent interval.

Watershed and lake information, dam maintenance and future needs discussion:

- Dam failure analysis, secondary spillway calculation, 10 year inspection committee update. Kathryn Bell, committee chair reported that a committee comprised of Chris Champaigne and Cheri Pritzlaff will meet virtually on Thursday 10 June to draft a request for proposal for engineering services to complete the listed activities. Commissioner McNelly asked if activities like brushing and modification of the outlet structure might be identified in the engineer's report? Bell indicated that those type of activities would be, as she has participated in these type of surveys in the past in her work and she indicated a willingness to work with a selected engineer to help conduct the 10 year inspection meeting DNR standards in an effort to offset costs.

- Dam maintenance activities for spring: Item tabled – no actions taken as we are awaiting the engineering survey.

- Evaluate options for spillway enclosure and signage - Commissioner McNelly indicated he met with a metal fabricator to consider designs to enhance the outlet protection. A plan with a hinged grate cover was developed to protect the outlet while being able to be raised during flood or ice build-up events. McNelly got an estimate on materials to construct the concept plan – approximately \$300 for steel. Fabrication estimates are pending. Action by the board was postponed pending the completion of the engineering 10 year survey.

- Brushing embankments and stabilization. McNelly and Hansen reported that several companies and government units were contacted regarding estimates on cost for mechanically brushing the dike.

Estimates were requested from the following:

1. Good Tree Service Hartland - This company performed this brushing in the past, but no longer have the required equipment.
2. Lauber Lawn and Tree Service – This company inspected the dike, however decided not to provide an estimate.
3. Mike Berg Tree Service – Mike inspected the dike and provided an estimate of \$7500 for brushing and herbicide treatment of stumps, \$5500 for brushing or \$1600 for cutting a fire break at the eastern toe of the dike to allow for a prescribed burn to control the brush
4. Town of Mukwonago does not have suitable brushing equipment.
5. Town of Genesee does not have suitable brushing equipment.
6. Waukesha County Highway Department inspected the dike and provided an estimate of not to exceed \$4200 for performing the mechanical brushing, however they do not provide chemical application of stumps. The County representative also indicated that a fire break and prescribed burn could be used to suppress the brush regrowth. The County is currently performing similar work on a dike at School Section Lake.
7. Mukwonago Village/Town Fire Department – The fire department does not typically perform prescribed burns, however Chief Stein agreed to look at a proposal from SBWLMD.

Commissioners discussed the options and decided to await the results of the 10-year inspection.

- Water quality update and general lake conditions. Commissioners reported the lake seems very clear this year and indicated that rooted aquatic plants seem to be growing more rapidly than the last two years.
- Fish management update and winter ice fishing and recreation survey update. McNelly reported that the preliminary analysis of the winter creel survey indicated that fishing pressure was up 10 percent above winter 19-20. Fish catch per angler was very similar to 19-20. Hansen provided an update on the recreation survey. She reported that several new inputs were received this spring. Participants reported traveling up to 10 miles to recreate on Willow Spring Lake and one report indicated that a pier for launching kayaks and canoes would be an improvement to the accessibility of the lake. Bell indicated that the shoreline in that area tends to be muddy and that a small floating pier may enhance the access for those using the lake. He stated that pier sections made of high density polyethylene could be purchased and readily installed. Topczewski and McNelly will meet with Town Road Foreman Rick Peterson to see what could be done to improve access.

Annual Meeting Discussion:

- Date, place and time. Chair Topczewski suggested a face to face meeting 9AM on Saturday 28 August.
- Format. Face to Face
- Potential Guest Speaker. – Dr Thomas Slawski of Southeast Regional Planning Commission was to address the 2020 meeting, however due to covid concerns the presentation was cancelled. Tom planned to present the Willow Springs Lake/Spring Lake Management Plan. Commissioners are encouraged to develop recommendations for speakers for the next meeting.
- Committee assignments – nominations, audit, fisheries, dam maintenance, and other.

Select dates for future meetings: Next meeting 12 July, 2021

Adjournment:

Motion by McNelly to adjourn. The motion was second by Hansen and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.