

**Spring Brook Watershed Lake Management District Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**Mukwonago Community Library**  
511 Division Street, Mukwonago, WI  
**Thursday 3 November, 2022 at 6:30PM**

**6:30 PM Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Tim Guy called the meeting to order at 6:30PM. All commissioners except Commissioner Topczewski were in attendance. Citizens in attendance included Kathryn Bell.

**Open Forum:** No Comment from the floor.

**Correspondence:** Secretary Jim McNelly reported that he received and responded to a Department of Revenue request for the 2022 tax levy information. He also reported that Konny Margovsky of the DNR approved the dam failure analysis for Laitsch Dam which impounds Willow Springs Lake. Once the County adopts the necessary ordinances regarding construction of dwellings in the area below Willow Springs Lake (there are none in the potential flood shadow now) the rating on the dam will be reduced to low hazard.

**Secretary's Report:**

- Review and approve the Secretary's draft minutes for the 13 August, 2022 organizational meeting. Motion by Guy and second by Dan Bell to approved these minutes as drafted. Unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Review Treasurer's report and tax levy receipts Motion by Guy and second by Bell to approved the treasurer's report as drafted. Unanimously approved.
- Review interest earning options for SBWLMD assets. Treasurer Bruce Pritzlaff checked into interest earning options. Some six month CDs are earning up to 4% interest presently. Interest rates at the State of Wisconsin Investment Pool are increasing, but have not reached this level. Treasurer Pritzlaff explained that with our anticipated bills for the SSE engineering work that we have approximately \$20,000 that could be reinvested. McNelly made a motion to conditionally authorize the treasurer to invest \$20,000 in a six month CD, if it is FDIC insured and if a 4% interest earning can be obtained. Guy seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved and the Treasurer was directed to transfer funds from the State Local Government Investment Pool account.
- Take action on bills – Stormwater Solutions Engineering (SSE) and others. Treasurer Pritzlaff presented the SSE invoices which were due completing payment on the Dam Failure Analysis and the owners inspection. Guy made a motion to pay SSE the remaining \$11,041.16 for contract services. This motion was second by McNelly and unanimously approved.

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

- Update on Municipal Dam Grant activities:
  1. Easements with Waukesha County Greenway and Pritzlaff – Commissioners review the Waukesha County easement. Guy made a motion to approve the maintenance easement. Pritzlaff second the motion which was unanimously approved. .
  2. Bids for work segments – trash rack, brush control, rip rap of rodent holes. Commissioners discussed the trash rack and after considering its condition and the original configuration Pritzlaff made a motion to do a force account replacement in kind and remove this item from the grant items. The commissioners agreed to seek additional bids on the remaining items. The secretary was directed to write a scope of work, as required by the DNR for the brushing and rodent burrow repair. .

3. Work schedule for approved activities – draft scope of work and tentative schedule for DNR. Commissioners discussed a tentative time table with the brushing to be done in spring 2023 and the rodent burrows repaired during summer 2023.

- Review dam failure analysis (DFA) and act on submitting municipal dam grant reimbursement claim. Commissioners reviewed the DFA and directed the secretary to contact Waukesha County for an update on the timing of their ordinance development. Reimbursement for the DFA from the Municipal Dam grant should be applied for after a portion of the maintenance activities are performed.
- Review status of updated Emergency Action Plan using inundation areas from approved DFA. This item was tabled pending the updates from the county.
- Water quality update and general lake conditions. Water quality continued to good throughout the autumn. Root plant abundance is low.
- Concern regarding noise and potential safety issues caused by waterfowl hunting on Willow Springs Lake was raised. Commissioners discussed the issue and the following were considered:
  1. Waukesha County's Spring Brook Greenway (the south shore and marsh east of the dike are open to hunting) under the county program. .
  2. The closest residence to the dam is over 120 yards away. DNR regulations restrict hunting within 100 yards of a residence without the owner's permission.
  3. Hunting geese can be an effective way to discourage their use of the lake and can help to minimize the amount of waste they deposit on the shore and in the waters reducing the bacteria and nutrients that enter Willow Springs Lake.
  4. The SBWLMD dike area is open for all uses fishing, swimming, hiking and hunting. As SBWLMD does not have police authority the regulation of specific activities on the dike would require assistance from the county sheriff to enforce trespass for certain activities. Use of activity specific trespass restrictions would be problematic. Mukwonago Town ordinances do not preclude hunting.

The board of commissioners decided to not take any action on this issue.

- Town Access condition –options for repairs. Town commissioner was not present – no action was taken.
- Discuss options and develop a plan to perform lake water quality data collection. Tabled.
- Nuisance animal update and invasive species observations and management. Beaver were seen in the lake – no burrowing has been found along the dike.
- Fish management update and winter ice fishing and recreation survey update. Commissioners recommended starting the voluntary creel survey with safe ice. Bell indicated that northern pike were not stocked in autumn 2022 and that the biologist felt the genetic strain of northern pike stocked the past several years was not well suited to Willow Springs Lake. Bell agreed to contact the biologist to discuss means to continue the improvement of the panfish size ranges..

**Legislative Update – Town/County/State:** No activity

**Select dates for future meetings:** Next meeting tentatively scheduled for early December.

**Adjournment:** Motion Guy with a second by McNelly to adjourn at 8:09 PM. Unanimously approved.