

Lake Onalaska Protection and Rehabilitation District

SPECIAL MEETING

Onalaska Lake District Meeting Minutes

Lake Onalaska Protection and Rehabilitation District
 Wednesday, October 9, 2019
 4:30 p.m.
 USFWS Visitor Center
 N5727 CTH Z
 Onalaska, WI 54650

PRESENT: Marc Schultz (Chairman LOPRD), Chad Knapmiller, Kathryn Lammers, Hallie Rasmussen, Tony Christnovich, Vicki Burke, Brian Tippetts, Mark Erickson, Fritz Funk, Doug Stanke, Jan Stankey, Rock Corbett, Dick Luick, Sue Schultz, Donna Kateley, Gary Kateley, Jim Eggen, Scott Cortopassi, and Barbara Friell.

Item 1: Call to Order

Meeting called to Order at 4:31 p.m. by Marc Schultz.

Item 2: Treasurer's Report

The following Treasurer's Report was submitted by Kathryn Lammers. Motion to approve was made by Vicki Burke and seconded by Sue Schultz.

Lake Onalaska Protection and Rehabilitation District
 Treasurer's Report
 October 9, 2019
 BMO Harris Bank for District

| Account xxx6757 | Description | Sub-totals | Totals |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|---------------|
| Income | Sale of Maps Donations since last meeting Interest | \$0 0 0 | |
| Expenses | Mailings, printing for special meeting (Postcards \$38.67 stamps \$87.50 labels \$14=\$140.17) | 140.17 to be paid | 0 |
| Balance | | | \$5324.5 4 |

New BMO Weed Cutting account

| Account xxx3889 | Description | Sub-totals | Totals |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|--------|
| Income | Donations | 860 | |
| Expense | | | |

| | | |
|---------|--|-----|
| Balance | | 940 |
|---------|--|-----|

Item 3: **Commissioner Election**

Open for nominations for a three year term. Nominations were - Fritz Funk (nominated by Tony Christnovich) and Kathryn Lammers (interested in serving another three year term). Ballots were distributed, Elections was held. Fritz Funk was elected for a three year term.

Item 4: **Public Comment**

No comments were brought forward.

Item 5: **Consider and act on approving LOPRD submission to WDNR for a River Grant**

Chad provided an update of activity since the last meeting. Chad, Fritz, Ben and Barbara met to discuss Grant availability. Chad shared the information he had received from Jodi Lepsch (WI). Sue Schultz made a motion and Gary Kateley seconded the motion to pursue a Water Resources Planning Grant. Fritz, Chad, Ben and Barbara will follow up on pursuing the Grant. Anyone interested in helping with this Grant should let us know so that they can be included in all future Grant meetings.

Following this LD Special Meeting, Mark forwarded the link providing DNR guidance relative to surface water grants lake/river as we will be discussing a grant application at the next LD meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday November 13 at USFWS Visitor center at 3:00 p.m.

<https://dnr.wi.gov/news/input/documents/guidance/final/CF-19-0007-C.pdf>

Item 6: **Update on Weed Cutting Fund**

We currently have \$940.00 in the weed cutting Fund. Mark distributed donation cards to all who were interested in distributing/promoting contributions to the Weed Cutting Fund.

Item 7: **Consider and act on funds to update and maintain LOPRD website**

Hallie Rasmussen (USFWS) will provide a contact for Marc and Fritz regarding the Website. On October 10th Hallie sent an email - Ruth Davis originally designed the FOR78 website which Hallie believes is now being maintained by Melissa Meier. They may be a source for the platform they used to design their Website. Robin Schmid may also have information regarding a Website.

Item 8: **Discuss and act on short and long term goals**

The following LD November 18, 2014 document was distributed. This document was created during a special LD meeting held on November 18, 2014. At that time, the LD established two major Initiatives: (1) **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY &** (2) **ACCESS.**

Short and Long Term items as follows were listed on the white board by Kathryn Lammers:

SHORT: Determine our commitments, Create subcom for work, Bylaws, Secure more funds, Identify our goals (less runoff, less erosion, less pollution), and Write grant.

LONG: Develop leadership projects, Find partners, Secure more funding, Island building and support, Maintain public access, Erosion protection - shoreline and

Island, and Survey members of costs to shoreline.
Marc Schultz will contact Karl Green to see if he would facilitate a goal setting exercise.

LAKE DISTRICT MEETING (November 18, 2014)

LAKE DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INITIATIVES

- Undertake and complete shore protection on vulnerable shorelines
- Seek out financial assistance to households that cannot afford to undertake shore protection
- More inspection and education about septic systems
- Investigate the provision of public water supplies to eliminate private wells
- Well survey to identify problem wells
- Educate home buyers on the unique benefits and responsibilities of owning residential property on Lake Onalaska and the national Wildlife Refuge
- Possible use of peer educators
- Continue to pursue policies and programs at all levels to manage sediment coming into the Lake particularly sand (bed load) from the Black River
- Strengthen communications with the Friends of the Black River
- Longer term goal is to help establish a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for nutrients in the Black River
- Promote lake friendly practices with homeowners
- Work with the Town of Onalaska Storm-water Utility to do education on storm water impacts to Lake Onalaska
- Send a delegation to the Annual Lake District Convention in Steven Point next Spring (April 23 – 25).

LAKE DISTRICT ACCESS INITIATIVES

- Improve Channel Marking (especially the route through Gibbs to the River)
- Identified three improved Navigation Channel Focus areas:

1. North Shore Brice Prairie, a channel roughly parallel to shore, rehabilitating old Black River log channel
2. Red Pines spit and channel behind island
3. Nelson Park Landing – shoaling across entrance to Bay

All three problems would likely best be solved by some dredging, perhaps combined in some cases with island protection/channelization
All three projects provide opportunities for fisheries habitat enhancement, including increased depth for overwintering habitat, increased flow for summer BOD protection and other water quality, and increasing “edge” habitat diversity by creating channels through macrophyte monotypes

Kendra (FWS) noted that if we develop an Access Plan, we should divide it into short-term and long-term components, and be sure to look at connectivity, using the Environmental Pool Plan as a guide.

Item 9: **Set next meeting date**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 13th at 3:00 p.m. at the USFWS Visitor Center.

Item 10: **Adjourn**

Sue Schultz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:41 p.m. The motion was seconded by Dick Luick.

Lake District Website www.Lakeonalaska.org