



WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 301
Whitewater, WI 53190



MINUTES

The February 9, 2023, Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District board meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by: Rich Charts.

Roll Call: Completed by Rich Charts, Carol Ducommun, Chuck Chamberlain, Donna Sherman, Norm arrived after roll call. Online Mike Lindenmuth, Brad Corson, and Larry Brady

Administrative:

Approval of Agenda: Rich made a motion to approve the agenda as posted Chuck motioned and Mike Seconded all in favor motion carried

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Rich made a motion to approve the December 8, 2023, Final Copy meeting minutes- Chuck seconded all in favor motion carried

Rich made a motion to approve the January 12, 2023 meeting minutes Carol seconded all in favor motion carried

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Secretary's Report/Correspondence- Mike – no report

Finance- Brad – January expenses \$230.24 admin expenses disbursement \$60,000 to from operating to capital account motion to approve the Carol seconded all in favor motion carried.

Regarding the electronic banking system because our resolution currently requires 2 signatures and the electronic banking does not allow 2 signatures this will need to be revisited upon a change in treasurer.

Weed Harvesting- Carol – No Report

Chemical –Mike no Report

Bog Removal – Rich no Report

Equipment- Chuck – The grant for 7ft harvester has been submitted requesting 50% matching grant. As soon as the weed plan is approved that will need to be submitted with the grant in follow up currently the draft was submitted. Town of Whitewater boat launch fee reminder submitted for the newsletter.

Reports of Standing Teams

Navigator Team Updates- Mike stated the Rice Lake Project resulted in 5 different options of which all are not financially viable one option is the use Barley Straw. Looking at 14 bales broken into 84 bags at a cost of \$1,600.00 looking for someone to break down the bales and bag them. He asked for a quote but has not yet heard back. The bags would have to go in early April they would need to be staked around the shoreline. He said the bags would need sun and water movement. He is looking to place them in the south bay area. Brad queried if this was private property that the bales would be staked on the shoreline it was stated that shoreline is public. Brad said communication to the property owners letting them know what is happening would be a good idea. Brad felt the funds would come out of the chemical/water treatment budget if he needed to take action before our April meeting. Mike motioned to approve \$1,600 for barley straw and materials for implementation of the project seconded by Chuck/Brad all in favor motion carried.

Fish Stocking – Tom provided: The Wisconsin DNR has awarded the carp netting rights to Rice Lake to John Heller for up to the next three years. This award means Mr. Heller has exclusive rights to net Rice Lake and sell his catch on the open commercial market. John has netted both Whitewater and Rice lakes in the past years. His plan is to identify carp schooling spots through the ice, then at ice out, to clear the lake bottom of net tangling trees and branches. The next steps will depend on carp activity and the commercial fish market. I have reached out to John Heller and offered Lake Management assistance in getting the job done.

Wildlife Management- No Report

Safety- Larry May 20th and 21st for the Lions Club for Safety Class – Norm mentioned the boat signage will be updated. Board approved to open up half the township for ATV usages. The non-binding survey was 220 for and 175 against.

Audit-No Report

Water Quality – No Report.

Lakeshore management- No Report

2023 Schedule- Rich said the Chemical permit is a multiyear one Mike said every 5 years and Amy will take care of that. Harvesting permit – Larry said it would be by the end of February to get a plan for review for the 5 year plan of which we are on a 2 year extension leaving 3 years. Once the plan is approved then look to the dam on Whitewater Lake for maintenance.

New Business:

Target Spring Newsletters Articles, due March 15, 2023- To Printer March 19th, Mailed March 22nd, to property owners by March 30th.

Other Business- Chuck and Rich met with Charlie Handel of Delavan (officially retired in Jan 2024) would be willing to consult. Chuck felt we may need to breakdown the process into segments to try and secure some people. Charlie offered to help find employees on a consulting basis. Work Schedule would be May-October. Charlie mentioned he hired equipment operators should be 18 years of age/\$15.00/hr. If they return YOY they would earn \$1.00 per hr. extra. Carol/Chuck and Brad will be looking for someone to take equipment in/out in the spring/fall for this year. Carol will look into other lakes to see what they maintain for staffing of weed removal. The goal is to have boats in the water by May and have staff identified early June.

Next meeting dates- March no meeting- April 13th, 2023 is the next meeting.

Adjournment- Rich asked for a motion to adjourn Chuck motioned seconded by Norm as his final act @ 7:49PM – all in favor motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Donna Sherman- Clerk