

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES



Management District

P.O. Box # 301

Whitewater WI, 53190



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ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

JULY 2001

The 2001 Annual Meeting of the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District will be held on Saturday, August 25th, 2001, 10 a.m. at Lakeview Elementary School on Townline Road. All members of the District are encouraged to attend.

Except for the provision for Special Meetings, described in our District by-laws, these Annual Meetings represent the only opportunity for District property owners to assist in defining the future direction of our Lake District programs. So, it is important for you to attend. Please mark your calendars and **PLAN TO BE PRESENT.**

Election of four board positions will take place during the meeting. Your vote is important.

This is the last direct communication from your Lake District you will receive prior to the Annual Meeting on August 25th. Notices of the meeting will, however, be published in the Whitewater Register during the two weeks prior to the meeting.

NEWSLETTER JULY 2001

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

Many changes have occurred since I became Chairman 16 months ago. Rose Marie Berg became our clerk and is helping the board and me in many ways

We have seen changes in four elected board positions. This has created a significantly different board with several different approaches to how we run our business. I am very happy with the present board and the progress made in the past year.

Our treasurer, Gordon Philip is doing all our accounting, including work previously contracted, which saves the district a considerable amount of money. Gordon is also chairman of the bog committee. See the bog report for an update on the headaches and progress to date.

I certainly want to thank and compliment Art Schmitz, Gary Marvin, Gordon Philip and Rose Marie Berg for the great job they have done for the good of the Lake Management District. A big thanks to Tom Ganfield for his expertise and willingness to help the district in many ways; also Norm Prusener, township appointee and Toby Shroble, county appointee for their dedication and input. Tom Ponyicsanyi is heading up the fish stocking committee and related topics. This requires close work with the DNR to get the best we can for our fishing public. I must thank the many people who assist the board in working to make our lakes better in all ways, (especially the bog committee past and present members).

Future newsletters will be written on a more timely basis. When we should have been writing the spring letter, we expected the DNR would have made a decision on our permit to remove a sample of the bog any day and we wanted to give you an up-to-the-minute report with the news. As you read the bog report you know we still do not have the official word BUT it is close. We also wanted to give an up-to-the-minute report on the sale of the old equipment. Again, we are still working on it. Next year the newsletters will go out even if we report only on the everyday activities!

In closing, I want to thank the Lake Management District for it's continuing support of the board as we work for what we feel is the best interest of everyone on these beautiful lakes. We have received many calls relative to lake issues and it is very gratifying to report all calls have not been negative.

As always everyone is welcome at our regular monthly meetings, second Thursday, 7 PM, Whitewater town hall. **Bernie Tangney**

BOG UPDATE – Gordon Philip, Chairman Bog Committee

After filing an application for Water Regulatory Permits and Approvals late last fall, representatives from the DNR and Aron Associates visited Whitewater Lake in early June. This was after significant personnel changes within the DNR.

At that time they acknowledged that the bogs presented a boating hazard and there was no concern as to the composition of the bog material, and they said they would proceed and issue a permit following the completion of an "Environmental Assessment." At their request, we authorized Aron Associates to assist with preparing the Assessment. Then in early July we learned that the Environmental Assessment had been waived and that a permit would be issued "shortly."

In conversation with the DNR (July 16th) they indicated they were working on issuing the permit and could possibly have it completed by week end (July 20th). If not, we would not see the permit until early August due to training all next week.

Based upon the knowledge that a permit will be issued, and subject to terms and conditions of the permit when issued, we plan to proceed and obtain quotes from dredging companies to remove the test plot as defined in our application with the right to amend the quote based on terms and conditions in the permit.

Pending selection of a contractor, their availability, which will influence the selection process, and conditions on Whitewater Lake, the removal process should occur between late August and mid-September. More definitive information should be forthcoming at the Annual Meeting.

YOUR LAKES' HEALTH – Tom Ganfield

The water quality of Whitewater and Rice Lakes is fair to average when compared to other lakes in southeastern Wisconsin. The secchi disc data collected by our volunteer, Boris Marohnich (a special thanks and appreciation to Boris!), has not varied greatly over the last few years. The secchi disc measures water quality or the level of suspended materials, such as algae, zooplankton and suspended solids. The secchi disc measurements indicate our lakes are mesotrophic to eutrophic (i.e., nutrient-enriched waters). The abundant nutrients lead to increased growth rates of algae and aquatic plants. To help our lakes decrease their nutrient loadings, please follow the helpful recommendations found elsewhere in this newsletter.

But this year has been a good year in managing the aquatic plants. It all started with last winter's heavy snow cover. The snow cover limited the amount of light that could penetrate the water, reducing photosynthesis, and knocking down most of the plants. Our weed harvesting and chemical management team has been diligent in keeping nuisance aquatic plants at bay – resulting in better boating, swimming and aquatic habitat conditions.

FISH MANAGEMENT REPORT – Tom Ponyicsanyi, Fish Committee Chairman

RICE LAKE

1994	1999	2001	2002
274 Northern	274 Northern	342 Northern	400 Northern scheduled survey scheduled

WHITEWATER LAKE

1996	1997	1998	1999	2001	2002
300 Northern	8000 Walleye	458 adult Wall	64000 Wall	32000 Wall	2000 Wall scheduled

A 1999 survey found the lake to be "normal." All types of fish: Bass, Northern, Walleye, Perch Bluegills and crappies were in the expected size ranges. A survey should be done this year or next, but as of now is not scheduled.

DOCKOMINIUM REPORT

The Wisconsin Association of Lakes (we are members) has requested financial support as they resist the efforts of "the association of buyers and statewide real estate brokers association."

On May 1, 2001 WAL legal counsel, Bill O'Connor argued our ongoing case against dockominiums before District II of the Wisconsin Court of Appeals, contending that the Public Trust Doctrine prohibits a riparian property owner from dividing public waters adjacent to his property into tiny "lots" and selling condominium interests – allowing the owner the permanent right to moor a boat on each lot.

Though the fees Bill O'Connor charges are reasonable, and reflect our unique status, the Dockominiums litigation is by far the most expensive legal project we have ever undertaken. There is just no way to fund the litigation from the ordinary sources of WAL's budget. The opposition must hope that WAL will run out of funds and become ineffective.

The Whitewater Rice Lakes Management District board feels this is a very important issue and has contributed \$500 to the fund. We will ask at the annual meeting if the membership wishes to contribute more and to encourage individual contributions to this issue. Send contributions, payable to the "WAL Legal Action Fund," to WAL, One Point Place, Suite 101 Madison WI 53719.

An interesting note: One of our members attending the board meeting when this was discussed, commented "I was a realtor in the chain-of-lakes (Illinois) area. We fought and won the right to get more boat slips in the water and the end result was "this destroyed the lake."

On this same issue the board requests input from our membership as to becoming involved in enforcement of boat slip/pier regulations on the lakes.

BUOY PLACEMENT/INSTALLATION

The board would like the feeling of the general membership relative to the buoys including: timing of installation, consistency of correct placement, type of buoy used, and location relative to overall safety of lake users. The Whitewater Township has this responsibility and is reluctant to relinquish this responsibility.

The Lake Management board is proposing – pending membership approval – having the District assume this responsibility. This would be done using Lake Management personnel and equipment. The plan would be to use our transporter to pick up the buoys' at season's end, possibly store over winter on the transporter and install in spring by the harvesting crew. This would allow buoys to go back in reverse order, thus the same buoy in the same location (chain length, water depth). Actual cost of replacement buoys would continue to be the responsibility of the Township.

HELPFUL INFORMATION – GARY MARVIN

1. Please put your Fire Number on your pier. This would be very helpful in an emergency or if we are trying to locate your residence by water.
2. The Town of Whitewater Police Chief Csaba (Chubba) Keller will be at our annual meeting should you want to compliment him and his crew for the fine job they are doing. He will also answer any questions you might have, but **please** do not bring up any specific violation you or a neighbor might have received.
3. Some “most common” boating violations:
 - A. Failure to have sufficient P.F.D.'s
 - B. Personal Watercraft (PWC) violations are not keeping the proper distance from other crafts and what they may be towing
 - C. Operating boat without valid certificate registration number or decal
 - D. Operating motorboat under the influence of an intoxicant
 - E. Operating a boat at night without required lights
 - F. Operating a boat at speeds greater than slow-no-wake in a slow-no-wake area

BRIEF BOATING ORDINANCES

Slow no wake is defined as “as slow as your boat will go and be able to steer it

- The area from shore out 150 feet (normal buoy location) is slow no wake.
- Water skiing, pulling something behind a boat, (creating a wake) is permitted Sunday through Thursday 9 a.m. to sunset.
- Water skiing “pulling something behind a boat” is permitted Friday, Saturday, holidays and the day before a holiday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Boats pulling something must follow a basic counter clockwise pattern.
- All boats, personal watercraft and objects being towed must maintain 100 feet from any other boat while creating a wake.
- Slow no wake for personal watercraft is 200 feet from shore.

**WEED HARVESTING 2001 – Art Schmitz, Harvest and Equipment Committee Chairman
262-473-0777**

Several changes have been made this year mainly due to requests aired at last year's annual meeting. A change in direction was necessitated by the resignation of Board Member, Roy Sheahan and the retirement our previous crew chief. I thank Roy for giving us the foundation to build on.

Hiring a new crew chief gave us an opportunity to look at new ways of harvesting. We combined hiring a new crew with the opportunity to purchase equipment necessary to accomplish your needs. As a board we looked at new procedures and equipment to harvest weeds with the main focus on weed harvesting and, if time permitted, removal of floating weed and bog vegetation.

As a new board member I was given the opportunity to look at various manufacturers of equipment, write specifications and go out for competitive bids. Our goal was to find a new harvester, which has the capability to remove heavier materials from the lake. We have withheld final payment as a guarantee that the manufacturer can demonstrate the harvester's ability to remove the bog. A new truck trailer combination was purchased to haul weeds. This eliminated the need to park the old truck, elevator and tool shed at the landings. Note that all equipment is gone from the landings when harvesting is not taking place.

The mobility of this new equipment allows us to harvest weeds on Rice and Whitewater Lakes at the same time. Before we were reliant on one elevator in one lake at a time. This caused problems in the past with scheduling and productivity. Now no time is lost and harvesting operations are going on simultaneously on both lakes. We are also able to harvest Rice Lake more often. To maintain a high level of productivity we need to duplicate the truck trailer combination at a cost not to exceed \$40,000. This will give us full duplication of all our equipment necessary to avoid non productive down time and keep up with the fast growing weed season in July and August. At this point we are not able to keep up with the on hauling or land disposal with out putting our old farm truck and elevator back into service, which could be sold for \$15,000. Selling our old equipment as a complete package does increase its market potential for a total price of \$35,000.

We are diligent on harvesting to our maximum capability of five feet or on the bottom, or not harvest at all. This has helped to reduce floating weed and to get rid of what is left, we have added a Saturday morning pickup. If weeds are left on a lake owner's pier by 10 a.m., we will pick them up. We know the removal of this organic material is important in that it is unsightly, odorous and adds nutrients to the lake to grow more of the same.

I was also given the opportunity to hire a new Crew Chief. We were fortunate to have Bob McCracken fill that need with his years of experience at Lauderdale Lakes. Please join me in welcoming Bob as you meet him.

Under the direction of board member Gary Marvin, a new contractor was selected to chemically treat from the shore to the pier ends in selected areas approved by the DNR. The new treatment was very successful. We now can concentrate on harvesting from the pier ends to the buoys. This will improve swimming conditions and help reduce shoreline weed floaters. Gary and I work well together with the same goal in mind, and that is to eliminate weeds as best as we can.

I would like to thank the many property lake owners who I have spoken with that support our new efforts and I look forward to making our lake a better place to live.

Native Lake Shore Vegetative Buffers: Why they are a good idea & How to Get Started

Native shoreline buffers can be as diverse as the people and property surrounding our lakes. However, there are a few things that make up the ideal buffer. The ideal buffer begins in the water with native aquatic plants, and continues at least 35 feet onto the shoreland, using native trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowers. However, not everyone will be able to accommodate that amount of space. If that is the case, even a narrow buffer will provide some benefit to both the lake and the landowner.

Why should you consider planning and installing a native shoreland buffer? There are several reasons. First, when melting snow and rain are not absorbed into the soil, the excess water often washes into our lakes. The runoff water picks up fertilizers and other contaminants as it travels toward the lake. The native trees, shrubs, grasses, and wildflowers that make up a good buffer will help slow down water runoff. As runoff is slowed down, many of the contaminants and fertilizers that got picked up along the way are absorbed and prevented from entering the lake. Buffers also help prevent soil erosion caused from runoff or wave and ice action. Do you have a problem with geese? A good native buffer will discourage geese from setting up residence on your property because geese do not feel comfortable if they can not see the water. How about planting a native buffer simply because it is beautiful, great for wildlife, or because it can help cut down on unwanted views, noises and invasive species.

Well, now that I have you considering a native shoreland buffer, you are probably wondering how you can add one to your existing landscape. As I stated at the beginning of this article, each buffer will be a little different. You need to look at your property and decide what you have to start with and what your goals are for your buffer. You will need to draw up a simple plan of what is existing, what you want to keep and what you want to add. The following are some questions you should consider:

1. How much room do you have for your buffer?
2. What are your goals for this buffer? Do you want to block some views or maintain most of the open view you have? Do you want to buffer noise? Is your main goal erosion and runoff control? It is very important for you to identify what end results you are looking for. If you don't, you may not be happy with the completed buffer
3. Does this area have steep slopes down to the lake?
4. Does your shoreline need erosion control measures?
5. What kind of soil, moisture, sun/shade, and wind components does this site contain?
6. What kind of plants do you want? Good buffers contain several layers. Trees make up the top layer, shrubs the second layer, while grasses and wild flowers make up the third layer. If you are not sure what plants will work or where to get them, you should contact me, Audrey Greene, Walworth County Land Conservation, at (262) 741-3460. I will be glad to supply you with information that will help you choose native plants that will grow well in your buffer.

Some words of caution. If any of your plans involve tree or shrubbery removal, adding fill, soil removal or relocation (grading) you must first contact Walworth County land Management – Zoning at (262) 741-3394 in order to obtain the specified permits. If you decide you want to plant native aquatics in the lake you must contact the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) first to obtain the required permit. If your shoreline is in need of erosion control measures such as bioengineered materials or rock riprap, you will also need permits from the DNR.

**WHITEWATER/RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
PROPOSED 2002 BUDGET**

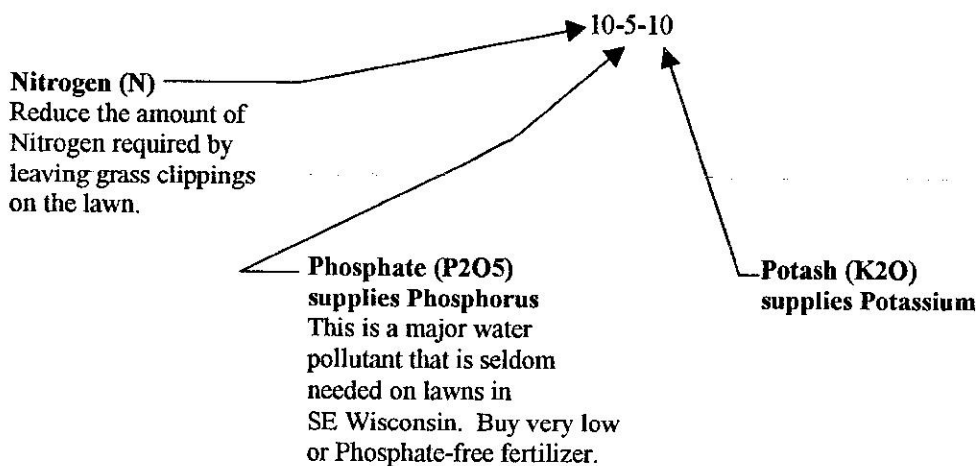
	1999	2000	2001	2002
INCOME	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET PROPOSED
Tax Assessments	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
Interest Income	6,031	6,978	5,000	5,000
Sale of Equipment		3,000	3,000	33,000
Other	6	305	300	
TOTAL INCOME	86,037	90,283	88,300	118,000
HARVESTING EXPENSES				
Wages	22,278	18,810	25,000	24,000
Payroll Taxes	1,880	1,467	1,930	1,800
Advertising	126	265		300
Telephone	139	468	200	500
Fuel	2,731	3,789	4,500	4,500
Repairs & Maintenance	7,562	7,198	7,325	5,000
Supplies & Other	1,251	700	2,000	2,000
Insurance	2,318	4,618	5,000	5,000
Storage	2,443	2,608	2,400	3,000
Contract Services	313	150		
TOTAL	41,041	40,073	48,355	46,100
BOG EXPENSES				
Wages				
Payroll Taxes				
Contract Services			12,000	15,000
Professional Fees		3,825	2,000	
TOTAL		3,825	14,000	15,000
WEED SPRAY & OTHER				
Weed Spraying	12,609	14,451	15,000	15,000
Lake Gauge Survey	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,800
Professional Fees				
Fish Stocking & Crib			1,000	
TOTAL	14,009	15,851	17,400	16,800
GENERAL & ADMIN.				
Clerk Wages	325	838	1,000	1,000
Payroll Taxes		60	70	70
Dues & Fees (WALS)	250	285	275	280
Postage	775	666	750	750
Legal Fees	405	56	1,000	1,000
Newsletters	671	628	750	1,500
Professional Fees	922	1,800	1,200	
TOTAL	3,348	4,333	5,045	4,600
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	58,398	64,082	84,800	82,500
CAPITAL PURCHASES		3,254	3,500	
EQUIP. RESERVE FUND		9,000		33,000
BOG RESERVE FUND				
CONTINGENCY FUND				
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	58,398	76,336	88,300	115,500
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	21,608	16,223	(4,500)	2,500

Protecting Your Lake From Excess Fertilization

Spring is finally here! Many of us want to start getting our lawns in shape as soon as possible. However, sometimes fertilizing our lawns contributes to an increase in plant and algae growth in our lakes. When melting snow and rain are not absorbed into the soil, the excess water often washes into our lakes. The runoff water picks up the fertilizer that you use on your lawn, if they are applied improperly or applied when they are not really needed, as it travels toward the lakes. This fertilizer that works so well on the lawn, will work just as well on the plants that grow in the lake. This does not mean that we can not have a nice green, healthy looking lawn, with beautiful trees and shrubs. However, by following some simple guidelines, you can protect your lake from over fertilization.

Here are a few tips that lake residents can follow if they want to protect the lake from excess fertilization which leads to excess aquatic plant growth and algae blooms:

1. **Before you purchase any fertilizer, test the soil to find out exactly what it needs.**
This is a fairly easy, does not require much time, and the costs are minimal. For complete information please call the Walworth County Land Conservation Department at (262) 741-3460 or UW-Extension at (262) 741-3190.
2. **After you test your soil, buy the correct fertilizer.**
The label on the fertilizer bag has three numbers, which indicate the percentage (by weight) of the three nutrients most essential to healthy lawns.



3. **Wait to apply fertilizer until early October.** Spring fertilization can actually harm lawns by promoting more top (leaf) growth and less root growth.
4. **Guard against fertilizer runoff.** Sweep all fertilizers, soil, and vegetation off paved surfaces. Do not apply fertilizers to bare soils. Use only the amount of fertilizer that your lawn needs – excess fertilizer will not benefit your lawn.
5. **Consider adding a shoreline buffer of native grasses and flowers to your landscaping plan.** These taller grasses and flowers will not only add beauty to your yard, they also slow water flow and help absorb excess fertilizers and contaminants before they reach the lake.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING
August 26, 2000
WHITEWATER/RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. in the Whitewater Lions Club House by Chairman Bernie Tangney. Chairman Tangney explained he had taken the position as Chairman when former Chairman Jim Stevenson moved out of the district and could no longer be a member of the district. Tangney accepted the position as Chairman of the Board. Other members of the Board present at the meeting were Roy Sheahen, Gary Marvin and Dick Cooney.

Tangney recognized two people who were very dedicated to furthering the goals of the Lake Management District. Bill Norris, not present at meeting - who had a very nice dedication at the Swim Beach this summer for his years of dedication to the District and Jim Stevenson who was Chairman of this organization for 4 years and on the Board for 6 years. Both men have helped Tangney as he moved into his position as Chairman. Jim Stevenson is continuing to provide the Harvesting summary for the District and his help is appreciated.

Also recognized was Bob Nowak, who has been crew chief of the harvesting equipment under the direction of the harvesting committee. He did an excellent job in this position. He has sold his house and will be moving to Rhinelander and Texas.

Tangney then went on to introduce the other members of the Board: Gary Marvin, Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee; Dick Cooney, Secretary and Chairman of the Chemical Treatment Committee; Roy Sheahen, Chairman of the Harvesting and Equipment Committee; Norm Prusener, Township representative, and Tony Shroble, County representative. Prusener and Shroble were not present. These are the voting members of the Board. He also introduced Rose Marie Berg as the clerk.

Handouts at the meeting were copies of the agenda for the meeting, Treasurer's report for calendar year 1999 and Treasurer's report for 2000 through August 8th, ballot for voting for candidates and copy of Harvesting data.

The minutes of the August 21, 1999 Annual Meeting were introduced. Chairman Tangney dispensed with the reading of the minutes as they were published in the mailing of the July Newsletter to all the members. He then asked if there were additions or corrections to the minutes. There being none, the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Gary Marvin, Treasurer presented a Balance Sheet of the District for year end December 31, 1999 compared to year to date August 8, 2000. Murray Accounting has reviewed all reports and all reports are in good accounting order. He noted the Taxes Receivable from Richmond and Whitewater were received on August 25 in the amount of \$28,820. He noted the Budget for 2001 was \$88,300. Members present received copies of the two Balance Sheets and Budget. There being no comments or corrections, motion was made for approval, seconded and approved as presented.

Chairman Tangney reported there are four candidates running for two openings on the Board. They were created by Jim Stevenson's leaving and Dick Cooney's term expiring this year. The four candidates: Dick Cooney-for re-election, Jeff Klopff, Don Oker and Gordon Phillips were presented and each were given an opportunity to say a few words on themselves and how they view the opportunity to be on the Board. The candidate receiving the most votes will be elected for a three year term and the second highest number of votes will be elected for a two year term. Ballots were collected from members present with each member voting for two candidates. The results will be presented at the end of the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Harvesting Committee: A Harvesting Summary prepared by Jim Stevenson comparing 1998, 1999 and 2000 was distributed. As of August 22, 2000 a total of 1,204 tons of weeds have been removed from the lakes compared to 1,526 in 1999 and 1,005 in 1998. The high water of the lakes this year has helped to keep the weeds down. Also the chemical treatment plan contributed to the lesser amount harvested.

Tangney stated there was a serious problem with the 7 foot harvester - the motor blew up and has been out for repairs since July 6th and will not be in use for the rest of the year.

Question was asked how close the cutter comes in to shore - the response was they come as close as they safely can to the residential properties. Equipment will be brought in for the season next week. This is a little earlier due to the leaving of

Bob Nowak and the college age crew leaving for school. It was also mentioned that if members have weeds collected on their piers and the cutters are in the area, they would remove the weeds from the piers for the homeowners.

Equipment Committee: Chairman Tangney stated the Board is recommending replacing the 10 foot, 10 year old harvester, which is still working. They are recommending purchasing a new 10 foot harvester from the same company that provided the previous unit for a cost of \$92,000. There is a competitive bid from another company for a similar unit for \$104,000. A major reason for replacing the unit now is that the DNR will give us a 50% Grant for the purchase of new equipment. This being an election year in government, we want to take advantage of the Grant while available. If we spend \$92,000 for the unit and receive a \$46,000 Grant, the net cost will be \$46,000. D&D – the supplier of this harvester has said they think they can sell the current harvester for an amount between \$15-30,000. We will not trade the present unit in at the present time, due to the Grant being 50% of the purchase price. The old unit will be sold outright with D&D's assistance. The bottom line is the net cost of the new unit will be somewhere between \$16-31,000. Currently we have available \$110,672 in reserve for equipment replacement. There will be no impact on our assessment. The old 10 foot harvester has been fully depreciated.

The following explanation was given as to the operation of the harvesting equipment: There are four basic pieces of equipment: two harvesters are run, a transporter goes out on the lake to the harvester, unloads the harvester and brings the weeds back to shore where an elevator dumps the weeds into a truck. One man drives the truck, two men are on the harvesters and one man is on the transporter. It would not be economically feasible to add a third harvester as suggested by one member. Leo Worth presented motion to purchase the harvester; Stan Vesely seconded, unanimously approved by members present.

Chemical Treatment: Chairman Tangney stated Dick Cooney has done a great job working with the chemical treatment – he does advance work in going out and reviewing the lake, working with the company and the DNR – who is present on the day of application. Chairman Cooney stated 35 acres were sprayed on Whitewater June 8 and on June 9, Rice Lake had 9 acres sprayed. After pellets are dropped it takes ten days to two weeks for weeds to drop. Weeds then have a tendency to stay down for about six weeks.

This year \$12,900 was spent on spraying, with an additional permit cost of \$1,500. \$15,000 has been budgeted. The same company has been used for spraying for the last few years and Cooney is pleased with their work. A member suggested the Board obtain more bids on the cost. Chairman Tangney agreed and this will be done.

He mentioned it is conceivable to spray again after six weeks. There is a rumor the State of Wisconsin will participate in part of the cost of spraying. This has not been confirmed, but will be looked into further. Approximately 50% of lakes are sprayed once a year. Questions were then raised by members as to the possibility of spraying twice – this is not included in our 2001 budget, however, the Board will entertain discussion on this matter at a future Board meeting.

A member requested information on the purchase of a special rake to be used in removing weeds. The cost is approximately \$90, and is 30" wide with a handle that extends to about 10 feet. Tangney will locate the manufacturer and will supply information in the next Newsletter.

Fish Stocking Committee: DNR has agreed to plant Northern Pike one year and Walleye the following year in Whitewater Lake. This year they planted 1,200 – 7" Northern. Next year Walleye will be planted. DNR has stated chemical spraying does not affect the fish in the lakes.

Bog Study Committee: Walworth County Dive Team went out and could not find edge of bog. They are waiting till it comes up higher to go out again. It has not come up as ugly as it has in years past. Tangney has been getting bids – to have numbers on potential costs for dredging. He talked with Inland Dredging – they will not even come out until bog is up. Parkside Marina is interested in bidding when we find out more about what we want done. Tangney also brought samples of pieces of the bog for the membership to see the material the bog consists of. The samples were taken from the diggings of a post hole digger when they were testing for the oxygen content.

In review, last January when the study was done, they found clear water under the bog at the point they did their samples. However, the bog stayed stationary – the question is - if on clear water why is it still stationary? First theory – could be old tree stumps holding it. This is reason the Dive Team went out. When no edge was found, another theory is that this may be a large blanket, a carpet that a portion rises up and the rest stays down. The University found some differences in dissolved oxygen, but nothing really significant – at 7 ft. down it was exactly the same under the bog as it was outside the bog, at 13 or 15 ft. down it was significantly different. Non conclusive!

The County Dive Team is doing the investigation at no charge. In hindsight, Tangney stated we probably should have hired a professional team. The Walworth county Dive Team has just bought an underwater camera and Tangney is hoping they will use that to film the bog.

A lengthy discussion then began with the membership asking questions. Tangney clarified when speaking about the bog – he was referring to only one bog and that was the bog 6 houses from the Robbins old house – the bog has a flag on it.

A member stated at last year's meeting it was decided to be aggressive about the bog handling and a year later we have done little about it, but are waiting for volunteers to manage. Tangney stated a team would be hired to find out what the bog really is and then present it to the DNR. He felt we needed permission or permits from DNR. Upon questioning, Tangney also said the DNR has not actually stated we cannot remove the bog – we have not specifically asked the DNR if we can remove it.

Aaron Associates had been hired for \$4,000 and their advice was - until we have this certain information it does not pay to ask for a permit to remove. Aaron furnished a very detailed chemical analysis, which also provided a cross section of their boring information. Their advice was to determine what is holding the bog. If a root mass goes down to the bedrock, the DNR will not allow removal. If it's clear water we can do whatever we want to remove it. Rich Gunter, Bog Committee – stated the Charter was given to find out what the DNR will allow us to do. Next question was we need to supply enough information in the permit – to either approach as a dredging when bog is down or approach as a removal of a hazard when they are up. That is what the DNR will have to rule on to grant a permit. The testing in January revealed the bogs are not continuous mass all the way to the bedrock of the lake. There is a gap between the bog and bottom of lake. Next question is why don't they move? Rich was advised by legal counsel if we mark the bogs by flagging, etc. we are taking responsibility and would be held legally responsible should an accident occur. Right now it is the DNR's responsibility. Members want to apply for the DNR permit now as we do show clear water. Also they disagreed that only one bog should be the concern – all bogs should be included. Motion made to submit plan to DNR for permit to remove the bogs as economically as possible. Permit to be applied for reasons of safety. Motion made, seconded, unanimously approved.

Next question: How quickly can the divers act? Unable to answer – will contact companies from a list of professionals as this is a very dangerous feat. Tangney will contact Inland Dredging and Parkside Marine. Tangney will contact both (or more) to find out cost of moving floating bogs – this to be done within a week. Inland would come in with a Marsh Monster – an overgrown tree stump cutter – drive through and want \$15,000 just to bring in the machine. Tangney stated a special meeting would have to be called to spend over \$10,000. Cooney mentioned Aaron & Assoc. estimated we had 10,000 cubic yds. on one bog – this would be a very high cost to the district.

Art Schmitz, member, noted he watched the bog go past his lot – bog was 160 ft. in diameter, but all he saw was 10 ft. on top – float by his pier. It was headed for his neighbor's pier. Neighbor called DNR, Frank's Marina and others – no one would tell him he had authority to do anything about it. Schmitz stated this was the first time he had heard you could move a floating bog!

Cynthia Gruenwald motioned we get two immediate bids to remove the current free-floating bogs. Seconded by Vesely. Unanimous approval. It was noted should the cost be under \$10,000, the Board may spend up to that amount without members' approval. A second motion was presented to call a special meeting on a Saturday to further discuss the bog issue once we collect the data and information. Motion seconded and approved.

After the permit is approved it was suggested we then approach the DNR to see if any Grant would be available to help with funding bog removal.

Finance Committee: Marvin presented the Budget for 2001. Motion was made to change the reserve for equipment \$10,000 and move to reserve for bog expense for this year only. Motion made, seconded and approved.

Members expressed an interest in having the weeds sprayed twice per year. One member stated she was an environmentalist but if spraying doesn't harm the lake and will curtail the weeds, she expressed a strong interest. There was agreement that the weeds are up again – growing anew after the first spraying. Motion was made to get bids for a second spraying, approved and passed. It was also noted spraying is done at the direction of the DNR – they control the chemical treatment.

Motion was then made to approve the Budget as amended. Seconded, and approved.

Old Business

Member Don Oker brought up the problem with Isabel Bay and the old pipes, piers and boat lifts that appear to be abandoned. Tangney stated the Board would send a letter to the Town Board expressing our displeasure and requesting them to do something to eradicate this eyesore.

Another member brought up the fact that this was the third year in a row that the Town and County Board members were not present at the Annual Meeting. It was felt they should be present when problems like these arise. They then could be settled immediately. A motion was made to send a letter to the Town and County Boards expressing displeasure that our representatives do not participate in the meeting. Motion seconded and approved. Motion seconded and approved. Letters will be sent to both Board supervisors.

New Business:

Election results: Three year term, Don Oker and two year term – Gordon Phillips.

Public Input:

A member raised the question again regarding the 3 ponds. Tangney stated the Board voted at the May meeting it was not in the public's best interest to spend money on the 3 ponds by either spraying or cutting weeds at this time.

Another member brought up the issue of the Township police. He stated that in the last year or two their Charter changed from patrolling for safety vs. patrolling to giving out tickets. All they seem to do is hide and try to catch people. He had spoken to approximately 20 people in the past year and every time they are stopped, the patrol is rude, belligerent, not helpful and he would like a letter sent reminding them they are hired to patrol for safety and not to get out there and set records for issuing speeding, and no wake zone tickets. They are very unyielding, unfriendly. It was noted when Jim Lukas patrolled, his philosophy was that he was out there being observed by the boaters and just being seen helped curtail illegal activities. He did a great job! It was also brought up the patrol does not follow the law concerning the correct flow of traffic and parking where they are causing problems. Motion was then made for the Board to send a letter to the Township expressing displeasure with the current law enforcement. Motion seconded and approved.

Another motion was then made to send the Township a letter to update the signs at the lake shore landings concerning the rules and safety. Motion seconded and approved.

Another member brought up the issue of the geese overpopulation at the lake. Motion was made to send a letter to the DNR requesting clarification of their plan for this problem. Seconded and approved.

Recognition was also given to Leo Worth, president of the Property Association.

The next annual meeting of the Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District will be Saturday, August 25, 2001 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Marie Berg
Municipal Clerk

**ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
AUGUST 25, 2001 – 10:00 AM**

The 2001 Annual Meeting of the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District will be held at Lakeview Elementary School on Townline Road. All members of the district are encouraged to attend. The agenda will include the following:

- Review and approve minutes of 2000 Annual Meeting
- Treasurer's and Audit Report
- Election of four commissioner's from the following:
 - Bernie Tangney Kevin O'Connell
 - Gary Marvin Mike Plier
 - Art Schmitz Dave Paul
- Presentation of the following committee reports:
 - Harvesting & Equipment
 - Discuss potential purchase of truck and trailer maximum \$40,000
 - Equipment
 - Chemical Treatment
 - Fish Stocking
 - Bog
- Approval of 2002 budget
- Presentation by Chubba Keller, Lake Patrol Chief
- Presentation by Audrey Greene, Walworth County Lake Specialist
- Old Business
- New Business
 - Announce election of four new board members – two 3-year terms, two 2-year terms
 - Buoy placement by Lake Management
 - Dockominium issue
- Public comments
- Establish 2001 annual meeting date
- Adjournment

A short organizational meeting of the Board will immediately follow for the purpose of electing officers and appointing committee assignments.