

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES



Management District
P.O. Box # 301
Whitewater WI, 53190



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ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

JULY 2000

The 2000 Annual Meeting of the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District will be held on Saturday, August 26, 2000, 10 a.m. at the Whitewater Lions Club House, N7470 Kettle Moraine Drive, on Whitewater Lake. 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.**

This is the last direct communication from your Lake District that you will receive prior to the Annual Meeting on August 26th. Notices of the meeting will, however, be published in the Whitewater Register during the two weeks prior to the meeting.

BOARD MEETING

There will be a brief organizational meeting of the new Board immediately following the Annual Meeting for purposes of electing officers for the coming year.

Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District

P.O. Box 301

Whitewater WI 53190

NEWSLETTER JULY 2000

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

The Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District wishes to thank Chairman Jim Stevenson for his years of dedication to the betterment of our Lakes. Our lakes are better for his efforts and we thank him for these efforts

Jim has moved into Whitewater, possibly to pursue his golf game. For whatever reason, he has moved out of the Lake Management District and could no longer serve on the board. I have accepted the position vacated by Jim. Dick Cooney has accepted the position of Secretary, previously held by me. As I work in this capacity I am coming to appreciate more and more the work Jim Stevenson and Bill Norris have done for all those years. Jim and Bill, please keep helping the District and me.
Bernie Tangney

BILL NORRIS RECOGNITION:

On a rainy June 4th the Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners Association dedicated a monument to Dr. Bill Norris. Representatives of the State Government, Local Government, DNR, relatives and friends heaped accolades upon Bill's persistent dedication and work in organizing and serving as the first Chairman of the Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District. The plaque is permanently mounted near the beach at the Whitewater Lake State Park on State Park Road. A big thank you to John Brunner and the GWLPOA officers for making this project happen. Stop by anytime and see this very deserved recognition.

**ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA - SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. -
WHITEWATER LIONS CLUB HOUSE AT N7470 KETTLE MORaine DRIVE:**

- * Review and Approval of minutes of the August 12, 1999 Annual Meeting
- * Treasurers and Audit Report
- * Committee Reports - Chemical, Harvesting, Finance, Fish and Bog
- * Year 2001 Budget Hearing and Approval
- * Election of Board Commissioners
- * Old/New Business
- * Public Input
- * Establish date for 2001 Annual Meeting

There are two items to be voted upon at this meeting, the election of the commissioners and the 2001 Budget. Please note that our bylaws do not provide for absentee balloting. It is necessary that you attend the Annual Meeting in order to have your vote counted.

TWO BOARD POSITIONS OPEN: We extend an invitation to anyone interested in becoming a board member. There will be two positions available. Election to the Board is open to any member of the District. This is a great way to become involved in your Lake Management. Contact Walt Hicks, nominating committee chairman at 1-262-473-2315 for more information.

CHEMICAL COMMITTEE REPORT - Chemicals were applied to about 33 acres on Whitewater Lake on June 7th and 11 acres on Rice Lake on June 8.

BOG COMMITTEE REPORT - In January, Aron and Associates did a core bore and chemical analysis test of one bog (the large one just south of Cruse Lane boat launch). The chemical results showed no significant chemical content to be any problem disposing of the material. That is in the opinion of Aron and Associates.

One important finding in the survey was how the bog was situated. Beneath the bog material, a very thick layer of water was found. Occasionally the water contained suspended clay material, however, most of the samples found clear water. This increased the likelihood that the bog is indeed independent of the lakebed and not attached by material. What is not understood is why the bog does not actually move from or around the area. One possibility is that one or more trees are still standing, essentially forming an anchor.

One June 15 the Walworth County Dive Team attempted to dive under the bog to determine what was holding it in place. In three hours, the Dive Team was unable to find an edge to go under the bog form. This supports the possibility that the bog "as seen from the surface" is a part of a rug-like mat in which a part bubbles up with the remainder of the mat holding it in place. The Dive Team will return and attempt to get under the bog again in July or August. Bernie Tangney hopes to have the results of this dive information available at the annual meeting on August 26.

HARVESTING COMMITTEE REPORT - Harvesting of weeds is going along on a normal schedule for both lakes. The Harvesting and Chemical committees have worked together in the best interest of the district.

We do have a need for additional weed dumpsites for large quantities of weeds - the closer to lake launches the better. Any ideas? Please contact Roy Sheahen, 1-608-883-2040.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT - The proposed budget for the year 2001 will be found elsewhere in this Newsletter for your review prior to the meeting. Other current data will also be made available at the meeting.

SURVEY OF RESIDENTS: Member, Dr. Kenneth Johnson, a demographer at Loyola University-Chicago (Rice Lake second home owner) and Dr. Susan Stewart, a research scientist at the US Forest Service, will be conducting a random survey in this Lake area obtaining information as to how recreational and scenic amenities of the area contribute to the likelihood of future population growth in the county. Their particular interest is how second home ownership contributes to the likelihood of future migration to the area. They also plan to identify other factors which attract people to the county such as: importance of proximity of Chicago, Madison and Milwaukee; and estimate what impact improvements in telecommunications, Internet usage and electronic commerce are likely to have on future migration trends. This information should prove helpful in planning for the future of areas likely to receive significant inflows of migrants. You may be contacted to contribute to this survey form. Results of the survey will be made available to the Lake Management District.

BRIEF BOATING ORDINANCES:

- * The area from shore out 150 feet into the lake is a slow no wake zone. Slow no wake is defined as "slow as your boat can go and be able to steer it."
- * Water skiing (CREATING A WAKE) is permitted Sunday through Thursday 9 am to sunset, except holidays.

- * Water Skiing (CREATING A WAKE) is permitted Friday, Saturday and Holidays 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. or sunset, which ever is earlier.
- * Boats creating a wake must follow a basic counter clockwise pattern.
- * Personal Watercrafts, water skier and boats must maintain 100 feet from an anchored craft.
- * Personal Watercraft must maintain slow, no wake for 200 feet from shore.

FISH STOCKING - 1,700 Northernns were stocked by the State in Whitewater Lake and were approximately 7" in size.

BUOY LOCATIONS - Lake Management Board is working with the Town of Whitewater Board to consider the timing of installing and locations of the buoys.

PROPOSED 2001 BUDGET:

**Whitewater/Rice Lake Management District
Budget 2001**

Income		Expenses	
Taxes-Whitewater	\$65,000.00	Wages-Harvesting	\$25,000.00
Taxes-Richmond	15,000.00	Engine for transporter	3,500.00
Donation	300.00	Employment taxes	2,000.00
Sale of engine	3,000.00	Fuel	4,500.00
Interest income	5,000.00	Repairs	7,325.00
		Weed spraying	15,000.00
		Insurance-commercial pkg.	3,500.00
		Insurance-workers comp.	1,500.00
		Equipment storage	2,400.00
		Supplies & other misc. items	2,000.00
		Legal expense	1,000.00
		Survey (lake gauge)	1,400.00
		Conventions	1,000.00
		Clerk salary	1,000.00
		Payroll & accounting charges	1,200.00
		Membership dues (Wis Lakes)	275.00
		Newsletters-print, collate & fold	750.00
		Postage & postal services	750.00
		Telephone	200.00
		Reserve for equipment etc.	10,000.00
		Bog Expense	4,000.00
Total Income	\$88,300.00	Total Expenses	\$88,300.00

DATE CHANGE FOR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING - The Board has approved a change in date from the 2nd Thursday of August to the 2nd Tuesday, which will be August 8.

ANNUAL MEETING – AUGUST 21, 1999
WHITEWATER/RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. in the Lakeview Elementary School gymnasium by Chairman Jim Stevenson. Chairman Stevenson then introduced the members of the Board present at the meeting: Roy Sheahan Harvesting Committee, Chairman Bernie Tangney, Chemical Treatment Committee Chair and Secretary, and Gary Marvin Treasurer.

Chairman Stevenson thanked the property owners present for attending the meeting. Jim also noted that there will be a brief organizational meeting of the new Board following the Annual Meeting to elect officers for the following year.

Jim Stevenson gave a brief overview of the Lake Management District noting that it is a special purpose unit of government and has tax levying authority. He also noted that the Lake Management District was formed specifically to manage the quality of the lakes. The Lake Management District was formed in 1988-89. Jim Stevenson noted that the purpose of the meeting today is to report the activities of the past year, present and approve budget for the year 2000, and the election of one Board member for the next term. Chairman Stevenson also noted that there will be an action item to determine if members would like additional funds to be expended for future activities of the Bogs Project. Chairman Stevenson noted that the Board is comprised of seven members: five elected by the membership and one representative from the Whitewater Township Board and one from the Walworth County Board.

The minutes of the August 22, 1998 Annual Meeting were introduced. Chairman Stevenson asked if there were any objections to dispensing with the oral reading of the minutes and there were none. Jim asked the membership if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. There being none, Chairman Stevenson deemed the minutes approved as presented.

Chairman Stevenson presented a Balance Sheet of the District for year end December 31, 1998 compared to December 31, 1997. This report was in the July newsletter and sent to all members of the Lake Management District. Chairman Stevenson noted that the District had \$69,739.00 in Equipment Replacement Reserve as of 12-31-98. Members present received an Operating Statement as of August 10, 1999 and an Income Statement as of August 10, 1999. There being no comments or corrections, Chairman Stevenson deemed the Treasurer's Report as presented.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS REPORTS:

Chairman Stevenson presented a brief overview of the operating committees. He then presented the following reports for each committee:

AQUATIC PLANT HARVESTING COMMITTEE – Jim Stevenson presented a harvesting summary comparing 1997, 1998 and 1999. As of July 31, 1999 a total of 1,092 tons of weeds have been removed from the lakes, compared to 813 in 1998 and 1,100 in 1997. Chairman Stevenson presented a brief summary of the harvesting process for 1999.

CHEMICAL TREATMENT COMMITTEE - Chairman Stevenson noted that chemical treatment is not the District's preferred method of weed control and is used near the shorelines and areas where there is no other viable way to treat the weeds. He noted that the District must receive permits from the DNR and the District then hires a firm to apply the chemical treatment. The company applies 2-4-D pellets with a few areas of liquid application. This year's chemical treatment appears to have been effective. Chairman Stevenson reported that there has been some concern from property owners on the effect the chemicals have on the spawning fish. Scott Troschner and Jennifer Wutty, representatives from the DNR, were present at the meeting to address this issue. Ms. Wutty presented a very informative overview of the lakes and their makeup. She

noted that Whitewater Lake is 629 acres and 97% of the lake is 10 feet in depth. Rice Lake is 162 acres with many nutrients coming into the lake, an abundance due to the shorelines. She explained the function of aquatic plants in lakes and what the Lake Management District and property owners can do to control the weeds. She noted that it is not the Lake Management District's purpose to react to weeds season-to-season, but to have a plan in place to address this matter. She also noted that homeowners can assist this weed control by hand pulling weeds on their shorelines. She noted that there are special rakes that can be purchased and have proved to work well on the shorelines. Ms. Wutty noted that the Lake Management District uses primarily mechanical harvesting. However, chemical treatment is used in areas the mechanical equipment cannot facilitate. She noted the chemical 2-4-D goes into the roots of the plants and prohibits growth. The chemicals are controlled through the EPA.

Ms. Wutty presented some conflicts with Lake Management. She noted it is imperative the Lake Management Plan be followed. She also encouraged the use of lake raking by property owners. It was noted that property owners be educated on using the lake and following the Lake Management Plan. She further stated that having a complete plan and following the plan, will improve the quality of the Lakes.

Chairman Stevenson thanked Ms. Wutty for her presentation and then posed the question of the chemical effects on spawning fish. Scott Troschner noted there are a number of papers written relating to lake habitat/spawning. He noted the EPA has a lot of information on their website. Scott stated the chemical application tested will not harm fish.

Chairman Stevenson thanked Scott Troschner and Jennifer Wutty for attending the meeting and presenting their reports.

FISH STOCKING AND HABITAT COMMITTEE: Chairman Stevenson reported that the Lake Management District is working with the DNR on stocking fish into the lakes. The DNR has agreed to stock Northern and Walleyes every other year, respectively. The DNR will stock Northern into Rice Lake as they deem feasible. Chairman Stevenson reported that 64,000 fingerling Walleye Pike were stocked into Whitewater Lake in June of this year. 274 large fingerling Northern were also stocked.

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL WEEVIL STUDY: Chairman Stevenson presented a brief overview of this study noting that it was conducted by UW-Stevens Point with ¼ of the cost being paid by the Lake Management District. The end result of the study is that placing weevils into the lake to control the Eurasian Watermilfoil is not a viable tool for the Lake Management District.

BOGS COMMITTEE: Chairman Stevenson introduced Rich Gunter, Committee Chair of the Bogs Committee. Rich noted members of this committee: Mike and Kathy Hoar, Jim Mulcahy, Rich Schies and Romi Robbins. Rich presented the initial committee actions, noting resident interviews, DNR contacts, marking of the bogs and lake analysis by the Advanced Biology students from Lake Geneva Badger High School. Rich also noted that the committee was concerned about navigation safety and the liability of the Lake Management District.

Mr. Gunter then noted that the mission statement of the committee for 1999 was to oversee the management of the seasonal floating organic matter located in Whitewater Lake known as "the bogs". A survey was sent to property owners in the winter newsletter. 90% of the surveys returned favored the Lake Management District exploring the possibilities of what can be done with the bogs. Cost estimates for core samplings range from \$1,200 to \$4,500. Permits are required for the core samples, with a minimum of 4 samples being taken. Total cost of core samples and DNR fees is approximately \$6,300; using a quote from Ahrens Associates out of Milwaukee. Chairman Stevenson noted that \$10,000 is proposed in the budget for continued study of the bogs.

Jim Mulcahy reported that he has investigated the possibility of dredging and removing the bogs. He contacted Inland Dredge Co. out of Burlington. A permit needs to be obtained and the site needs to be designated prior to removal and prior to the permit being issued. One option is to apply for a grant to dredge and remove. This

requires an official Board to oversee and manage the project. This is not a quick turn around project and will require a year or two to complete.

Rich Gunter noted that he does have the report from Lake Geneva Badger students and the report does note that Whitewater Lake is a very typical lake.

Chairman Stevenson noted that the membership will vote on expending further funds for the bogs study during the 2000 Budget Hearing later in the meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chairman Stevenson thanked Walt Hicks and Bernie Tangney for serving on the Nominating Committee. Chairman Stevenson reported that there are two candidates running for one opening on the Board. Roy Sheahen is running for Re-election and Don Oker.

Paper ballots were passed out to all members present and the members were asked to vote for one candidate. The Annual Meeting clerks collected the ballots and the results will be presented at the end of the meeting.

BUDGET HEARING:

Treasurer Gary Marvin presented the Budget Detail and Budget Summary for the year 2000, noting that this was also contained in the July newsletter. Mr. Stevenson noted that there is not a tax levy increase proposed in the budget. He noted that the budget for Aquatic Plant Harvesting is increased due to increased fuel costs and the age of the equipment. Chemical Treatment budget is increased due to chemical costs and increased areas of treatment. Chairman Stevenson noted that equipment replacement costs have been accumulating, with \$96,700 in reserve as of 8-10-99.

Chairman Stevenson informed the membership that the first item to be voted on was the proposed \$10,000 allocation of funds for further study on the bogs. Ballots were given to the members present and members were informed to vote Yes or No for the allocation of \$10,000. The Annual Meeting Clerks collected the ballots and a report of the tally will be presented later in the meeting.

Chairman Stevenson then presented the 2000 Budget Summary and Detail. He noted the membership would now vote on the proposed budget, not including the \$10,000 for the Bogs Study. Ballots were given to members present and the members were informed to vote Yes or No on the proposed budget. The Annual Meeting Clerks collected the ballots and a report of the tally will be presented later in the meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Chairman Stevenson invited public input from property owners present and then introduced Al Schallock. Mr. Schallock lives on one of the three ponds located by Heart Prairie Church on Townline Road. Chairman Stevenson noted that Mr. Schallock had addressed the Board at the August meeting regarding the mass of weeds on the pond that Mr. Schallock resides. Mr. Stevenson gave a brief overview of Mr. Schallock's concerns: The pond is very weed infested; the other 2 ponds have culverts that feed into the lake; the ponds are in the boundary of the Lake Management District; the Lake Management Plan does not address the three ponds; the grant for harvesting does not cover the ponds; the harvesting crew cannot get their equipment onto the ponds. Chairman Stevenson reported that the Board at the August 12, 1999 meeting, agreed to: 1) the Harvesting Committee will see if there is a smaller piece of equipment to rent or buy to treat the ponds; 2) the Chemical Treatment Committee will contact Marine Biochemists to look into the chemicals to treat the ponds and the costs associated with chemical treatment, if feasible; and, 3) Chairman Stevenson will contact SEWRPC to look into addendums to the Lake Management Plan to incorporate the ponds in questions.

Chairman Stevenson reported that over the winter months, the Board will work on getting a plan/option into place to deal with the ponds during the next harvesting season. There is a question as to the ownership of the ponds – are

they public or private? Mr. Stevenson noted that the Board has agreed to address this issue over the next several months.

Additional public input was given regarding safety concerns on the south end of the lake, specifically the no wake zones and the lack of buoys. The question was raised regarding additional safety patrol on the lake on weekends. Chairman Stevenson noted that the safety patrol is controlled by the Townships of Richmond and Whitewater. He noted that he would communicate with the Townships to see what can be done regarding this matter.

Don Oker expressed a concern of the unused boat lifts and equipment on Round Lake by Isabell Bay. Chairman Stevenson noted this is a DNR matter, not a Lake Management matter.

Property owner Michael Ryan expressed a concern regarding the harvesting equipment being stored in a residential area, particularly on the Townline Road access road. After a brief discussion, Mr. Ryan was advised to address the Board at the September 9 meeting.

The next annual meeting of the Whitewater/Rice Lakes Management District was set for Saturday, August 19, 2000 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Mesmer
Municipal Clerk

NOTE:

Results of votes - \$10,000 for Bog Study was approved. The budget was approved as presented.