



WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 301
Whitewater, WI 53190



MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District was held at the Whitewater Town Hall on Thursday June 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present: Carol Ducommun, Jon Tanis, Chuck Chamberlain, Dan Berg, Rich Charts and Jerry Grant

Others Present: Donna Sherman, Ernie Roy, Steve Ducommun (pro bono counsel), John Talbot, Scott Center, and Tom Potrykus.

Carol motioned to amend the agenda to include fish report (Tom) as well as goose round up (Ernie) under Standing Teams. Carol also added an additional item for closed session: per WI 19.85(1) (c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; seconded by Chuck; motion passed unanimously.

Jerry motioned to approve the May 9, 2024, regular meeting minutes as well as the closed session minutes; seconded by Rich; motion passed unanimously.

Public Input: N/A

Reports of commissioners:

Chair: Carol mentioned two board seats are up for election this year: Carol's and Rich's; Bob Szcinski is interested in running for Rich's seat.

Scott and Carol Introduced John Talbot; John is a current resident and has expressed interest in subbing for the harvesting crew.

Jerry received an extension of his appointment to our Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District Board as our Walworth County representative effective through May 1, 2026

Sheriff Gerber will attend the Annual meeting.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence: No Report

Finance: Dan presented and motioned to approve May Expenses of \$143,247.31; it was seconded by Rich; all in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Lake and Ponds submitted a final bill for weed spraying of \$56,025, on top of the \$30,000 deposit we already paid. Prior to spraying we reviewed their initial quote of over \$162,000 and limited their spending to no more than our 2024 spraying budget of \$80,000, which was communicated to them by Mike. Based on their amended quote of \$80,000, we will pay \$50,000 now in addition to our \$30,000 deposit.

Transaction Date	Disbursements				Description	GL #	Notes / GL Reference Account	Invoice Number
	Vendor	Check #	Amount					
5/9/24	Carol Ducommon	3983	\$241.98		Hotel for convention	6910	Meetings & Conventions	
5/9/24	Donna Sherman	x 3984	\$200.00		April retainer	6020	Clerical Services	
5/9/24	Donna Sherman	x 3984	\$20.32		Postage	7150	Postage	
5/9/24	Southern Lakes	x 3985	\$84.96		Notices	6010	Association and Notices	
5/9/24	C&G Farms LLC	3986	\$303.75		Barley straw	7460	Chemical treatment	
5/9/24	Mike Lindenmuth	x 3987	\$23.19		Reimbursement for zip ties	7460	Chemical treatment	
5/9/24	Town of Whitewater	x 3988	4,243.54		Reimburse TOW for Richmond's pmt for safety	4020	Town of Richmond tax revenue	
5/9/24	Tallgrass Restoration	x 3989	94.30		Eradication of Lesser Celandine	7360	Grading and outside services	
5/9/24	C&G Farms LLC	3990	\$207.50		Replace ck #3877 from 6/24	cash	check replacement	
5/9/24	Southern Lakes	x 3991	\$57.45		May Agendas	6010	Association and Notices	
5/14/24	Casey's	x EFT	\$2.00		Transaction fees	6950	Office	
5/14/24	Casey's	x EFT	\$(1.68)		Rebate	6950	Office	
5/23/24	Aquarius Systems	x 3992	\$137,950.00		7' Weed harvester and trailer	Capital	Capital outlay	
			\$143,427.31					

Dan provided a recap of the monthly projections for harvesting payroll. He is preparing for the Annual Meeting, looking at the 2025 budget and future capital needs. The next piece of equipment scheduled to be replaced is the 10 ft. harvester in 2026.

Weed Harvesting: Scott reported we are off to a good start. We are harvesting Rice Lake prior to June 30 based on permission from Heidi Bunk and Travis Motl senior fisheries biologist, both with the DNR. They allowed us to begin harvesting this week, cleaning up the navigation lane along the developed shore which has only had sparse coverage of Curly Leaf Pond Weed. On Whitewater Lake we are also focusing on clearing Curly Leaf Pond weed from the navigation lanes since it will begin to die off and sink to the bottom soon, with its turions remaining to germinate later in the summer or next year. It is better to get this plant out of the water prior to sinking to limit future growth.

Carol is seeking approval from Heidi Bunk for additional dumpsites, including Larry Jacob's Copper Top Farm on Hwy 89 at Townline Road and another on Six Corners Road, where the property owner will pick up harvesting volumes from our location on Cruse Lane.

Chemical/Herbicide: Spraying for Eurasian Milfoil took place on Whitewater Lake on May 21st, our crew posted signs prior to the spraying.

Bog Removal: Rich is meeting with his Bog team next month, and they will put together an RFP for bids. Carol presented a card from the owner of Ultimate Excavating who is interested in bidding for the bog removal this fall.

Equipment: Chuck reported the new harvester was launched on Rice Lake and indicated that the remaining DNR grant of \$67,475 for this equipment should be forthcoming. Chuck is communicating with Scott regarding maintenance supplies in the context of our 2024 budget. We will make a master list of tools and keep it updated as items are added.

Chuck mentioned two pieces of equipment parked on the dump site. Aquarius is not interested so Chuck will look to scrap it.

When Chuck and Carol visited Aquarius regarding the possibility of bog harvesting equipment, including a multipurpose piece of equipment used not only for bog harvesting but also having a cutter head attachment for weed harvesting.

Navigator Team updates:

Wakes: Steven said people have been asking about status of State Legislature regarding wakes; currently all legislation is dead and further legislation will not be pursued until after the fall election. The Wakes Team is planning to meet and put together a simple five-question survey to send to Lake District members through the GWLPOA mailing list.

Safety: no report it was mentioned there is an upcoming class in June.

Fish Stocking: Tom has observed very few carp on the lake, and no carp netting has been done because it is not productive for the netters. The DNR will be stocking Whitewater Lake with walleye, perch and crappies.

Goose Round up: Ernie reported on the 2024 roundup.

Old Business: Summer newsletter dates: articles will be due by June 25th, and we will review them at our Board meeting on July 11th. Final articles are due to the printer by July 15th for delivery to homes by July 24th 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Dan spoke with both Brad Corson and Don Olinger regarding the three-person audit committee mentioned in our bylaws. Dan recommends amending the bylaws to indicate a two-person financial review team, matching our practice. Dan will work with Steve on wording.

At 7:28 PM Carol made a motion to adjourn to closed session per WI 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility and per WI 10.85(1)(e) to deliberate the purchase of public property. The motion was seconded by Jerry and passed with a roll call vote with affirmative votes from Carol Ducommun, Chuck Chamberlain, Rich Charts, Dan Berg, and Jerry Grant; Jon Tanis abstained from voting.

8:05PM open session resumed following a unanimous rollcall vote in closed session of all members present at that time.

Jerry made a motion to proceed as discussed in closed session seconded by Dan; motion carried unanimously.

Other Business: N/A

Next meeting Date: July 11, 2024.

Adjournment: Rich made a motion to adjourn @ 8:08 PM; Jerry seconded; all in favor motioned carried unanimously; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Donna Sherman, Clerk