

Mid Lake Protection and Management District

Board Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2022
5:30 p.m. CST
Virtual (Zoom)

Board of Commissioners

Present: Joe Pilarski, Barb Coulter Smith, Robert Grant, Andy Bullock, Mike Timmons, and Jim Winkler

Not present: Scott Bullock.

Joe Pilarski called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Agenda

The agenda was reviewed by the quorum. The meeting commenced accordingly.

Weed Harvester Report

Ed Bruner is no longer driving the weed harvester. Joe has learned how to drive the harvester and Ed Zell is another additional driver. There were no issues removing the weed harvester from the lake at the end of the season. Shane cleaned the harvester and stored it for the winter.

The Onterra grant runs out at the end of 2022. The did not find any large pockets of invasive weeds in the lake. Intercept surveys will be continued. Robert feels that it is best to conduct intercept surveys for CLP be early in the season (May if possible) and Eurasian milfoil all year. There was a survey done in June of 2022. Joe will speak with Onterra and Aquatic Plant Management about having an early season survey.

Mike asked about reapplying for the grant. Joe recalled that the grant was already extended, and additional extensions were not possible. New grant applications have a 7/1/2023 application deadline.

MLMPD Comprehensive Management Plan

Joe mentioned that lake management plan was finalized in October 2022 and will be uploaded to website. Robert mentioned that it has been a long process (over 2 years) with contributions from Chris McCann, Kelly Hugget, Barb, Andy, and Robert. The plan provides how we should move forward. Specifically mentioning:

- Section 4. Key Objectives, 6 invasive species were found. Collect sociological information from lake members (stakeholders) to understand the priorities.
- Implementation plan. Number of goals focused on education communication, and recommendation to participate in annual Wisconsin lakes and rivers convention
- Page 105

Robert volunteered to lead effort to keep this a living and breathing document and continue to communicate with stakeholders. The does not have to be led by a board member.

Jim provided that the Conservation department has several resources available. He mentioned that Stephanie Boismanue (County AIS specialist) as a resource and she will also be a presenter at their (Jim's) annual meeting. The use canoeing/kayaking around the lake as an educational tool.

It is important to having a management goal around the overall health of the lake and to keep a focus on the quality of the water.

Shoreline conditions along with restoration is also important.

Goal 6: Maintain navigability of the lake.

Now that we have a plan, we need to do a better job carrying this forward into action on the lake. How do we move this forward with the stakeholders? Should a subcommittee be created?

Andy made a motion made to create an education subcommittee as outlined in the management plan and for Robert to serve as its chair. Motion seconded by Barb. Passed unanimously. Barb, Andy, Joe, and Scott volunteered to serve on committee. Effort will be made at annual meeting to bring in more participants.

Jim provided more information on conservation (Michele Sadauskas, the county conservationist)

Expenses Review

Joe listed an extensive list of expenses related to Grant Mid Lake AIS Control & Prevention Project. He asked if there were any expenses not listed. No expenses were mentioned. Barb and Joe will work together on reimbursement of expenses within six months.

Robert wants to use the next six months to work on a new DNR grant and strengthen our relationship with the DNR. Robert and Joe will work together to strengthen DNR relationships. We need a Lake Management Plan to apply for grants and now we have one.

Wakeboard Ordinance

The Town of Woodruff recently passed an ordinance to combat wake surfing on Mid Lake. Mike informed the group that a boater cannot create a wake of more than 2 feet within 700' of the shoreline. Mike used a map to illustrate this. This is specific to wake surfing, not wake boarding, waterskiing, nor tubing.

Mike also mentioned that this was brought up by Ed Bruner. Robert suggested we post a sign that Mid Lake is a shallow lake and wake surfing could damage boat and/or prop.

Mike also mentioned that this is a common sense enforcement. Obviously, some boats generate large wakes when getting up to speed. Boats do not have to get 700' from shore before accelerating.

Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention

The convention will be held in Steven's Point on April 19-21 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center. Chris McCann went last year. Ideally, a board member should try to attend this year. Both Barb and Joe will try to attend if possible.

Next Meeting

Tentatively the next meeting will be on either 2/21/23 or 2/22/23 at 5:30 CST.

Adjourn

After the agenda was completed, Joe moved to adjourn the meeting. Robert seconded the motion and meeting was adjourned.

Minutes recorded by Scott Bullock, Secretary.
