



Volume 32, Number 2, August 2018
www.wlmd.org

THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING

Will be held Thursday September 13 at the Norway Town Hall. The meeting will begin promptly at 7 pm. All residents and landowners are encouraged to attend. Annual meetings are always very important, with a number of votes taken on various issues. The proposed budget for the year, the agenda and the minutes from the 2017 meeting are included in this newsletter.

Aquatic Plants (Weeds): Milfoil is less of a problem in 2018, but is still the dominant plant in the NE part of the lake. Curly-leaf pondweed, which dies off in mid-summer, was much more prevalent than last year. Native plants are abundant, covering much of the lakebed. Some of the native plants, like Chara, continue to be abundant and can cause a problem for boaters near shore.

Invasive Species: We are trying to contain the highly invasive aquatic plant called Starry stonewort (*Nitellopsis obtusa*). Starry stonewort (SSW) was found in Wind Lake in August 2017. Big Muskego and Little Muskego in Waukesha County, Long Lake (Ke-Nong-Go-Mong Lake) in Racine County, and Silver Lake and Pike Lake in Washington County, and around the entire Door County peninsula. The invasive is also in at least two lakes in Minnesota. It is still too early to tell how well herbicide treatments will work in Wind Lake, but this summer we are using a \$100,000 grant to try to reduce the problem and prevent it from moving into all the shallow shoreline areas.

Algae: Filamentous algae is a slimy mat-type algae that accumulates along the shorelines. Nitrogen levels in runoff fuels filamentous algae growth early in the season. Filamentous algae was more of a problem this year.

Weed Chemical Treatment: We have conducted a couple of chemical treatments this year, targeting

navigational areas. The high water and rainy, windy weather has caused complications with getting treatments done. All treatments are done under supervision of the DNR. We take every effort to open up areas when allowed. Treatments can only be conducted when either invasive species are present, or when a nuisance condition exists. A nuisance condition is interpreted as plant growth that interferes with lake use.

Harvesting: As of the end of July, there has been one harvesting so far. The harvester focused on making sure navigational lanes were open for boaters, and cutting the milfoil and curly-leaf.

Road-side Weed Pick-up: The road-side weed pick-up program continued this summer to give landowners a place to go with the raked lake plant debris. Because the amount of invasive weeds continued to be down this year, the amount of roadside weeds picked up was also low early in the summer. Although the board initially decided to discontinue the pickups, heavy floating plants in late August and September led to the program being re-instated. Pickups are done once a month.

Goose Control: No goose control roundup was conducted this year because on a couple dozen were found, below the minimum needed for control. Goose control will continue next summer.

Boat Inspection: The WLMD partnered with the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Wisc. Power Squadron conducted the boat inspections. Nineteen vessels were inspected and awarded safety decals, 9 vessels refused the inspection, 5 vessels failed the inspection, no registration on board was the major reason.

MINUTES - Annual Meeting Sept 7, 2017

Present: R. Mohr, B. Rosenquist, J. Marks, R. Schopp, K. Aron, J. Bellante, and approx. 100 residents.

J. Bellante called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Introductions of the board were made.

The 2016 Annual Meeting minutes were approved as printed.

An update on the past year's activities was given, including:

- Voting: K. Aron discussed voting eligibility. Anyone who owns property in the District, is listed on the tax roll, or is a legal voter and living in the District is eligible. State law does not allow absentee or proxy votes.
 - Lake Level: Wind Lake had high water levels until July 30. The dam was open until July 30 and it has been closed since. There has been minimal rains since the end of July. A report from Julie Anderson, from Racine County and the County's dam engineer, there has been no complaints or questions from any land owners about the dam. There is a display showing the water levels of the entire system, along with informational materials to read. The Wind Lake dam controls the water level in Wind Lake. The Rochester dam controls the water level in the Fox River up to the Waterford dam, as well as the water level in the Wind Lake canal below the Wind Lake dam. Everyone is encouraged to review the provided materials.
 - Little Muskego is drawing down their lake by up to 7 feet. The test drawdown will see if Starry stonewort can be controlled by freezing. Some lab work showed it was affected by freezing. Wind Lake levels will be maintained normally during the drawdown. The Little Muskego drawdown must be complete by October 1.
 - Plant Management: Starry stonewort was found in Wind Lake August 15th. Display maps show where it has been found in Wind Lake. It is primarily in the 4 to 9 foot depths, much deeper than other lakes where it has been found in the 0 to 4 foot depths. Based on the directives of previous Annual Meetings, we are waiting for approval from DNR to treat the almost 50 acres found in the NE part of the lake. Five isolated SSW patches were treated August 30. The plant survey and maps were completed very quickly to provide the information needed by DNR.
- A question was raised about how much money will the board spend to control/deal with this. The board is very concerned about cost effective approaches to all plant management, including for SSW. The board has to live within the budget that the annual meeting approves. Long term plans to deal with this haven't yet been developed - this was literally found three weeks ago. SSW is now found in many states, and continues to spread in Wisconsin. Lake users are asked to please clean your boats and equipment between lakes. Milfoil growth was down again this summer. Curly-leaf pondweed growth was also down.
- Chemical Treatments: There have been two treatments this summer other than the SSW treatment, primarily to maintain navigational access.
 - Harvesting: Approximately 130 hours of harvesting was done on Wind Lake for \$29,000.
 - Roadside Weed Pickup: Once a month pickups have been done this year since the end of May. Two more pickups will be done the end of Sept and the end of October.
 - Geese: The roundup was done in 2017. A total of 53 geese, 14 adults and 39 juveniles, were removed. The processed meat was given to a food pantry and wild animal reserve.
 - The water quality of Wind Lake is out of the eutrophic (high nutrients) range and into the mesotrophic range. This is what the district has been trying to achieve since its inception and the development of the first lake plan. The USGS continues to monitor the water quality throughout the year. The clarity is now very clear, ranging from 9 to 15 feet in 2015, and 12 to 15 feet in 2016 and 9 to 15 feet in 2017. The phosphorus level averaged approx. 27 mg/L, almost exactly our water quality goal. The alum treatment is continuing to have a very good impact on the quality of the lake.
- J. Bellante asked Richard Mohr to approach the board. J. Bellante gave a brief history of R. Mohr's service to Wind Lake, in both creating the District and serving on the board for many years. The meeting thanked him for his service.
- A brief presentation from the Wind Lake Fireworks committee was given. The group answered questions from the residents and wanted input from the WLMD community about support for the project. A motion was made to approve a WLMD charge \$25 per lakefront landowner to give the fireworks committee

the fireworks was seconded. Residents spoke about the issue with most questioning why WLMD would be involved. On the vote, the motion was defeated.

J. Bellante read the Budget Resolution 1-2017. There was a motion to approve the Resolution, a 2nd and the motion carried, approving the budget as presented.

G. Bellante is up for re-election as commissioner. J. Bellante called for nominations from the floor. M. Bluemel was nominated for the position. The two candidates were asked to give a short presentation of themselves and why they are seeking the position. After the vote, M. Bluemel was elected to the board for a three year term.

The 2018 Annual Meeting date will either be the 1st or 2nd Thursday in September, depending on the Green Bay Packers schedule.

J. Bellante asked if there was any other business to come before the meeting. A resident asked to have the police removed from the lake. The lake patrol is the responsibility of the Town of Norway. A resident asked about the property next to the boat launch. Right now the property is a staging area for the district and its contractors. The evaluation of the need for the property should be brought to the board meetings to develop possible courses of action.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES

History has shown us that once invasive species are present in a lake, it is pretty much impossible to completely eradicate it. So prevention is the key:

- Don't move your boat and fishing equipment from lake to lake without thoroughly decontaminating it.
- Remove all plant fragments from your boat, trailer, anchor ropes, live wells, etc.
- Dump all your bilge water when leaving a lake.
- Do not transport fish in water. Dump all water and put your fish on ice.
- Flush your motor cooling system between lakes.
- Keeping your boat and equipment dry docked for a week will help prevent spreading invasives.
- Try to avoid launching into a lake with a "dirty" boat launch, one that has lots of weed fragments floating around.
- Check out the Wisconsin DNR website for more information on Clean Boats.

ADDRESSES ON PIERS

Please consider putting your house numbers on the end of your pier so they are visible from the lake. This will greatly help with the plant management on the lake, making it easier for the contractors to find specific areas.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Who is eligible to vote: Anyone of legal voting age, who owns property, or lives within the boundaries of the Wind Lake Management District.

Can I get an absentee ballot or can I designate a proxy: No. Because of the way state law governing lake district's is written, one must be present to vote at a lake district annual meeting.

Can the annual meeting change our taxes without us knowing in advance: Yes. Under current state law, residents present at the meeting have the right to modify the tax and budget without prior notice to property owners.

My neighbor lives in Illinois-he can't vote: Yes he can. Lake districts are the only form of government in Wisconsin to allow a non-resident (as long as they own property in the lake district) to vote or hold office.

NEW DREDGING RULES IN WISCONSIN

DNR is now accepting applications for general permits for small-scale dredging projects. The new general permit streamlines the approval process.

This process allows waterfront property owners to remove small volume amounts of lake bed to improve navigation or recreation. The permit is valid for 5 years and allows up to 25 cubic yards to be removed in eligibility criteria and conditions are met.

These permits are not available for areas that have been designated Sensitive Areas or Areas of Special Natural Resource Interest.

Permit applications must be submitted online. Go to DNR.wi.gov and search for "dredging permit".

8/16/2018	2018/2019 PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET					
	A	B	C	D	E	F
	REVENUE	2015/2016 Actual	2016/2017 Actual	2017/2018 Proposed	2017/2018 Actual	2018/2019 Proposed
1	Special Charges & Assessments	127,376	132,132	126,530	133,994	128,000
2	Grants		6,658	8,878	0	93,471
3	Loan Rcts/Payments - alum	21,379	20,167	17,624	19,107	16,234
4	Property Transfer Fee	540	870	500	1,520	1,000
5	Interest	197	248	100	286	200
	Total Revenue	149,492	160,075	153,632	154,906	238,905
	EXPENSES					
6	Meetings/seminars	1,377	1,144	2,500	1,412	2,500
7	Postal Expenses	1,427	1,206	1,500	1,184	1,500
8	Office Equip/Maint.		404	100	146	150
9	Office	140	157	300	378	300
10	Phone/Faxes	453	497	500	563	575
11	Publications	253	754	275	429	500
12	Insurance	1,218	1,249	1,500	1,354	2,000
13	Print/Publishing	1,259	993	1,500	1,402	1,500
14	Mileage/per diem	4,825	4,733	4,800	4,799	4,800
15	Misc	324	543	400	322	400
16	Website	599	3,034	1,200	779	1,200
17	Secy, Tech supp., DP	8,844	8,844	9,600	9,604	9,600
18	Attorney		90	1,000	0	1,000
19	Accountant	525		600	525	1,500
20	Weed Control	total 27363	19,854	78,000		138,603
21	- harvesting & roadside pickup	12,355	11,240		31,475	² 10,700
22	- Chem Treatment	11,108	3,664		14,404	² 3,275
23	- Starry Stonewort expenses	2,100				² 124,628
24	Aquatic Plant Survey/Plan (Harv Permit)		0	14300	11,850	³ 0
25	Engineer. Erosion	0				
26	USGS	9,257	18,995		0	⁴ 10,000
27	Fish Survey/carp removal					
28	Goose Control	2,516	1,324	3,000	2,201	3,000
29	Land Maintenance-Properties	800	800	2,400	1,946	2,400
30	Contingency		0	4,000	0	4,000
31	Emergency Action		0	4,000	0	4,000
32	Non-lapsing State Fund loan payments					
	26220 S Wind Lk Rd	15,188	15,188	15,188	15,188	¹ 15,188
	Alum Treatment	36,350	36,350	36,350	36,350	¹ 36,350
33	Dam Operation	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
	Total Expenses	117,718	137,064	174,713	142,312	247,066
	Notes:					
						¹ Amounts cannot be reduced: irrevocable tax approved at 2010 Ann. Mtg.
						² Provided for informational purposes- see Line 20 for total plant control
						³ Must be done every 5 years to get a harvesting permit
						⁴ 2017-2018 charge paid already.
	Checking acct balances June 30, 2018	20,462				
	Money mkt acct balance June 30, 2018	172,084				
	Dam operation account June 30, 2018	1,036				
	AIS Summit account June 30, 2018	closed				
	Total available funds	193,583				
	Debt balance- property loan (110,000)	11,853				
	Debt balance- Alum loan (300,000)	101,349				

ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING AGENDA - WLMD
Thursday September 13, 2018 at 7 pm Norway Town Hall

Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions - Board Members, Guests

Approve Minutes of 2017 Annual Meeting

Project Update - A review of 2018 and plans for 2019

Budget Hearing and Approval - Resolution 1-2018:

Whereas the Board of Commissioners has proposed the enclosed budget for the WLMD for the year July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019;

And Whereas, notice of the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting was provided to residents and landowners;

And Whereas, the Board has proposed the annual special charge be assessed at \$220 lakefront, \$130 canal and \$90 off lake;

And Whereas, the Board recommends the projects presented herein;

And Whereas, the 1997 annual meeting gave the Board authority for short term borrowing to cover grant reimbursements not yet received;

And Whereas, the 2010 Annual Meeting approved the levy of irrevocable taxes to repay the State Loans;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the projects included in the budget, as may be amended by the Annual Meeting, are hereby approved;

Be It Further Resolved, that the WLMD is authorized to bill property owners as directed by the Annual Meeting;

Be It Further Resolved, that the WLMD board is authorized to apply for available grants;

Be It Further Resolved, that the authorization for short term borrowing to cover grant reimbursements not yet received is continued through this budget year;

Be It Further Resolved, that the WLMD board shall take swift, and immediate action if / when invasive species are found in Wind Lake;

Be It Further Resolved, that the special charges approved by this Resolution shall be payable from July 1, 2018 to October 1, 2018 at which time unpaid special charges will be placed on the December 2018 tax rolls and will **include a \$20 surcharge.**

Election of Commissioner – Current board member Jim Mark's term is up for re-election. Nominations from the floor are welcome.

Set date for 2019 Annual Meeting - First or Second Thursday of September (Depending on Packer Schedule)

New Business

Adjourn

A Board of Commissioners meeting will be held immediately following the Annual Meeting to elect officers. The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2018, at the Norway Town Hall.

WIND LAKE WEBSITE/EMAIL

www.wlmd.org
info@wlmd.org

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Lake District Line	514-3238
Jim Marks	895-7872
Joe Bellante	895-6694
Ralph Schopp	414-531-6020
Bruce Rosenquist	895-3942
Mike Bluemel	895-2502

Commissioners meetings are usually held the 4th Thursday of every month, with the November and December meeting combined. Meetings begin at 7:00 pm at the Norway Town Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Note that meetings may be rescheduled: check the website for the latest information.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you do, check out our website. The site has:

- Meetings, schedules, agendas, and minutes
- Information about who to contact for various activities.
- Links to other lake-related sites
- Information about who to contact for various activities
- The latest lake depth map of Wind Lake
- Other special notices as needed are also posted on the site.

You can also send an email to info@wlmd.org. You will be put on a list to receive meeting notices and updates. If you do provide your email address to us, please be aware that your address then becomes part of our formal records. Then we have to provide them to someone making a request under the Open Records laws.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Wind Lake Management District
30910 Royal Hill Rd.
Burlington, WI 53105