

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 2, AUGUST 2010

THE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING AND BUDGET HEARING

Will be held Thursday **September 9, 2010** at the Norway Town Hall. The meeting will begin promptly at 7:30 pm. All residents and landowners are encouraged to attend. This will be a very important meeting, with a number of votes taken on various issues.

The proposed budget, the agenda and the minutes from the 2009 meeting are included in this newsletter.

Alum Funding Vote: The Board is recommending that the alum treatment be done only upon receipt of a grant. However, there will be a separate vote taken on whether or not an alum treatment should be done on Wind Lake in spring 2011. An alum treatment will minimize the amount of nutrients in the lake and greatly reduce the large algae mats. The last alum treatment resulted in a significant decline in algae for more than 12 years. The District was denied a grant in 2010 which would have paid for up to 75% of the project.

To conduct an alum treatment without a grant, the District will have to take out a loan. Property owners can decide between a 5-year payment plan, or a ten-year payment plan.

Property Location	Total Cost	5-year plan \$ each year	10-year plan \$ each year
Lakefront	\$750	\$165	\$100
Canal	\$200	\$42	\$25
Off Lake	\$100	\$22	\$15

These charges would be in addition to the current annual charges.

Weed Treatment: The wild celery problem has now increased to the point that most residents have significant amounts of floating plant debris that blocks their ability to use the lake. The board is investigating the costs and issues associated with harvesting, as well as road-side weed pick-up programs to help landowners deal with the plants.

Wild celery is a native plant that naturally lifts from the sediments in mid-July through August and floats around. This is one way the plants spread. The floating plants are collecting on shorelines around the lake. These floating piles were not caused by the harvester. The harvester removed more than 25 truckloads in late July-more than has been removed in a long time.

Land Acquisition: In June, the District finalized the purchase of land next to the boat launch. There are NO plans to expand the DNR boat launch. The District will remove the house on the property soon. Funds to install a gravel driveway are included in the proposed budget so that plant management equipment can be launched when the boat launch is unavailable. No other development/use plans are being considered at this time. The District purchased the property to protect the ability to conduct lake management activities. The heavy lake use at the boat launch has made it difficult to launch harvesting equipment and chemical treatment boats.

The property is NOT open to use by the public or by lake district residents.

Boat Launch: Every year the board is asked why we don't charge for the use of the boat launch. When fees are charged on sites that are owned by DNR, the fees can't be used for general expenses of the District, but can only be used for direct costs associated with the site.

The Wind Lake boat launch is owned by DNR. DNR owns, and maintains, the site. For this boat launch, the District would negotiate a contract with DNR. The contract would require the District to pay for all operation costs and maintenance of the site as needed. The last large scale maintenance of the site cost almost \$300,000.

The board continues to monitor the use of the site, and costs associated with the maintenance. However, based on current launch use, and the costs associated with the site, it would not be in the financial interest of the District to enter into such an agreement,

**ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING AGENDA
WIND LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

Thursday September 9, 2010 7:30 pm Norway Town Hall

Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions - Board Members, Guests

Approve Minutes of 2009 Annual Meeting

Project Update - A review of 2010 and plans for 2011.

Alum Treatment: Discussion and voting on two funding options to conduct an alum treatment to minimize algae in Wind Lake (see article on page 1 for details)

Land Improvements for 26220 S Wind Lake Rd.

Weed problems

Budget Hearing and Approval - Resolution 1-2010

Whereas the Board of Commissioners has proposed the enclosed budget for the WLMD for the year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011;

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

And Whereas, the Board recommends that the annual special charge continue to be assessed at \$120 lakefront, \$80 canal and \$55 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 Board wants to refinance the land acquisition loan to save interest costs;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the projects included in the budget and/or approved through separate votes at this meeting are hereby approved;

Be It Further Resolved, that the WLMD is authorized to bill property owners as recommended by the Board;

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 is authorized to apply for funds from the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (WBCPL) to repay the land acquisition loan;

Be It Further Resolved, that the WLMD approves the levy of an irrevocable tax to repay the loan;

Be It Further Resolved, that the special charges approved by this Resolution shall be payable from July 1, 2011 to October 1, 2011 at which time unpaid special charges will be placed on the December 2010 tax rolls and will include a \$7 surcharge.

Election of Commissioner – Jeff Shook is nominated by the Board for a 3 year term. Nominations from the floor are welcome.

Set date for 2011 Annual Meeting: Thursday September 8, 2011

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 28, 2011, at the Norway Town Hall.

MINUTES - Wind Lake Management District Annual Meeting - Sept 10, 2009

Jim Marks called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and introduced the board members. Board members present: J. Marks, R. Mohr, R. Schopp, J. Bellante and M. Benish. Also present: K. Aron and approx 60 residents. The minutes were approved as printed.

The 2009 projects were discussed:

- The water quality monitoring continues to be done by the US Geological Survey.
- The goose removal was conducted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Over 80 geese were removed. The program will continue into 2010.
- Harvesting (2 times) and chemical treatments were done on Wind Lake. The budget will continue to include funds for harvesting, chemical treatments, and land acquisition to ensure access for equipment.
- Chemical treatments in late June and July were denied by DNR because they indicated a presence of blue-green algae. WLMD conducted tests at Cornell University that showed there was almost no risk, but DNR would not reconsider.
- Carp were removed this year - the most ever in one year. The carp averaged 18-inches.
- The annual audit report was conducted and is available for review.
- The Town has a no-phosphorus fertilizer ordinance to prevent nutrients from washing off lawns into the lake.
- The board reported on the progress of purchasing an easement or property to obtain permanent access for harvesting and other lake projects.

An upcoming Alum Treatment was discussed. Two options were presented by the Board.

Option 1 - Apply for a grant. Only do on our own if not successful in getting the grant.

Option 2 - Don't wait for a grant.

The alum treatment done in 1997 needs to be repeated as soon as possible to help maintain water clarity and to minimize algae blooms. K. Aron reported what was involved with grants and will apply for a grant to assist with the \$300,000 cost. J. Bluemel motion to apply for a grant aggressively, second by A. Anderson. Discussion followed. An amendment was offered by motion and seconded to conduct the grant in 2010 anyway if the grant application is unsuccessful. The vote on the amendment failed. The vote on the original motion to proceed aggressively was passed.

The Board then presented two questions on Advisory Votes to direct the WLMD Board actions as it proceeds with negotiations with the Norway Dover Drainage District:

Question: 2009-A Should the WLMD negotiate with Racine County **to turn over** the operation of the Wind Lake dam to the Norway Dover Drainage District?

Question: 2009-B: Should the WLMD negotiate with Racine County **to take over** the operation of the Wind Lake dam?

A. Anderson motioned to direct WLMD to negotiate joint operation with NDDD, with insurance that indemnifies the County, with operation as the Board sees fit, 2nd by B. Mohr, motion approved with 1 no vote.

The Budget Hearing portion of the annual meeting was opened by J. Marks. The budget resolution 1-2009 was read. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget. Discussion included the amount of late fees for all properties whose payments are posted to the tax rolls. A motion to amend the Resolution to change all fees to \$7.00 was made by J. Geboy. The motion was seconded and approved. Other budget discussion included explaining the funding of the lawsuits. Funds are being temporarily transferred from the land acquisition line into the court case line. All unused funds will be returned to the land acquisition line. The lawsuits are not expected to use much of the land acquisition funds. The motion was carried - the budget was approved as amended.

The election was held. Since the chairman was up for re-election, J. Marks turned over control of the meeting to J. Bellante. The Board nominated J. Marks for another term. After three calls for nominations, a motion to close nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot was seconded, and approved. J. Marks will serve a three year term.

The 2010 annual meeting date was discussed. Sept 9, 2010 was selected.

Under New Business, residents asked about the eel grass which is increasing dramatically. The Board is trying to manage it, but it is considered a "good" weed. Information about the status of NR115, a new shoreline law was provided. A question was raised about charging at the boat launch. Another resident mentioned that the lake patrol was very rude during a Veterans event held on the lake. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

YOU CAN HELP

Wind Lake, as well as all the lakes in Southeast Wisconsin, are at risk. More exotic species are closer than ever to entering the lake. Threats include the new fish virus, rusty crayfish, and hydrilla, just to name a few. Be extra careful to clean your boat and trailer whenever you use it in another lake. This will help keep them out of Wind Lake. Many of the exotics species often can't be removed once they are in the lake, so prevention is key! Please do your part.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jim Marks	895-7872
Mike Benish	514-3238
Richard Mohr	895-7927
Joe Bellante	895-2909
Ralph Schopp	414-531-6020
Lake District Line	514-3238

Commissioners meetings are usually held the 4th Thursday of every month. The November and December meetings are combined and is held the Thursday after Thanksgiving. Meetings begin at 7:30 pm at the Norway Town Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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