

**KIRBY LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 603, CUMBERLAND, WI 54829**

**DRAFT MINUTES FOR QUARTERLY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
May 25, 2013, 1:00 pm, at Maple Plain Town Hall**

**Kirby Lake District
Commissioners**

Mr. Stu Ketz
Chair

Ms. Gloria Meyer
Treasurer

Mr. Dan Boxrud
Secretary

Mr. Ron Stewart
At Large

Mr. John Schultz
At Large

Ms. Thelma Johnson
Maple Plain

Mr. Don Horstman
Barron County

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** at 1:00 by Ketz
- II. COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Ketz, Meyer, Boxrud, Stewart, Schultz, Johnson
- III. COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Horstman
- IV. GUESTS:** Dave Blumer, SEH; Holly Joseph of the Dummy Lakes Management District Board; Kirby Lake district members Bob Lissick, Bob Busby, Joel Meyer, Claudia Schmidt-Dannert, Ralf Schmidt-Dannert, Bill Lechner, Steve Rubenzer, Dvae Andreasen, Joyce Andreasen, Colleen Doolittle, Tim Doolittle, Kevin Bohland, Chris Bohland
- V. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 - A. Aquatic Plant Management Plan input**

1. Presentation by Dave Blumer on content of updated Plan: Dave Blumer noted that the APM Plan was initially requested by the WDNR as a condition for issuing the harvesting permit for the reed canary grass in 2011. Subsequent work includes the plant survey by Endangered Resource Services, the clean boats/clean waters inspections by district members, AIS monitoring by district members, and input and education at various district meetings, all of which led to development of the actual plan. Dave Blumer presented an updated Power Point presentation based on WDNR feedback on the plan which had been submitted for review. One change since the Board approved the plan in March was a change back to 3' as the minimum allowable water depth in which we could do plant harvesting. Dave emphasized that the WDNR wants a lot of public education and input on the plan content and how an APM Plan is used. Dave noted the plan recommendations of installing a staff gauge to measure water levels, installing a rain gauge, and possible supplying weed razors for loan to district members. Probably the most pertinent question the district must answer is whether to harvest nuisance native plants and, if so, whether to contract for the services or purchase and operate a harvester. Owning a harvester allows for great flexibility on when we could harvest plants. On the other hand, the capital cost of buying (\$45,000 to \$65,000), maintaining and operating a harvester is quite high compared to the cost of once annually hiring a contractor to harvest 20' wide navigation channels and 10' wide dock access lanes (\$2,000 to \$8,000). It was noted that the county land could possibly be used for a temporary storage site for harvested plants. Blumer will post the updated plan on the SEH client access site.

- 2. Input solicited from membership**
 - a. Content of Plan including harvesting options:** Bill Lechner asked Dave Blumer about the "high sensitivity" noted for our plant varieties. Dave said sensitivity is a good sign of a diverse plant mix that isn't being disturbed. Bob Lissick asked Dave Blumer how confident he was that harvesting as proposed would not affect water quality. Blumer was very confident because less than 5% of the lake is proposed for harvesting and then only a few feet deep. Chris Bohland asked when the best time to harvest

is. Dave answered normally in late June, but maybe later this year since the growing season got such a late start. Holly Joseph noted that the Dummy Lakes Management District conducted a detailed financial analysis of harvesting costs. They found that, even with a 40% recreational facilities grant towards purchase of a harvester, the operating cost including operations, maintenance and labor would be about \$22 per hour. She also noted that area farmers like the harvested plants. Joel Meyer offered a harvesting option of a lower cost powered system mounted on a pontoon that only cuts, with collection of cut plants done manually by people in a second boat. Chris Bohland offered the idea of collaborating with other lake districts on hiring a contractor to harvest several lakes. It was noted that any option other than a purchased harvester dedicated to Kirby Lake involved risk of spreading AIS with the harvester, although we have a similar risk now with the boat launch. Bob Lissick expressed concern that we would use funds originally dedicated to Eurasian Water-Milfoil removal for nuisance native plant harvesting. Dave Blumer noted that the WDNR offers emergency financial support of AIS removal now, which probably wasn't the case when the fund was established. Joyce Andreasen and several others recommended that the Board approve the APM Plan.

b. **Discussion of plant harvesting for 2013:** Not specifically discussed when district members were in attendance. Since we need APM Plan approval before a harvesting permit would be approved, there seemed to be consensus that pursuit of a harvesting permit for this year didn't seem viable.

B. Volunteer needed to host annual picnic on July 6: Ron Stewart volunteered. He asked approval from the Board to have a portable toilet delivered for the day at District expense so guests would be inclined to stay longer. Ketz moved that the Board agree to cover this \$68 cost. Meyer seconded. All ayes.

C. Annual meeting date for 2014: other than July 4th "weekend"? It was agreed to put this on the annual meeting agenda.

D. Other None

VI. APPROVE MINUTES

A. March 2, 2013 meeting Meyer moved approval, Stewart seconded, all ayes.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Aquatic Plant Research Committee Nobody in attendance.

B. Nominating Ketz reported that Joel Meyer has enough nominees.

C. AIS monitoring Boxrud reported that all monitors from last year had again volunteered for this year.

D. County Highway H clean up The first clean-up was this morning.

E. Clean Boats/Clean Waters monitoring Meyer reported that through today we will have 39 hours logged against a commitment of 80 hours by the end of

June. The weather has discouraged commitment to this task. Volunteers are continuing to commit to future dates.

VIII. CHAIR REPORTS: None

IX. TREASURER'S REPORT: Meyer's report covered most of these topics. Johnson moved approval of the treasurer's report, Schultz seconded, all ayes.

A. Bills paid since last report

B. Bills to be paid Meyer asked approval to pay for postage and photocopying costs. Ketz moved, Johnson seconded, all ayes.

C. Status of investments

D. Status of funds

X. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Updated Aquatic Plant Management Plan approval Meyer moved approval of the plan as modified to meet WDNR approval comments, and that we pursue contracting for harvesting in 2014. Johnson seconded. All ayes.

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Township news Johnson reported that 6th St will be paved soon.

B. County news Horstman not in attendance.

C. Barrier condition status The signs need to be replaced before next winter.

D. Dock in/boat in feedback Due to the late spring, this coordinated effort did not happen.

E. Develop budget for consideration at July 6 Annual Meeting Meyer handed out a proposed budget which continues our \$3,965 calendar year tax levy. This is far less than a couple of years ago and slightly less than what had been levied for several years before that. The draft shows adequate funds for our various routine expenditures. It was agreed to increase the barrier budget to account for sign and possible pump rebuilding. The result will be routine expenditures being about \$1,000 higher than tax revenue, but our fund carryover is adequate to cover anticipated Lake Management and Protection needs. A final proposal will be sent to the Board before being submitted to the membership.

F. Review the books committee to report at Annual Meeting Meyer reported that we don't need an actual audit until next year, so a committee would suffice. After discussion, it was agreed Meyer will ask Bob Schmuck to review the books.

G. Develop agenda ideas for Annual Meeting Boxrud handed out a copy of last year's annual meeting agenda for review and updating. Boxrud will edit and send to the Board for comments prior to sending with the annual meeting notice.

H. Special Commissioners Meeting needed before July 6? It was agreed that we don't need another meeting prior to the annual meeting.

I. Other

XII. ADJOURN Meyer moved we adjourn, Johnson seconded. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 4:20.