

KNIFE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
July 17, 2021

Members Present: Kyle Hams, Jeff Suess, Terry Wells, Ray Ludowese, Ron Groebner, Chuck Hartl, Ed Hamlin

Members Absent: Kurt Seidel

Guests: Doug Sabinash, Rob Schloemer, Kevin & LuAnn Johnson

Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM by Kyle Hams. All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

The agenda was presented for Review/Approval, Additions/Changes. Ray Ludowese requested addition of new business item: resume from Bob Hecht for board position. Motion by Ray seconded by Terry Wells to approve agenda with addition. All ayes, motion carried.

The minutes from June 19 meeting were presented for review/approval/additions. Motion by Ray seconded by Jeff Suess to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

Payment of Bills. Ray presented the treasurer's report and bills to be paid. Correction: the amount to Chuck Hartl should be \$198.00 (not \$630.00). Motion by Ray seconded by Terry to pay bills with correction. All ayes, motion carried.

Terry presented a bill from Clark Aquatics for \$10,485 – the amount quoted for one spraying. He is waiting to hear back from them for correct amount to include all spraying and discount of \$920. Will wait to request payment until correct invoice is received.

Old Business:

Weeds – Terry reported that after spraying the weeds should have matted and then dropped within 7-14 days. That did not happen. AIS consulting confirmed a good job was not done spraying for curly leaf. Either not enough treatment was applied, or some spots were missed. Spraying for curly leaf needs to be done in May, so it is too late now to do anything. Matt from Clark Aquatics has confirmed the second spraying for nuisance weed will be done on July 26, but probably will not penetrate down due to matting.

Kevin and LuAnn Johnson were present; they live on the south bay. They have talked with Audrey from DNR office. Received copies of permits from the DNR for previous years. They watched spraying; it was done on both sides of the dock and about ten yards out. Not in the center. They have filled out an application for Audrey to come and look at their site.

Kyle indicated this has been an especially bad year due to early ice-off, early heat and dry conditions. Lake was clear to eight feet in May. It needed to be sprayed early for it to have been effective. Ed Hamlin has had comments from members of the Sportsmen's Club about a floating bog and people being unable to access the main part of the lake.

Terry reviewed the number of acres sprayed and the products used. Johnsons indicated Matt mentioned a new product called Procellacor, which is supposed to last for three years. Ray indicated that of the 336

people who were assessed, 255 wanted to be sprayed this year (about 75%); that is up from about 200 last year. Many do not respond. Most of the remaining weeds are nuisance, not invasive.

There was discussion about harvesting weeds. This is done on some lakes, including Lake Minnetonka and Pokegama. Machines require maintenance and it is unknown what the DNR permits. Other questions: can we spray a whole bay? Would Audrey come to the annual meeting?

AIS – Kyle indicated he needs the bill for curly leaf spraying, amount of grant (\$4725 per Terry) and survey. Then he will turn them in to get reimbursement of about \$4800 from AIS.

Letter for annual meeting and proxy vote – Chuck reported the letter was mailed July 1. The letter indicated people have until August 1 to have their name added to the ballot and until August 9 for an absentee ballot. We have received one request to be added to the ballot. Jeff will get Bob Hecht's name to Diane to add to the ballot.

We are required to provide two notifications. It would require a change of the bylaws in order to change the method of notification from the newspaper to websites: Sportsmen's Club and Kanabec County. Many people look at Facebook. Ed will publish it in Lakelines. Ray will publish for next two editions of the newspaper.

Lake level reading – Jeff has been taking pictures of the lake level. A month ago, it was at 2.5 feet. Now it is at 2 feet. We do not know what the "normal" level is. Both Jeff and Kyle indicated the DNR has not been responding. They will continue to monitor and record. Just a "trickle" of water is coming over the dam.

Water monitoring – Kyle and Jeff get together for this. It was clear to 8 feet in May; then 2.2 feet in June. The information can be viewed on the website for RMD Laboratories under Lakes monitoring, then Kanabec County and Knife Lake. There is a lot of good information and links to the DNR and Fisheries.

Fair booth – previously Kyle sent out information to board members about helping at the AIS booth at the Kanabec County fair. This counts as in-kind hours to help offset the 10% bill we pay for AIS funding from the state.

Work project at dam – it is too hot for this type of work now. Will be done in September per Kyle.

Letter to state and tax exemption – Ray reported he is still waiting for a response from the state. We are an extension of the county. He received forms but they pertain to road maintenance, etc. Tax exempt was tabled.

New Business:

Order Garlon brush spray – Kyle requested that we approve ordering this now so we will have it for the project this fall. This product is approved for use near water. Motion by Chuck seconded by Jeff to order now. All ayes, motion carried.

Annual meeting – Ray reminded that the annual report needs to be submitted to the county within 4 months of the meeting. It needs to include financials, election results, dam inspection and efforts to control weeds. There was discussion about raising the assessment. Over the past five years there has been a decrease in donations and grants. The public would need to vote to approve an increase. This

would need to be done at the annual meeting for the following year. They would need to know what the increase would provide. It will be difficult to ask for an increase when weeds are so bad this year.

Kyle will add creel study update and fisheries report to the agenda. Two board positions will be open (Ron and Chuck). Others are willing to continue. Jeff will get name to Diane for ballot. Mail will need to be checked for any additional names.

Discussion:

Rob Schloemer received a letter from Kanabec County looking for someone willing to help with comprehensive plan. Gave letter to Kyle. Also wondered if emergency access plan has been updated. Ray indicated that it has been updated.

Adjournment:

Motion by Terry seconded by Ray to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue DeGolier

KLID Treasures Report

July 2021

Deposits:	\$	-0-
Invoices:		
Kanabec Publications Spray notification, envelopes	\$	91.13
Chuck Hartl Postage for annual mtg letter	\$	630.00
Kanabec County Mailing List & Mailing labels	\$	48.82
Sue DeGolier Admin support & Rush City Printing invoice	\$	490.38
Checkbook Balance As of 7-16-21	\$	143,297.41