

**KNIFE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 18, 2021**

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

Members Absent: Kurt Seidel

Guests: Doug Sabinash, Ron Duy – Central Minnesota Aquatics

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

Agenda was presented for Review/Approval, Additions/Changes. Motion by Terry Wells seconded by Kevin Johnson to approve agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes from the October 16 meeting were presented for review/approval, additions/changes. Motion by Jeff Suess seconded by Ed Hamlin to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

Payment of Bills. Ray Ludowese presented the treasurers report including invoices to be paid. Motion by Kyle seconded by Terry to pay bills as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Old Business:

AIS – Kyle reported AIS budget for 2022 is still unknown. They will probably hire two inspectors and will likely decide against a decontamination unit as little was found by inspectors this year. Kyle is trying to get KLID fully funded for AIS; we are the only group not fully funded. He anticipates more information by January.

Emergency Action Plan – Ray reported that work on the EAP is currently underway. Sue DeGolier was able to establish a process with Ryan Carda from Kanabec County Environmental Services to obtain contact information for parcel owners between the dam and Mora city limits. A letter has been sent to the property owners requesting response with phone number for emergency contact. The county does not maintain this information. Sue will add those phone numbers to the Excel sheet from the county and insert it into the EAP. Other phone numbers in the EAP will be verified, and changes made for two KLID board members (Chuck and Terry). Report will be dated 2021/2022. Sue received mailbox key from Ray and will check during his absence this winter.

Aerators – Ray indicated a plug needs to be changed on one, otherwise we are all set. Ray is certified and the permit has been approved. Announcement will need to be published.

Rosnow land – Prior to the meeting, Kyle forwarded an item to board members. This topic has previously been tabled by the board. Motion by Jeff Suess seconded by Terry to never bring the topic up again. All ayes: motion carried.

Special Assessment – Ray reported that the increase to assessment of property owners, which was approved at the Annual Meeting in August, has been sent to Kanabec County.

Weeds – moved to the end of the agenda to allow time for discussion. Terry introduced Ron Duy from Central Minnesota Aquatics out of Nissua. Terry indicated he began being responsible for weeds as a

board member in 2010. At that time curly leaf pond weed was bad in all the bays. Ron Duy started spraying at that time and has done a great job. 48 acres was the most sprayed. Terry invited Ron to the meeting to provide information and address questions. Discussion:

- Acreage to be sprayed is determined by DNR. If the organization has a grant, a third party needs to do a survey. If there is not a grant, Ron can do the survey.
- Ron has treated Knife Lake for over 30 years and is familiar with the trouble spots. He has a pattern for treatment based on the behavior of the weeds in the lake. Ron tries to keep requests consistent, treating different areas each year. A big increase raises red flags for the DNR; they think what you are doing is not working.
- The granting process with the DNR is now a lottery system.
- Ron always comes to the sites himself.
- If a third-party surveyor is involved, KLID will have to pay that individual (added expense).
- If the survey is done too early, not enough area shows a problem, and consequently is not approved by DNR for treatment.
- Kyle: How can we get more area sprayed? Can we do a second survey? Can only treat until June 1. If we find more – need to spray the next year?
- Ron thinks the company KLID used this year did the first survey and treatment too early. It was not accurate. The post survey was accurate. The company also clustered areas in need of treatment together, which increase the acreage needing to be sprayed.
- Maps of treatment areas for each permit are available; Terry will send to Kyle.
- Information about this should be posted to help property owners understand what is being done to try to address weed issues on the lake.
- The company used in 2021 did what KLID paid for, but it was not enough to effectively treat the weed problem.
- Ron explained how turions develop and fall to the bottom of the lake. They make layers, sprout, root, and keep sending up more plants. The key is to kill the turions before they drop. Should wait as long as you can before the end of May before treatment. Goal is to kill the turion and the plant. Treatments are not systemic: need to starve the roots. ***We should anticipate that next year there will be lots of turions from last year. We probably regressed from one to a few years in the treatment process. A lot of factors were involved including the weather.***
- The goal is to manage not eradicate(impossible) the weeds
- Kyle indicated KLID needs the following: increase acreage treated, post spray report for the following year, maps from spraying, and when do you (Ron) need to know our decision for 2022?
- Ron indicated he would have capacity to treat Knife Lake in 2022. He would need to know by January. Cost would be similar to the quote from last year: about \$735-750 per acre. At 40 acres that would be about \$30,000.
- The DNR expects to have twice the amount of grant money for 2022; they anticipate an increase in cost per acre.
- Terry indicate KLID will apply to DNR for a grant for 2022.

Action: Motion by Ray seconded by Kevin to move treatment of curly leaf pond weed for 2022 back to Central Minnesota Aquatic. All ayes: motion carried.

Further discussion: Prior discussion only applies to curly leaf pond weed. What about nuisance weed? Ron indicated he would honor the quote from 2021 which was about \$115 to \$125 per property owner.

The board indicated the treatment must be done mid-June. Water with high nutrient levels is coming into the lake via the river. Ron indicated the weeds become buoyant and drift. Herbicides are designed for contact; plants must be present to be effective.

Action: Board asked Ron to provide a quote for a first and second spraying for nuisance weed for the KLID board to review at the January meeting.

New Business:

The board was saddened to learn that county commissioner Gene Anderson died unexpectedly. Gene regularly attended KLID meetings and was a vital link between KLID and Kanabec County. His service was greatly appreciated, and he will be missed. The board recommends reaching out to Ricky Mattson and possibly Craig Smith for future representation at the KLID meetings. Kyle will reach out to them.

Adjournment: Motion by Ed seconded by Terry to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue DeGolier

KLID Treasures Report

Dec 2021

Deposits:

ECE – Dividend	\$	18.31
MCIT - Dividend	\$	457.00

Invoices:

Sue DeGolier Sec. Duties & Misc Supplies July-Dec 2021	\$	560.37
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First Citizens Checking Fee (Oct/Nov)	\$	8.00
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As of 12-17-21	\$	138,835.67
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KLID 2021-22 Financials

Revenues

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	August	Totals
Revenues from Assessments (County Taxes)													\$ -
Donations													\$ -
Grants (COLA)													\$ -
Interest Earned/Dividend				475.31									\$ 475.31
Misc.													\$ -
Totals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 475.31	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 475.31

Expenditures

AIS Consulting													\$ -
Central MN Aquatics, Inc (weed control)													\$ -
Crow's Nest Resort (stratips /supplies)													\$ -
Clark Aquatic Services, Inc. (weed control)													\$ -
East Central Energy													\$ -
First Citizens Bank													\$ -
Groebner, Ron	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00								\$ 16.00
Hartl, Chuck													\$ -
Hans, Kyle													\$ -
Debbie Johnson													\$ -
Kanabec Publications													\$ -
Knife Lake Sportsmans Club													\$ -
Kanabec County													\$ -
Lowe, Candace													\$ -
MN Counties Ins. Trust (Insurance)													\$ -
MN Unemployment Insurance Fund													\$ -
Secretary (Sue, DeGoller)				\$ 560.37									\$ 560.37
Ray Ludowese													\$ -
Misc/Supplies/Postage													\$ -
RMB Labs (Water Testing)													\$ -
Suess, Jeff													\$ -
Schloemer, Rob													\$ -
Schloemer, Kim													\$ -
Daniel Swanson (Weed Survey)													\$ -
Wells, Terry													\$ -
Post Office													\$ -
Totals	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 564.37	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 576.37

Total Cash Balance Knife Lake Fund (Sept 2021) \$ 138,936.71

Current Cash Balance \$ 138,835.65