

KNIFE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
March 20, 2021

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

Members Absent: Ray Ludowese

Guests: Gene Anderson, Gene Carda

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

The agenda was presented for review/approval, additions/changes. Kyle added an item to the new business: mailing to property owners about KLID. Motion by Chuck Hartl seconded by Kurt Seidel to approve agenda with addition. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes from 2-20-21 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Chuck, second by Kurt to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

Payment of Bills:

In Ray Ludowese's absence, Kyle presented printed treasurer's report and bill to be paid in amount of \$334.72 to Kanabec Publications for mailing regarding spraying for weeds. Motion by Kurt, seconded by Jeff Suess to pay bills. All ayes, motion carried.

Old Business:

Weeds and Grant – Terry

Mailing was sent to property owners on Knife Lake on March 10 regarding weed spraying for 2021. Ed Hamlin mentioned questions from he had received from recipients – where to mail it back was not clear, and what if three property owners get together to spray on their own? Could they “piggyback” with the sprayer? They would need a permit from the DNR. They would get the same as what we offer – so many feet around the deck and a path in and out; it is what is legally permissible. They would need a special permit for industrial strength chemicals. Otherwise, Aquacide is the only product they would be able to use.

Terry reported it looks like we will get a grant for about \$4,000. He asked that Ed include an item about Curly leaf weed spraying in the Lake News in April and May. Terry will put it in the local paper. There will be two sprayings this year.

Matt Swanson or representative will be invited to attend the April 17 KLID board meeting for a brief question and answer period and time for board to talk about special areas of concern.

Spraying needs to be done and signs taken down before July 4th. The earlier the better, while the weeds are young. The second spraying would be two weeks to a month after the first spraying. The weeds grow when there is sun and the weather warms up. Nuisance weed spraying is based on the weather.

Question raised whether the Sportsmen's Club would put in a fountain; Ed indicated not this year due to finances.

A pre and post inspection needs to be done by a person other than the sprayer (at a price of about \$1300)

Easement – In Ray’s absence, Kyle reported this is still a work in progress. Rick Mattson is checking into the old easement. There has been no response from the owners to the letter sent by KLID.

Aerators and Fisheries – Chuck reported there have been two oxygen level readings this year; both have been good. They may come again, but the ice is thawing. There is always some winter kill.

Lake Quality – Kyle spent time talking about this with Deanna Pomije. He provided board members with a handout about shallow lakes and a chart. Lakes all have an internal phosphorus load which contributes to algae. It changes in the summer when it gets hot. There is nothing to be done except treatment. Lake Ann has a high phosphorus load. They have been working for 5-6 years trying to get an expensive treatment.

We need to control what is coming into the lake from upstream. That is what Soil and Water is doing. Knife Lake property owners have done a good job with septic compliance. The Sportsmen’s Club thought it would be good to share this information with people. KLID will look into whether we should bring in a speaker, send out information to property owners, etc.

In response to a question about spring cleanup on the lake, Ed Hamlin shared there was a huge mess to clean up, including oil, garbage, and human waste.

Dam inspection – this is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8, 10:30 at the west gate. It cannot be done on a weekend. Last year they were unable to thread the pipe. Ron Groebner indicated there is a way to clamp the pipe and he can be there that day.

Report to State – In Ray’s absence, Kyle reported there was an exchange of e-mails, we are in a holding pattern on this.

Review Rosnow Land Sponsorship – Kyle reported that Deanna provided him with step-by-step instructions of what it means to be a “sponsor” and the steps that would need to be taken (handout provided to board members). KLID would take over for the landowner, make decisions, and pay 25% of the bill. First, they would VERBALLY take on, then send an engineer who would provide options and provide a VERBAL estimate of costs. Then KLID would decide whether or not to take it on. KLID would NOT be a “sponsor” until we sign a funding contract. There are some gray areas.:

- Would need to get three bids for any project
- Would be responsible to pay full bill and may get refunded 75% from the county.
- Would need to have 20% in checking/savings account for maintenance for ten years

Deanna indicated it is very uncommon that someone else is the sponsor. Chuck Hartl expressed concern that KLID would not have the money to spend on such a project, special concern with wording that it is “usually” reimbursed for 75% by county.

AIS – Kyle reported they have hired two invasive species inspectors who will work weekends (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) on all of the lake landings. Also, the DNR will be doing Creel Study on Knife Lake and Grindstone. This was delayed from last year due to Covid. Will look at what type of fish were caught, size, etc. Ed will include information about this in the Lakenews. They are also looking for a place to dock the boat rather than going from lake to lake and possibly causing contamination.

New Business:

Annual report to County – Last month Gene Anderson reported that this is a requirement not being done. Ray has the necessary paperwork. Essentially it is just taking information from the annual meeting and putting it into an annual report. It needs to go to the county and the townships. Chuck will work with Ray on this.

Discuss operating agreement – people need to be able to vote for KLID board members by proxy. We need to send out a mailing of who is on the ballot. This will be added to the agenda for the next board meeting.

DNR Creel study – (see above)

Mailing to property owners – Kyle raised suggestion to send information to property owners about KLID. Can we send initially to current list and then to new owners? Could we also include information on the Sportsmen's Club website? Perhaps include something in the mailing regarding the annual meeting?

Discussion:

Gene Anderson reported the DOT has no immediate plans regarding the wayside rest on highway 65. He provided an ariel photo of Knife Lake from Soil and Water and a history of KLID that Jerry Tweet put together. Jeff Suess will make copies of the history for board members.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Kurt seconded by Jeff. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue DeGolier

KLID Treasures Report

March 2021

Deposits:

MCIT

2020 Dividend \$ 411.00

Invoices:

Kanabec Publications

Aerator Notice &

300 Spraying Letters \$ 334.72

Checkbook Balance

As of 3-16-21 \$133,906.61

KLID 2020-21 Financials

Revenues

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	August	Totals
Revenues from Assessments (County Taxes)				\$15,426.15		\$ 219.93							\$ 15,646.08
Donations	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 6,626.74										\$ 13,626.74
Grants													\$ -
Interest Earned/Dividend							\$ 411.00						\$ 411.00
Misc.													\$ -
Totals	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 6,626.74	\$15,426.15	\$ -	\$ 219.93	\$ 411.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,683.82

Expenditures

Central MN Aquatics, Inc (weed control)													\$ -
Crow's Nest Resort (stamps /supplies)													\$ -
East Central Energy													\$ -
First Citizens Bank		\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00							\$ 20.00
Grobahner, Ron													\$ -
Debbie Johnson													\$ -
Kanabec Publications				\$ 17.50	\$ (8.75)		\$ 334.72						\$ 343.47
Knife Lake Sportsmans Club						\$ 672.00							\$ 672.00
Kanabec County													\$ -
Lowe, Candace													\$ -
MN Counties Ins. Trust (Insurance)						\$ 1,885.00							\$ 1,885.00
MN Unemployment Insurance Fund				\$ 419.38									\$ 419.38
Secretary (Sue)													\$ -
Ray Ludowese													\$ -
Misc/Supplies/Postage						\$ 55.00							\$ 55.00
RMB Labs (Water Testing)				\$ 360.00									\$ 360.00
Suess, Jeff													\$ -
Schloemer, Rob													\$ -
Schloemer, Kim													\$ -
Daniel Swanson (Weed Survey)						\$ 243.02							\$ 243.02
Wells, Terry													\$ -
Post Office													\$ 12.00
Totals	\$ -	\$ 12.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 800.88	\$ (4.75)	\$ 2,859.02	\$ 334.72	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,009.87

Total Cash Balance Knife Lake Fund(Sept 2020) \$108,232.66

Current Cash Balance \$133,906.61