

KNIFE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES MARCH 19, 2022

Members Present: Kyle Hams, Jeff Suess, Terry Wells, Ron Groebner, Kurt Seidel, Ed Hamlin, Kevin Johnson (remote)

Members Absent: Ray Ludowese

Guests: Deanne Pomije, Gene Carda, Doug Sabinash, Fred Grimm, Jake Tillotson, John Vlasin

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. Motion by Terry Wells seconded by Jeff Suess to approve agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes from the February 19 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:

Though absent this month, Ray provided copies of updated financial reports for January, February, and March. Kyle presented bills to be paid, which included the following:

- Kanabec Publishing for publication of aerator announcement
- Kanabec Publishing for copies of weed spraying letter and forms - \$357.34
- Sue DeGolier for time and expenses for first quarter, including EAP and Weed Spraying - \$852.94

Motion by Terry Wells seconded by Kyle to pay bills. All ayes, motion carried.

Old Business:

Deanna Pomije from SWCD provided information about a multi-year planning effort that is underway regarding the Snake River Watershed. It is multi-county and involves multiple jurisdictions. It is a ten-year plan. Soon they will be putting together an implementation table. They would like input from KLID as Knife Lake is the largest lake in the project. Deanna provided a bar chart showing Snake River phosphorus reductions to meet lake TMDL goals and information about internal nutrient loading that accumulates over time. It contributes to algae and weed growth and, if not addressed, affects water quality. There are a variety of options such as dredging and chemical treatments ranging in cost from \$600,000 to 1.5 million. Chemicals bind with the phosphorus and lock it to the bottom of the lake. It does have a life span. Alum treatment has been done on some lakes in the cities. Lake Ann has wild rice, which is sensitive to sulphate. The treatment does not affect humans but would affect the amount of rice. Knife Lake is tier two, so would be involved later in the ten-year plan.

The lake is a basin that receives input. The incoming rivers are not within KLID's jurisdiction. Deanna indicates we can have a role with education such as septic upgrades, small rain gardens, and who to contact if there are issues or concerns. SWCD does not have jurisdiction either; they try to work with land owners. They put information in a newsletter and on their website. There will be an article early summer about native aquatic plants.

What would Knife Lake want to do in the next ten years? Has there ever been a vegetative management plan for Knife Lake? No written plan that the board knows of. We used to plant bullrushes. In the past KLID used to give grants to owners for shoreline improvements. Deanna provided a document that serves

as a guide for developing a plan; the plan is helpful when considering options and making choices. Most likely a consultant would be involved to develop the plan to capture concerns and options; Deanna can provide names. She will also provide a link for a property owner's checklist from the DNR. This can be included in the Sportsmen's Club newsletter and website.

Weeds – Terry reported the mailing regarding weed spraying went out March 1. As of yesterday, he had received 126 completed forms, one no-spray, and five return to sender. Some letters have come back not signed. He received some additional envelopes today. The ad is ready for publication regarding spraying. Ed posted the letters on the website. Terry has not heard any decision about the DNR grant. Terry invited Ron Duly to attend the June meeting.

AIS – Kyle reported status is the same as last month. Deanna will provide information about portable decontamination units. Kevin took the training course and found it valuable. Kyle will put him on the agenda for next month to discuss measurable goals and possibly having Audrey from DNR (who does the permits) come to our meeting.

EAP – Kyle reported this is complete and signed. Copies are with Kyle, Terry, the Sheriff and NRCS. There is a process in place which should help when this is updated annually. NOTE: Shannon from NRCS has changed her last name to Bodle.

Aerators – Kyle called the DNR two weeks ago. They indicated oxygen levels were good and should not need to put aerators out. DNR will contact him if it changes.

Dam Inspection – Shannon has the inspection scheduled for Tuesday, June 7 at 10:00 a.m. Board members encouraged to attend. A lot of work was done last year, including spraying with Garlon; will see if it has been effective. Kyle will contact both property owners to let them know when the group will be coming.

New Business:

- Doug Sabinash reported the comprehensive plan was approved by the county board.
- Kyle has not heard any more from the commissioners about the wayside rest.

Discussion: none

Adjournment: Motion by Jeff seconded by Kurt Seidel to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue DeGolier