

**KNIFE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
MEETING MINUTES APRIL 15, 2022**

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

**Members Absent:** Kurt Seidel, Ray Ludowese

**Guests:** Doug Sabinash

**Meeting called to order at 8:00 A.M. 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 March 19 meeting were presented for Review/Approval, Additions/Changes.** Motion by Ed Hamlin seconded by Kyle to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

**Payment of Bills:** Kyle reported that there were no bills to pay.

**Old Business:**

Weeds – Terry reported KLID did not receive a DNR grant from their lottery this year. The DNR will allow spraying up to 70 acres based on the AIS post spraying inspection done in 2021. According to Ron Duy, the price of chemicals for spraying has gone up 14% since ours were purchased.

April 15 was the deadline for forms to be returned so Audrey can finalize permits for nuisance weed spraying. As of today, Terry has received 247 forms back. Three had two properties attached. Three were for no spraying. Received one more today. Last year there were 255. Some are new people. Some who responded last year have not done so this year. Terry will accept forms until May 1<sup>st</sup> if they are people who were sprayed last year, as permits will already be in place. People who respond too late will need to get their own permits from the DNR and pay for their own chemicals. If a second spraying is done for nuisance weed property owners may have to pay extra for it to be done.

Next week Terry will place the ad announcing that spraying for curly leaf pond weed will be done in May; it will appear in the April 28 paper. Information must be posted in three places; the newspaper, Sportsmen's Club newsletter, and internet (Ed will take care of the last two).

We need to let Ron know how many acres to spray. Board asked Terry to have Ron provide total cost of 50 acres versus 70; also get approximate cost for nuisance weed spraying. The next KLID board meeting is not until May 21, so board members will vote by e-mail once this information is provided. Curly leaf will be treated in May and Nuisance weed in June; actual date depends on temperatures.

No one can ride along when spraying is being done but could accompany Ron to look the lake over. Kevin will arrange to do this. Kevin and Terry will finish handoff soon and Kevin will meet with Ron to ask some questions. He will try to get an overly map of where spraying will be done.

AIS – Kyle was not able to attend the last meeting but has the information. KLID will receive \$6,815.50 toward treating Knife Lake for curly leaf. He tried to get more. Lake Ann has \$16,000 and Lake Pomeroy has \$13,000 in the bank which they do not use. We spend more than we receive; we are always

underfunded. Kyle has recommended they put a cap of \$6,000 that can be carried over with the remaining money put in a general fund for lakes that need it. The AIS money comes from the state and is based on the number of parking spaces at boat landings.

AIS will reimburse Kevin for taking the class; he needs to get the receipt to Kyle. They will also pay for Veliger testing to check for zebra mussels.

Do we want to do water quality testing? Terry made a motion seconded by Jeff Sues that we do water quality testing again this year; all ayes, motion carried. Kyle will order the kit and he and Jeff will do it in May. Need to contact Speedy Delivery to deliver in two-day time frame. The board also wants to continue with monitoring water level. Jeff will try again to contact the DNR; still no clue what the normal water level is as marker was moved.

AIS meets every other month – Kevin and Kyle will attend the meetings.

Dam Inspection – scheduled for Tuesday, June 7 at 10 a.m. beginning on the west side. Board members meet with NRCS and Dam inspector. They take pictures and send a report. Will need to open the gates and run until water is clear. There are no trespassing signs and a wheel on the gate.

The current dam classification was based on a breach analysis done by the NRCS. They used the rate of 76,100 cubic feet per second (CFS). It should have been based on 17,400 CFS. The figure used was five times the amount of water, which moved the dam up to higher classification. A speaker will come to the May KLID board meeting to explain this. Kyle will reach out to both commissioners and encourage them to attend.

There was discussion about who owns the dam: DNR says Kanabec County, Soil & Water and KLID. It was built by the Civil Core of Engineers (federal). Kris McNally tried to find insurance but was not able since we do not own it; we are caretakers.

Weed Management – Kevin took the University of Minnesota course. It was very educational. It has closed for this year, but he encourages others to take it next year. Plant management has to do with the annual life cycle of plants. Develop goals, identify resources, implement a treatment plan, monitor how the plan works with post treatment survey and evaluate effectiveness. Instructor indicated if curly leaf pond weed is treated effectively over a period of 5 – 6 years it should get to a point where treatment would not need to be done annually; maybe every other year. Terry indicated the most we have treated in the past has been 48 acres; Ron has treated Knife Lake for years and does have places where there is not curly leaf any more. Another topic was how snow cover on the lake affects curly leaf growth in the spring. We should be measuring snow cover to help anticipate weed growth. The heavier the show cover the less weeds – they start growing in the fall. Kevin will draft a plan to measure in delineation areas.

Kyle gave lake management plan information received from Deanna Pomije to Kevin.

**New Business: none**

**Discussion: none**

**Adjournment:** Motion by Terry seconded by Kevin to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:410 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue DeGolier