

KNIFE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2023

Members Present: Kyle Hams, Ron Groebner, Kurt Seidel, Ed Hamlin, Kevin Johnson(remote), Bob Hecht, Doug Sabinash, Jeff Suess

Guests: Rachel Hamlin

The meeting was 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 Doug Sabinash seconded by Kurt Seidel to approve the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

The minutes from the January 21 meeting were presented for approval/additions/corrections. Motion by Ed Hamlin seconded by Kurt Seidel to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

Payment of Bills: Bob Hecht presented the treasurer's report. Requested approval to reimburse Sue DeGolier \$11.35 for postage to mail weed spraying responses to Ron Duy. Motion by Kyle seconded by Ron Groebner to pay as indicated. All ayes, motion carried. Bob indicated he received a letter saying we are being charged a \$250.00 late fee. Kyle will discuss it with Ray Ludowese.

Old Business:

AIS – Kevin Johnson reported Deanna Pomije sent out the new budget. Three lakes are banking funds and money is being carried over while KLID does not get enough for the weeds that need to be treated. Mora Lake is now included. There was discussion about this; lakes need to have an association in order to receive funds. Does Mora Lake have one? Also there was an email from John Sanford about treating algae, which is not invasive. Kyle will try to attend the next meeting if Kevin is not able to participate. He will also talk with Deanna about options. Kevin recommends the funds be allocated based on approved acreage to be sprayed.

Aerators – Kyle talked with the fisheries twice. Before the fishing contest the oxygen level was good at six to nine feet. Last week it was still good. Kyle read an ad that was placed in the paper. The DNR wanted it to be published although it is likely aerators will not be needed. Recent rain helped; water is flowing into the lake from the river and creeks bringing oxygen.

Ray Ludowese will do the aerator training even though he is no longer a board member. He is set up with a pole, plug-in, and an adaptor. He was going to have an easement put in place in the event he would ever sell his property. He also has a baseline of what the electric bills run; would need to be reimbursed for added expense if aerators need to be used.

Ed Hamlin reported that The Sportsmen's Club put reflectors on the saw horses, so they are more visible. Kyle will contact the fisheries again in a couple of weeks. Hopefully aerators will not be needed.

There was discussion about whether another site is needed. There are four aerators. The fountain is plugged in, which would be another possible site. Ed will ask about it. In the past only one aerator was used.

Dam Reclassification – Kyle heard back from Elizabeth Oolman from USDA. She indicated a summer home located at 1996 230th Avenue is what is causing the higher risk rating – due to depth and velocity of the water. It is beyond her authority, so she has forwarded it to her supervisor. For now, Kyle assumes we will need to do the Emergency Action Plan. Sue DeGolier will begin work on it in the next couple of months.

Doug Sabinash indicated a new development near the high school was brought up at the planning commission. The property site was sold to an individual, so the development idea was dropped.

Weeds – Kevin reported two-thirds of property owners responded to the weed spray mailing. We received 212 forms for nuisance weed spraying and five opting out from curly leaf spraying. Sue tracked responses on a spreadsheet which has been sent to Ron Duy; the actual response forms were mailed to him as well.

A delineation survey will need to be done this year. Ron knows a person who can help with this. The cost will be \$1250.00, which includes a map, permit, and report. Kevin gave a verbal go ahead. Motion by Kyle seconded by Kurt to have the survey done and submitted to the DNR. All ayes; motion carried.

County Meeting – Kyle and Doug attended the meeting. They received a written report which includes a timeline showing when the Knife Lake Improvement District was formed. Sue will have a copy made for each board member. In the report Kanabec County is listed as the contacting agent and KLID as a “sponsor”. KLID would be covered by tort laws. They also received confirmation that as of 2021 there was \$15,000 in funds available . . . should be an additional \$5,000 for 2022. Kris McNally will get it updated. KLID can use those funds for expenses such as Garlon to treat weeds.

Kyle would like to get the dam inspection done early and get an estimate on repairs. Kris has KLID on the agenda for the July 18 meeting. Would like to ask the county for more than the annual \$5,000 to do the required repairs. Kyle will set up a meeting with NRCS on a Tuesday early in June for the inspection; hopefully June 6.

The report indicates that KLID should be responsible for an estimate of \$9,000 per year. KLID was not aware of this, and no money has ever been set aside. Kyle will talk with Kathy Kerr at the bank regarding opening a separate account - hopefully a no fee interest bearing account. Kurt made a motion to transfer \$9,000 from checking into a new savings account; motion seconded by Doug. All ayes; motion carried. If an increase in the annual assessment is needed, it would need to be approved by the public at the annual meeting.

Report to State – Bob received a zip drive but there did not appear to be anything on it. Kyle will talk with Ray about this. He thinks Ray just sent the year end financials.

Insurance Certificate – Bob located the certificate. We need to pay for this incase the aerators are activated and anyone would be injured.

Wayside Rest Area – Doug reported Barb McFadden, the county attorney is working on this with the state attorneys. The county wants KLID to have the area and keep it as a park. They want to get it done as a tribute to Gene Anderson.

New Business: none

Discussion: none

Tracking snow depth on the lake:

Person Reporting	January	February	March
Kurt	8 inches	1 inch	
Doug	8 inches (3 of slush)	1 inch	
Jeff	12 inches (4 of slush)	1 inch	

Adjournment: Motion by Kurt seconded by Jeff Sues to adjourn. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue DeGolier