

**KNIFE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 15, 2023**

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

Members Absent: none

Guests: Michelle Gulden

Meeting called to order by Kyle Hams. All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

The agenda was presented for review/approval, additions/changes. Motion by Kevin Johnson seconded by Kurt Seidel to approve agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

Minutes from the March 18 meeting were presented for review/approval, additions/changes. Motion by Ed Hamlin seconded by Kurt to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

Payment of Bills: Bob Hecht presented the Treasurer's report. All previously written checks have cleared the bank. There are no bills to pay this month. The report reflects the checkbook balance and the savings account. Bob now receives statements from the bank by e-mail.

Old Business:

AIS – nothing new to report. Kevin and Kyle will talk with Deanna Pomije and Rick Mattson to see if funding allocation could be based on acres of weeds sprayed rather than parking spaces.

Aerators – Kyle has not heard back from the DNR. Their last note said oxygen levels were fine.

Emergency Action Plan (EAP) – Kyle has not heard anything back from NRCS regarding reclassification of the dam. Sue DeGolier will begin the process to obtain a phone number from property owners between the dam and the Mora city limits and updating content of the EAP.

Dam inspection - this is scheduled for June 6th at 10 a.m. Several board members plan to participate. The tool has been located as well as two "cheater bars". Kyle will notify both land owners ahead of time. After the inspection, the group will try to obtain an estimate for the cost of repairs; then will approach Kanabec County for funding.

Weeds – Kevin provided a report on the response to the weed spray mailing. 339 letters were mailed to property owners. 219 "yes" responses were received (about 65%). Nine "no" to curly leaf and four envelopes were returned undeliverable. The spreadsheet and response forms were sent to Central Aquatics; Ron Duy has acknowledged receipt and is working on the permit process. \$2500 has been paid for the permits. The delineation survey has not been paid for yet.

Park – Commissioner Rick Mattson called Kyle wanting verbal confirmation that the Sportsmen's Club is willing to care for the former wayside rest area if it is designated as a park; Kanabec County is moving forward on this process. The area will probably be named in memory of Gene Anderson, a former county commissioner who was an advocate for the concept of a park. Ed Hamlin, liaison to KLID for the

Sportsmen's Club, confirmed that the Club will develop a plan for maintaining the park. There was discussion about the actual boundaries; a new survey will need to be completed. It was noted that port-a-potties are provided at the south landing, but there are none at the landing on highway 65.

Keys – Kyle has the keys needed to access the dam area. Ron Groebner also has a key. One gate has a combination.

Water testing -- Kyle contacted RMB laboratories. There has been a price increase. In the past it took two days to get specimens to Detroit Lakes; on two occasions Speedy Delivery didn't pick up in time for samples to be usable. Now there will be a drop-off site with assured delivery. The cost will be \$24 instead of \$18. Disc test checking for algae and phosphorus is done five times per year. Motion by Jeff Sues seconded by Ed to add doing a test up river. All ayes; motion carried. Kyle indicated MPCA does test up the river on the far side of the bridge. The RMB website shows what and where MPCA tests. If they do it annually KLID would not need to do it. If it is not done annually KLID will move forward as approved.

Kyle mentioned the internal load feasibility study done by Ann Lake regarding treatment of phosphorus. It would cost them millions of dollars to treat 60 acres of the 653-acre lake (10 percent). Knife lake is 1,259 acres, so would cost double the amount.

New Business:

The Sportsmen's Club will be stocking the lake with walleyes this fall. They have a three-year plan in place. They will be contributing \$5,000. Donations toward the effort are welcomed.

Adjournment: Motion by Kurt seconded by Jeff to adjourn. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue DeGolier