

Okauchee Lake Management District

OCTOBER 9TH, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

TOWN OF OCONOMOWOC TOWN HALL

1. Call to Order

D. Schriver called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. Meeting Notice Announcement

The meeting notice announcement was distributed to local newspapers, posted at the Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall, two posting boards, and on the OLMD Website.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present:

John Foley
Dee Schriver
Bruce Mueller
Brian Sichi

Absent:

Tom Godar

Also Present:

Pat Furno, Accountant for the District

Arnold Groehler, Animal Control Specialist

Stefanie Anderson, Secretary

5. Correspondence

- a. D. Schriver received correspondence from a resident who is requesting ordinances to increase their lakeside balcony. There is a public hearing on this matter on October 11th, 2023.
- b. D. Schriver stated that on Monday October 16th at 5pm there is a meeting at the Town of Oconomowoc. Hans Weissgerber Jr. is asking for a revision of the conditional use for extension of piers. Pat Furno asked if this will increase his charges. D. Schriver stated that this has been approved by the DNR that he can

extend his piers out a few feet. If his slips get increased then his charges will be increased. If they are used for the purpose of the restaurant only then his fees will not increase. D. Schriver will be attending the meeting on behalf of the OLMD and B. Sichi stated that he will accompany her.

- c. D. Schriver stated that there is a Public Hearing on October 19th at 2pm regarding Waukesha County Flood Plain revisions.

6. Comments from the Floor

Keith Granum, N53W34296 Road Q, Okauchee Lake, WI 53069, thanked Brady and the crew for the great job they have done all season and for continuing to pick up all of his weeds.

7. Comments from Committee Members

N/A

8. Discuss & Act on Report of Treasurer

D. Schriver reported the following:

- a. Total revenues: \$452,868.01
- b. Total expenditures: \$303,407.21

This leaves a budgeted balance of: \$149,460.80

J. Foley moved to accept the report of the Treasurer as presented. B. Sichi seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Pat Furno stated that this is the first time that the expenditure has been within \$50 of the budget.

J. Foley asked if there were any substantial expenses coming up that we should be aware of. D. Schriver replied that yes there will be around a \$1,500 storage fee for the equipment, \$3,500 for USGS, \$4,000 savings for the motors, \$20,000 for environmental lake needs, as well as wages and insurance premiums that will be slightly higher than they were.

9. Approve Checks & Vouchers

B. Sichi moved to approve payments submitted as of September 11th for approval by the Treasurer. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Sichi moved to approve payments submitted as of October 9th for approval by the Treasurer. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Pat Furno announced that there was an error on the Checks and Voucher print out, May should read August, she will update.

D. Schriver asked if there were any questions. No further questions were asked.

10. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (08-14-2023)

J. Foley moved to approve the minutes from the 08/14/2023 meeting. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Review of 08/28/2023 Organizational Meeting Minutes

B. Mueller moved to approve the Organizational Meeting minutes from the 08/28/2023 meeting. J. Foley seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

The approval of the Annual Meeting Minutes from 08/28/2023 will be done at the next Annual Meeting in August 2024

12. Presentation CD3 Systems – Waterless AIS Control

This will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

13. Discuss and Act on Requesting DNR Grant Funding for AIS

D. Schriver announced that if we go with the Waterless AIS Control system that you can apply for a grant for up to \$40,000. J. Foley stated that it is very expensive and asked if we should table the discussion on requesting the DNR Grant Funding until after we hear the presentation.

D. Schriver also stated that part of the program is that you are a member of the Clean Boats/Clean Waters program first. The last time that we applied we did not meet the requirements due to the amount of volunteer hours needed. If we do accept a grant, we would need to fulfill the requirements of that grant.

14. Aquatic Plant Management Report

D. Schriver spoke on behalf of Brady Mulikin. Brady stated that it has been a very good year and the programs that he has put into place have worked very well. There has been an overall positive response from the riparian owners this season. The last day for weed pickup will be Friday October 13th. After that the equipment will start to be put into storage. Last year we treated parts of Bay 5 and the channel with ProcellaCOR.

D. Schriver and Brian Sufferin, of Solitude Lake Management, reviewed treatment areas. They found few Eurasian watermilfoil spots and that the ProcellaCOR worked very well. ProcellaCOR was also used in Tearney Bay and has also been showing signs of success.

15. Discuss and Act on Aquatic Plant Control Special Charges

This will be moved until the October 30th meeting.

16. Summary Status of Wildlife Control by Arnold Groehler, Animal Control Specialist

Arnold stated that we are now entering a quiet time of the year. Once the water temperature starts to drop the animals start to prepare for Winter. Currently he has two locations where traps are set out. It will remain very quiet until residents start to put aerators out and then he will start getting some more calls. He is not sure when they will lower the water levels, as this will also trigger animal movement. He will keep his eye on it and noted that we have been doing this program for so long that residents are familiar with it and know what actions to take. It was another successful year and we are in a maintenance phase.

17. Discuss and Act on Presentation of Lake Country Clean Waters Meeting

a. Brian Sichi and Brady Mulikin both attended the meeting and were able to speak with 3 riparian owners from Okauchee Lake. B. Sichi had nothing but good things to say about the meeting. He said that it was a very well spent day and it was beneficial to see what other lakes are doing as a guideline for the future goals that we can strive for.

b. Green Lake has a lot of great practices that we can learn from. Currently they have an association with a 1.3 million dollar budget, a full time CEO and 6 other board members. They are working on lots of innovative projects and working with river run off to help their phosphorus impairments. They tackle their issues with a scientific data approach. Each year they publish a booklet for the stakeholders. They focus on engaging the whole community rather than just the riparian owners. This is something that we can take into consideration. They also strive to do a lot of engagement at the local schools and offer students a chance to see the weed operation in action. They have a plan rolled out for what they would like to see over the course of the next few years. They spend a good amount of money on gathering data. They have committees in place, a strategic plan, communicating with the entire community and offering electronic record keeping, all to keep things moving in a positive direction.

c. Another lake that was highlighted was North Lake. They are currently working on a large dredging program to address their phosphorus levels. Large projects can take multiple years to accomplish and multiple fundraising efforts. This year North Lake raised between \$300k and \$500k separate from taxes from the riparian owners. Their current taxes are around \$600 per year for owners.

d. Water quality, erosion and wake surf boats were a topic that was also discussed. No one has gotten approval from the DNR to set restrictions for wake surf boats as of yet in the state of Wisconsin. Some lakes such as North Lake; ask that their owners stay a certain amount of feet from the shore to prevent erosion and most of the owners comply.

e. A goal for Okauchee Lake would be to increase committees of interested parties. B. Sichi stated that a takeaway from the day is that we are not alone in the problems that we

face and what we are looking to accomplish as a lake community. Creating a strategic plan would be a great starting place and a guiding document. From there we can source how we would recruit volunteers with a passion for supporting the lake. A strategic plan would assist the drive for fundraising efforts.

f. Steven’s Point is currently working on ways to keep in touch with the general public other than just a yearly newsletter. It is a way to offer more engagement while still being fully compliant. B. Sichi stated that Wisconsin Water Week will be held in Steven’s Point and will be a huge resource.

g. B. Mueller thanked Brian for his attendance and reporting back with the wealth of knowledge and ideas. D. Schriver also thanked Brian and for offering on how to engage added resources.

h. J. Foley stated that last year we sponsored Lake Country Clean Water Association and this is something that we should look at doing again. D. Schriver agreed and stated that we will again be a sponsor.

18. Discuss and Act on Website – Publish Updated Commissioner Status

D. Schriver announced that we have removed Carol Wilson from the Commissioner list and added Brian Sichi. We still need to narrow down the Commissioner status and post. Brian Sichi now being the acting Secretary will communicate with Linda Goehre and what to publish on the website. D. Schriver also stated that we have had questions on what to include on the website going forward that will need to be discussed.

19. Future Agenda Items

- a. Discuss and Act on Aquatic Plant Control Special Charges for 2024.
- b. Discussion of Golden Mast conditional use Public Hearing 10/16/2023.

20. Set Future Meeting Date

The next meeting is set for October 30th 2023 at 6:00pm.

21. **Discuss and Act on Motion to enter Closed Session pursuant to 19.85(1)(c):**

“Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.” (Performance review and compensation for OLMD Harvesting Supervisor and/or Crew.)

B. Mueller made a motion to move into closed session at 7:57pm. J. Foley seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Roll Call was taken:

Brian Sichi, aye; John Foley, aye; Bruce Mueller, aye; Dee Schriver, aye;

Motion carried without exception.

22. Reconvene into Open Session – Discuss and Act on Closed Session Item

B. Sichi moved to reconvene into Open Session at 8:15 PM. B. Muller seconded the motion. Motion carried. There was no further discussion.

Roll Call was taken: Brian Sichi, aye; John Foley, aye; Bruce Mueller, aye; Dee Schriver, aye;

Motion carried without exception.

23. Discuss and Act on Closed Session Items

J Foley moved to act on items discussed in Closed Session pursuant to §19.85(1)(g): “Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.” (Performance review and compensation for OLMD Harvesting Supervisor and/or Crew. B. Mueller seconded the motion. Roll call was taken:

Brian Sichi, aye; John Foley, aye; Bruce Mueller, aye; Dee Schriver, aye;

Motion carried without exception.

24. Adjournment

D. Schriver moved to adjourn the October 9th, 2023 Okauchee Lake Management District meeting B. Mueller seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried without exception. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.