

OKAUCHEE LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

March 10, 2020 – 4:00 P.M.

Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall

www.olmd.org

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

C. Wilson called the meeting to order at 4:00 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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Carol Wilson

Tom Godar

Dennis Johnson

Bruce Mueller

Absent

Dee Schriver

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Comments from the Floor

None.

7. Comments from Committee Members

None.

8. Discuss & Act on DNR Proposal for Starry Stonewort

On March 2, 2020, OLMD Board members, D. Johnson and D. Schriver, met with DNR Senior Water Resources Management Specialist Heidi Bunk, Statewide Aquatic Plant Management Coordinator Madi Johansen, other DNR staff and Brian Suffern, of Marine BioChemists, regarding possible treatment options in Okauchee Lake for the aquatic

invasive species, Starry Stonewort, scheduled for this year. Different approaches were discussed. Starry Stonewort management approaches were varied, including drawdowns, dredging, Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH), and other various chemical treatments. Treatment options were dependent on existing habitat, depth, location, boat traffic, etc., in the area where the stand was located. No single approach had succeeded in controlling or eliminating Starry Stonewort in other lakes. Doing nothing was not an option. The Army Corp of Engineers set up an experiment to determine which mixture of chemicals would be most effective in the control of Starry Stonewort. Once the results of that experiment were noted, the appropriate chemical could be authorized for use. Specific details of the stand near the Golden Mast boat launch was reviewed. A target area would be established for treatment near the launch. It would be marked with buoys, curtained off and access restricted for a period of approximately seven days with treatment monitoring to follow. The best treatment option for the area near the bridge remained undetermined. Total cost for the proposed chemical treatment was anticipated to be \$23,000. A grant could provide funding in the amount of \$15,000 making the cost to the Okauchee Lake Management District approximately \$8,000. Discussion ensued. Potential dates of chemical treatment were discussed. Temperature of the water was not an issue; however, height of the Starry Stonewort should be within two feet from the surface for the treatment to be effective according to DNR representatives. Treatment during the July 4th week should be avoided due to increased lake activity.

T. Godar moved to apply for a DNR grant and to move money in the budget, up to \$8,000, to begin treatment of Starry Stonewort near the boat launch at the Golden Mast Restaurant. C. Wilson seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Communication efforts would continue with other lake districts also impacted by Starry Stonewort. The need for long-term Starry Stonewort management should be anticipated.

9. Future Agenda Items – None.

10. Set Future Meetings

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for April 13, 2020.

11. Adjournment

C. Wilson moved to adjourn the March 10, 2020 Okauchee Lake Management District meeting. D. Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:37 P.M.