

OKAUCHEE LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

OCTOBER 10TH, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

TOWN OF OCONOMOWOC TOWN HALL

1. Call to Order

C. Wilson 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:

Carol Wilson
John Foley
Dee Schriver
Bruce Mueller

Absent:

Tom Godar

Also Present:

Brady Mullikin, Lake Operations Manager

Pat Furno, Accountant for the District

Linda Goehre, Website & Security

5. Correspondence

Mike Johnson from Road Q contacted to let them know that a slow no wake buoy floated to his property and he still has it at his house.

B. Mullikin also found a missing buoy and the rest of the buoys will come out the week of October 17th.

6. Comments from the Floor

Keith Granum, N53W34296 Road Q Okauchee Lake, WI 53066 would like to thank the weed team for a great summer and always being very friendly while doing an excellent job.

7. Comments from Committee Members

J. Foley asked when are the “slow no wake” rules enforced when the lake is high. B. Mullikin stated they have a threshold that they look at and it is the same person that controls the dam. They did open the Dam twice in September to lower the lake by 6in.

8. Discuss & Act on Report of Treasurer

D. Schriver reported the following:

- a. Total revenues: \$462,335.55
- b. Total expenditures: \$249,786.57

This leaves a budgeted balance of \$212,548.98

B. Mueller moved to accept the report of the Treasurer as presented. D. Schriver seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

The following questions were asked and answered.

J. Foley asked if we anticipated any significant repairs and about the budget for the trailer and equipment as well as the outboards. The outboards are being held until next year. Dee replied that the trailers were bought last year. Brady replied that they will be paying the weed bills and the farmers for allowing them to dump the weeds but nothing major

J. Foley asked if we were going to spend more than \$2500 for animal control. Reply was Yes, Arnold is around \$5,000 and that is budgeted.

9. Approved Checks & Vouchers

J. Foley moved to approve payments submitted for approval by the Treasurer. D. Schriver seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (08-08-2022) / Approval of Organizational meeting minutes (08/29/2022)

D. Schriver moved to approve the minutes from the 08/08/2022 meeting and the organizational meeting 08/29/2022 minutes as presented. J. Foley seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Review of Annual Meeting Minutes (08/29/2022)

D. Schriver made a motion that we move the review of the annual meeting minutes to the next meeting agenda. J. Foley moved to approve the motion. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Presentation by USGS Representative, Bridgett Manteufel, water quality program/results

a. We have been using the USGS water quality program since the 1980's. Bridget is presenting the water quality results for the last few years (pandemic delays). We take advantage of the basic program where the Middleton office samples Okauchee Lake. They take a sample in the Spring, Summer, and Fall. They are monitoring for algae, water clarity, PH, and nutrients. The samples are always taken at the same place. The USGS then sends out a Summary Plot.

b. Bridget broke down the nutrient descriptions that they look for. **Total Phosphorous** is the measure of the amount of nutrients in the lake. The source of the problem can be determined and it is great that we have data from the 80's as we can notice trends with the long term data and what is going on in the lake year to year. **Chlorophyll** is a measure of the amount of algae. **Secchi Depth** is the clarity of the water and how far down in the lake you can see.

c. Bridget explained that there are different types of lakes.

1. **Lygotrophic** lakes are clear with not a lot of weeds or many fish.

2. **Mesotrophic** lakes have some algae, a good amount of fish and some weeds. Okauchee Lake falls into this category.

3. **Eutrophic** lakes have a lot of algae, fish and weeds. They are very murky.

The data that is collected comes from the deep hole in Okauchee Lake. From what Bridget is seeing there are no disturbing trends leaning towards a Eutrophic Lake. We have been a Mesotrophic lake since the 80's. Okauchee Lake has a beautiful plot since there has been sampling done every other year.

d. Bridget stated that they are always looking for new and special programs to see if Okauchee qualifies to participate in them.

e. Dee stated that Pewaukee Lake suffers from a lot of blue-green algae. Is that the type of lake that they may have a program for.

f. Dee stated that in our lake we have a lot of different bays. When we see a scenario that may not fall into the (deep hole data) can we ask to have it sampled

in a different area for certain reasons? Bridget replied that yes we can adjust based on your needs of lake sampling.

- g. John asked when you compare Okauchee to other lakes in the area, how do we compare, does it appear to be a better lake? Bridget replied that there are a few types of lakes around us that are different and mentioned Oconomowoc Lake and Big Cedar Lake. We don't have the long term data for these lakes like we do for Okauchee so it is hard to compare.
- h. Bridget reported that the Sodium and Chloride numbers are not alarming and show a slow trend upwards. These can be generally affected by road salt applications. John asked, when would you say it is an alarming number? Bridget replied that the DNR has standards and would usually catch anything alarming. Big events on the lake can also trigger higher numbers depending on the amount of boats.
- i. Brady asked about when phosphorus levels go up, is there some sort of clarity problem that we would see. Is the green algae bloom on the surface a direct result of the phosphorus. Bridget replied that no; there is a lot of natural productivity that happens during the Summer on its own and if you start to see it in larger amounts at weird times then it may be time to test the phosphorus.
- j. Dee reported the large abnormal algae balls in Tearny Bay in May. Residents requested that Brady removed them in May and June as they were prevalent. They were as large as beach balls and were on the surface to one foot below the surface. Bridget replied that we can see where to send samples of these next time they occur and how much it will cost to sample. Dee explained that they have had a few situations in Tearny Bay over the years; including, high water, high temperatures that have impacted the fish and now the algae balls. Bridget said that there are a lot of pieces to the puzzle that go into the production of the lake and she does not think that the DNR is collecting ecological data on the shoreline but she will find out.
- k. John asked when spraying chemicals on a lake of this size, do they actually dilute? Bridget is going to defer the questions of how do they spray, do they do the edges, criss-cross, hot spots, and what is the spraying schedule to bring us back an answer on this. Dee replied that we select which areas to spray where invasive weeds, such as, Eurasian watermilfoil are present and we have a permit for a certain amount of acres. For example in bay #5 when Dee and the DNR reviewed the results of the previous year's spray, they were happy with the results. This year, the back of Icehouse bay was not treated and we are monitoring weed growth and type for next year. We can make adjustments as needed. We can not spray after July 4th now and before 2018 we were able to spray in the Fall. That is when we used to see the best success was from the Fall spraying. Now; each year we do Spring spraying and they try to time the spraying and weed harvesting around the June 1st timeline.

1. Brady reported that chemical treatment is not allowed for eelgrass. He stated that about 2-3% of the lake was treated this year and mainly focused on curly leaf pondweed and milfoil. At the time of spraying it will take about 2 weeks to see results.

13. Aquatic Plant Management Report

Brady Mullikin, Lake Operations Manager, reported that they have two more days of weed clean up and they will be done for the season. They currently have 4 employees and will soon have 2 employees, Brady and one other person. They have two harvesters out and the hot water pressure washer has been working great. The clean up crew completed 200 dump truck loads this year as compared to 347 last year. They have 2 new Kubota engines scheduled for replacement in the Spring and will retro fit one cutter to make it fit under the Foolery's bridge. We will use the same storage site again for our equipment.

Dee thanked Brady for all of his hard work and that all of the emails from the homeowners this year were positive. Brady responded that it was great to have the whole team onboard with making it a great Summer.

14. Discuss and Act on Aquatic Plant Control Special Charges

The aquatic plant charge is 287.86 for 2023 as approved by the riparian owners at the annual meeting.

15. Discuss and Act on Moose Lake ordinance and the impacts on Okauchee Lake.

John was contacted by an owner on Moose Lake who thought that we should be aware and concerned of a proposed "slow No Wake" ordinance suggested for Moose Lake that could impact traffic on Okauchee. John suggested that we as a board should know about it and not have it negatively impact Okauchee Lake. Dee replied, that in the past, Moose Lake was proposing the same ordinance and nothing has happened to date. It is now resurfacing. John is going to go to the Moose Lake meeting as an interested party and report back.

16. Discuss and Act on Website

Dee requested that we put an indication that we are closing out the lake operations Friday October 14th and that if anyone has any questions during the Winter to email them. John asked if we put anything on the website regarding Winter activities. Dee replied this is usually done by the DNR and the local businesses on the lake for activities and or dates and fees.

17. Future Agenda Items

These will be discussed prior to the first meeting and the Newsletter will go out by mid-May.

18. Set Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting is set for April or May 2023.

19. **D. Schriver moved to enter 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 at 8:00 PM. B. Mueller seconded the motion. Roll Call was taken:**

Carol Wilson, aye; John Foley, aye; Bruce Mueller, aye; Dee Schriver, aye;

Motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene into Open Session

D. Schriver 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: Carol Wilson, aye; John Foley, aye; Bruce Mueller, aye; Dee Schriver, aye; Motion carried.

20. **Discuss and Act on Closed Session**

D. Schriver 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. John Foley seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

20. Adjournment: D. Schriver moved to adjourn the October 10, 2022 Okauchee Lake Management District meeting. J. Foley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.