

Eagle Spring Lake Management District
Regular Meeting
May 16, 2023

Approved Minutes

Peter Jensen, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Eagle Spring Lake Management District (ESLMD) to order at 6:30pm, and led with the pledge of allegiance. Other Commissioners in attendance were Tom Day, Chris Hinz, John Mann, and Nancy Wilhelm. Due to medical issues the Town of Eagle Representative Chris Mommaerts was excused, and due to scheduling conflicts, the Waukesha County Representative, Lance Matthews was excused. Lake residents Greg Himebauch, Cecila Lorenz, Nick Wambach, and Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant Gina Krause were also present.

Approval of Agenda – N. Wilhelm made a **Motion** to approve the May 16, 2023 agenda with the following changes requested by J. Mann and T. Day: moving agenda item #26 (2024 Budget Workshop) and #27 (Payment of Bill and 1st Quarter Report) up to the beginning of New Business (before Annual Meeting Preparations). Second by Chris H, motion carried.

Approval of the April 24, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes – T. Day made a **Motion** to approve the April 24, 2023 minutes as written; second by J. Mann, motion carried.

Announcements and Upcoming Meetings

- Waukesha County is holding a program on damage assessments. The program is free and will be held at the Waukesha County communication center. P. Jensen is planning to attend this with one of the harvesting operators.
- On June 9, 2023 P. Jensen will be hosting the annual dam safety meeting for the DNR, Wisconsin dam safety management team, and those others involved. Meat has been donated from Hansens IGA in East Troy and everyone will bring a dish to pass.
- General Services Administration has opened up to local governments quick training programs/webinars.

Public Comment – There were no comments.

Aquatic Growth Harvesting/Collecting/Chemical Treatment – It is anticipated that the harvester should be in the water during the 1st week of June. P. Jensen stated he has not seen a lot of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) on the lake. P. Jensen was in contact with the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) coordinator for Waukesha County. Waukesha County has teamed with Washington County on performing their own Clean Boats/Clean Waters Program using interns. They may come out to our lake and perform some aquatic plant surveying and sampling. C. Hinz said she has seen EWM growth in the area by the golf course.

Clean Boats/Clean Waters Status – Discussion/Action

a) **Hiring Status – Discussion/Action** – The Board received a list of applicants and applications and interview summaries. J. Mann made a **Motion** to call back to work Andrea Houseman, Matthew Jolliffe, Jay Grochowski, and Josie Stachowski. In addition, hire in new employees Katharine Wilhelm, and Sam Brunner. Second by C. Hinz, motion carried.

Carp Initiative/Fishery Issues Discussion – There were no updates. There have been 2 reports of a redear sunfish (termed invasive by DNR) and it has been reported to DNR's Ben Heussner. They are known to eat snails and various mussels. C. Hinz commented that she has seen a pile of approximately 6 carp dumped alongside of Sprague Road.

Weather Station and Website – There were no updates.

Eagle Spring Lake Web Site & Email – Status Report – N. Wilhelm said that she is finishing up the framework for the website; it is anticipated that it will get to Proactive Design tonight so they can start designing the website. P. Jensen said we will back up all email accounts before they switch servers.

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Wambold Dam/Kroll Outlet – Status Update – The finish landscaping of the Kroll property has begun and the water level gauge is installed. The pouring of the last bollard remains as one of the tasks to be done, and the grass area will be seeded.

Legislative/Regulatory Issues Discussion –

- Assembly Bill (AB222) deals with creating a fund through Wisconsin Emergency Management to buy out flood prone property with a grant funding (up to \$250,000) covering 75% of the implementation clause. It is doubtful that it would apply to us.
- Assembly Bill (AB245) which is part of the budget bill may relate to possible changes in Chapter 33. Sections 12-15 in the bill do relate to Chapter 33. This is a technical clean up that refers to chapter 74.03. The names that are on the tax roll as of the 3rd Monday of December becomes our official tax roll listing. Chapter 33 is the rule book for the district to abide by.

Septic Update – Discussion/Action – C. Hinz commented that she did get her reminder from Waukesha County to have her septic pumped/inspected. J. Mann and P. Jensen both mentioned that they did not receive their cards.

CTH E Parking Updates – Discussion – There were no updates.

Newsletter Update – Discussion – P. Jensen commented that the previous newsletters have been done in Publisher, which is a complicated program to use. Therefore, he has formatted a Word version of the newsletter.

April Newsletter - P. Jensen mentioned that he thought the newsletter was going to be mailed out when he brought it into the printer. The printer was waiting for Pete's final ok to move forward and once the process was straightened out and approval given the newsletters were processed and mailed. P. Jensen said he has received a couple comments on the newsletter and they are appreciated.

July Newsletter Deadline – June 13 is the deadline for which all articles are to be submitted to Gina for her distribution of them to the Board.

July Newsletter format conversion to Word & Preparation – Due to P. Jensen finding it easier to prepare the newsletter in "Word" format. The July newsletter will now be done in "Word" rather than "Publisher". P. Jensen will be putting the newsletter together or getting University of Wisconsin students who are looking for newsletters to work on it as a school project.

July newsletter timeline for mailing - It is anticipated that the July newsletter will be mailed out approximately July 1.

Aquatic Growth Harvesting/Collecting/Chemical Treatment – It is anticipated that the harvester should be in the water during the 1st week of June.

2023 Fireworks

- a) **Tying up Loose Ends – Volunteers – Setup/Take down assignments, permit, etc. – Discussion** – P. Jensen stated that he sent out notes to all those who have volunteered and has only received a few responses. C. Hinz commented that she did not catch in his message that she needed to respond. Other volunteers may not have caught that they needed to respond either. P. Jensen will make phone calls.

Ski Channel Habitat Project – The naturalists that work for the University of Wisconsin in Madison are required to do 40 hours of community service per year to maintain their credentials.

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The naturalists in training are willing to write up a five-year plan for the ski channel site, and perform a point survey of any of the unique plants that are already on the land (this would most likely be done in July/August). This would be done free of charge to the district. A representative in training from the naturalist group did visit the ski channel property. She did find insect eating plants such as a purple pitcher plant and possibly an English Sundew. The Eagle Spring Yacht Club has agreed to be a pass through for foundation money. They are a non-profit that a foundation can donate money to or do a dollar-for-dollar match with.

First step in the project will be to get rid of all the invasive plants on the site, and in late fall remove those invasive plants that are interwoven in with the good/unique plants.

Consideration of working with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in the removal the phragmites in the channel and use that as another access to the property is being explored.

Buoy Status Update – Discussion/Action – P. Jensen has picked up more chain and clips for the buoys. The task of inventorying the buoys remains on the to do list. It appears that we may need to replace a slow-no-wake buoy with an idle speed buoy. More labeling stickers will be purchased once we know what our inventory is showing that we are in need of.

Water Patrol Discussion – The lake patrol boat has been put in the lake.

Realtor/New Resident Lake Package – Discussion/Action – N. Wilhelm made a **Motion** to approve the “About our Lake and Governance, Eagle Spring Lake Management District” question and answer sheet as written to be used as needed for new realtors and on the website; second by C. Hinz, motion carried.

New Business

Financial Update & Payment of Bills/1st Quarter Report - T. Day mentioned we need to pay attention to the deficit of \$13,811 at the end of 2023. Discussion continued about water sampling being done both upstream and downstream. T. Day commented that the upstream tells us what is coming into our lake, and downstream is what is coming out of the lake. N. Wilhelm made a **Motion** to approve the 1st quarter report as presented; second by C. Hinz, motion carried.

C. Hinz made a **Motion** to pay the bills; second by N. Wilhelm, motion carried.

2024 Budget Workshop – Part 2 of 3 – Discussion/Action – P. Jensen presented the Board a new style budget (zero balance budget) to discuss. Gina presented the Board a copy of Pete’s style budget with a bunch of comments where she had questions, or where she found numbers incorrect from her perspective. The Board briefly discussed the option of giving Board members a stipend rather than a salary. Discussion ended with more research needed by the Board members before they can agree or disagree to the change. T. Day commented that the amount put in for Financial Clerk is unfair and not rational. We just gave Gina a \$1/ hour raise and yet since last month P. Jensen cut the amount budgeted for her pay in 2024 by \$4,500. J. Mann made a **Motion** increase the 2024 Budget amount for Financial Clerk back to \$15,500; second by T. Day, motion carried. Disagreements between P. Jensen and Gina resulted in C. Hinz asking for a way to resolve this. P. Jensen agreed to get Gina an itemized list of the existing accounts and what they have been changed to. It was determined that N. Wilhelm and Gina will meet together to discuss the budget and get a confirmed budget together to work on. Note – An after-meeting decision between N. Wilhelm and Gina, agreed to let C. Hinz sit in on the meeting (per her request). T. Day commented that this budget is different from our normal. J. Mann made a **Motion** to table the budget discussion until the next meeting when a copy of the budget (with numbers that can be worked with) can be presented; second by N. Wilhelm, motion carried.

Annual Meeting Preparation

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Set agenda – The Board was given a draft agenda for the Annual Meeting. Agenda topic #9 Commissioner Compensation was removed from the draft agenda. T. Day questioned #10a Approval of resolution 2023-01 Amended Budget 2023. P. Jensen gave his take on this resolution and the reasoning why for a contingency fund. A **Motion** was made by J. Mann to approve the agenda as amended for the Annual meeting; second by N. Wilhelm, motion carried.

Sign in/ballot handout helpers – Barb Pinekenstein and N. Wilhelm will take care of signing in and handing out the ballots to everyone in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

Surplus Property (Lift/Pier) Update – Discussion – There has been no interest in the pier/lift.

UW Swap Program – Discussion – We are eligible to bid on University surplus.

Designation of Official Posting Sites – Due to lack of “Action” being on the agenda, this topic will be discussed next month.

Newsletter pay adjustment for Gina Krause – Discussion/Action - Gina will be paid for the additional 4 hours (total of 11 hours) that she spent on putting together the April newsletter.

Discussion/action on the District’s Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant to be permitted to sit in on closed sessions when the session is not held to discuss the Bookkeeper/Administrative assistant’s pay or performance. J. Mann questioned why Gina was not allowed to sit in on closed sessions, since the Town of Eagle clerk has always sat in on closed sessions for the Town. P. Jensen read an extract from the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law Compliance (Attorney General Josh Kaul) page 29, and referred to 4 conditions that need to be met:

1. Is the person named as a defendant?
2. Is she in a decision-making position?
3. Is she providing expert witness testimony?
4. Is it a performance of her normal duties?

Since we don’t take minutes in closed session and all the other questions have been answered no, then the fewer people there the better. It might be that this should be decided on a case-by-case basis. There are some closed sessions that it would be valuable to have Gina at a closed session.

Due to the absence of two Board members, J. Mann made a **Motion** to table discussion until June meeting; second by C. Hinz, motion carried.

Adjourn - At 8:28 N. Wilhelm made a **Motion** to adjourn; second by J. Mann, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
John Mann
ESLMD