

Lake Mitchell Improvement Board Meeting – June 13, 2022

A. Call to order: 10:00

B. Roll Call:

Mike Bengelink, Marty Williams, Shari Spoelman, Ron Klimp, Mike Solomon, Dave Foley – Present. None were absent.

C. Additions/Deletions: Add discussion about assessments. G. 3.5

D. Approval of agenda: Unanimous

E. Approval of October 18, Minutes: Unanimous

F. Public Comments:

Sharon White – Ty's Landscaping's (Tyler Anderson) roadside pickup has been great.

G. Agenda Items

1. Treasurer Report: Ron Klimp (Full report will appear on website)

Budget revenue \$72,133

Expenses \$60,512

Ending balance 5/25/22 - \$215,621

2. Assessment \$200 for commercial, \$100 for lakefront, \$50 for backlot, Revenue from assessments still is greater than projected expenses.

At next meeting LMIB will consider whether to lower assessment or hold it at current levels.

During Public Comment, Ron Moelker noted that with inflation, costs may rise faster than expected and we should wait before dropping assessment.

3. Weed pick-up - Dave Foley

Tyler Anderson of Ty's Outdoor Services LLC has been contracted from spring of 2022 through fall of 2024 to do roadside pickup for an annual rate of \$8,550.00.

4. Consultant Report: Jennifer Jones of Restorative Lake Science

The late-arriving spring slowed weed growth but warmer weather has accelerated growth.

Only 13.5 acres of Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) was found when RLS did their 1700 point GPS survey. Because growth has come late, some additional EWM may be found in subsequent surveys. Curly Leaf Pondweed, an invasive plant. (5 ½ acres) has been found in Little Cove and Franke Coves and will be treated with ProcellaCOR® and Diquat. Much of the chemical ProcellaCOR® is produced in the Ukraine which may create supply issues. Mike Solomon noted costs of chemicals have risen 10 to 50% in the last year.

White Stem Pondweed and Robbins Pondweed are the principal native plants in Lake Mitchell. Both are considered helpful to providing fish habit and which is key to good lake health.

Although not a problem yet, an especially hot summer could bring on blue-green algae blooms which can shade out lake vegetation.

An effective but expensive herbicide ProcellaCOR® may be used more to treat EWM as plants develop a resistance to 2-4D and Trycoplyr which have been used to treat weeds in the lakes for a number of years.

The buildup of chladophora algae in the Torenta Canal may necessitate a harvest of that material this summer.

H. Correspondence: None

- I. Public Comments: Comments were made at this time and information to answer these was supplied after the meeting. That information has been assembled here.

Sharon White: How long has chemical been used and do they still harvest in Lake Mitchell? Chemical used to treat weeds began in the late 1980s and first was used to treat a plant called naiad. When EWM appeared, treatment continued. Harvesting was initially done along with chemicals. Because EWM spreads by fragmentation, cutting it only causes it spread more. Harvesting was used for nuisance native plants. While the harvester tried to collect most of it, some plants fell off harvester. In addition harvesting was a temporary fix and had to be repeated several times in a summer.

Ron Moelker: How do property owners find out about the LMIB?

The mailing list for the newsletter comes from the Equalization Office and is the same list as the tax rolls. If you get taxed, you receive a newsletter or are on our mailing list.

How many GPS check points is RLS using in its survey? 1800 are set. Shallow water is visually surveyed for weeds and if bottom can't be seen, a rake is thrown to sample aquatic growth.

Jay Puvogel expressed his appreciation that the Torenta Canal would be harvested again this summer. Puvogel also alerted Board to a pickup point for weeds that is at the edge of Camp Torenta.

Jean Wright – What is slime in Little Cove? Likely an algae bloom

brought on by hot weather.

Unknown commentor: Does RLS use drones? Not on Lake Mitchell

Dave Stinger – Could you give us an explanation of how you do the survey and what technology are you using?

Jennifer responded. Using a GPS point intercept program. The survey delineates between native and invasive plants and grades them on a 1 to 3 scale based on density of weeds.

J. Committee member comments:

Mike Bengelink : As you consider lowering the assessment, remember that costs may change and require more expense.

K. Chairmen Comments: None

L. Adjournment: 10:45