

## **Crookneck Lake Improvement District**

### **Annual Meeting Minutes**

The Crookneck Lake Improvement District's (CLID) annual meeting was called to order at 9 a.m., Saturday, August 19, 2017. Dan Seanger, Chair, introduced the board members to the audience: Treasurer JJ Parker, Secretary Tina Snell, and members-at-large Bill McComb and Adolph Rabe. Dan also introduced the Morrison County Auditor/Treasurer, Deb Lowe and Adolph introduced the District 1 Commissioner, Mike LeMieur. Dan recognized Tina for her years of dedicated service both on and off the CLID board since the inception of the CLID noting that this would be her final formal function prior to stepping down from the board.

Standard agenda items were reviewed by Dan Seanger.

Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were sent with the 2017 meeting notice and posted on the Lake Crookneck Improvement Association (LCIA) web page. Seanger asked for a motion from the floor to accept these minutes without reading them here and now. John Snell made the motion, Adolph Rabe seconded and the motion passed.

Seanger then reviewed results of the 2017 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Performance (work) Plan showing first the grid map of Crookneck Lake showing the spring time grid pattern where survey samples were taken by RMB in search of aquatic vegetation. He then showed a second map which demonstrated where Curley Leaf was identified and the number of plants. Over this map was a treatment area proposed by RMB and subsequently approved by the DNR for PLM to treat 6.8 acres.

Parker presented the Treasurer's Report noting that the final balance for 2017 is projected to be \$39,882 plus \$2,587 from an AIS grant from the county which he is administrating for the four area lakes. He noted that the 2017 beginning balance was \$35,378. This year's expenses to date total \$6,498. It was noted that compared to a historical average for Curley Leaf treatment we saved close to \$3,500 this year. He then reviewed the proposed 2018 budget of \$12,108 which includes a second survey and water quality monitoring.

Seanger then presented the proposed 2018 Performance (work) Plan. This plan calls for two surveys to be performed, one in the spring following ice out and a second during the summer. The purpose of the spring survey would be to determine the presence of Curley Leaf which grows during the winter months and must be treated while the lake temperature is relatively cold. The second survey would serve two purposes; identify any other aquatic invasive species which grow during late spring/summer and ascertain the effect of spring treatment on native aquatic species. Treatments would be applied when water temperatures are optimal. The CLID would also like to continue to team with the Alexander, Fish Trap and Shamineau LIDs to diminish the transfer of invasive species. Finally, the CLID recognizes a need to update the CLID's establishment order to address water management and water quality as well as aquatic invasive management control.

Seanger then asked for a motion from the floor to approve the Treasurer's Report. Leo Dombrovski made the motion, Dawn Bartylla seconded. Seanger opened the floor for comment and none was made. The motion passed.

Seanger then asked for a motion from the floor to approve the 2018 Performance Plan. Leo Dombrovski made the motion, Rosie Seanger seconded. Seanger opened the floor for comment and none was made. The motion passed.

Seanger then asked for a motion from the floor to approve holding the 2018 Annual Meeting on any weekend during the year. John Snell made the motion, seconded by Rosie Seanger. Seanger opened the floor for comment and stated the reason he asked for this motion was the governing statute requires this meeting be held during July or August unless approved during the previous meeting. The motion passed.

Seanger then suspended the annual meeting allowing for the board to address next year's levy. Parker explained that a previous goal was established to draw the account down to \$30,000 consisting of \$10,000 for annual operating expenses and \$20,000 reserve should a secondary invasive or increase in Curley Leaf treatment be required. After discussing historical data, and Parker's analysis that the average levy for the last 10 years was \$61, and disclosing that a \$60 levy for 2018 factored against the approved budget would result in drawing the overall balance down to \$35,995 from this year's projected balance of \$39,882. A motion was made by Rabe and seconded by McComb to set the levy at \$60 per riparian (littoral) landowner. The board passed the motion.

Seanger called for the results of the elections. John Parker announced the vote was unanimous for Adam Waldvogel to join the board as a resident member, replacing Tina Snell, and incumbent JJ Parker was voted onto the board as a non-resident member.

Old Business agenda was reviewed by Seanger.

This past year the board implemented an internal audit protocol. Applicable state statutes, county guidance, and our Order Establishing Crookneck Lake Improvement District were reviewed to identify all annual requirements and time frames for accomplishing each. Tasks included: notifying county of 2017 CLID Board contact info; presented CLID annual report to County Commissioner's; certified annual tax roll; maintained and renewed CLID insurance policy; coordinated lake survey, DNR permits, and treatment for invasive species; filed Special District Financial Reporting Form with the Office of the State Auditor; mailed annual ballot and meeting notification letter to CLID members; published Annual CLID Meeting notification in Morrison Cty Record and notified Cty Administrator; and held meeting during month of August. The board successfully met all criteria within the deadlines required.

In addition, the Treasurer developed a comprehensive report detailing individual transactions over the past year and performed a multitude of reviews of financial data spanning the past 10 years depicting a comprehensive trend analysis. This report is available for review on the Lake Crookneck Improvement Association (LCIA) web page under "LID".

## New Business:

Seanger reviewed the Zebra Mussel Veliger Testing program funded by the county. Samples were collected from Alexander, Crookneck, Fish Trap, and Shamineau Lakes on the week proceeding 25 June and 18 July. All samples on 25 June were negative with the exception of Fish Trap. It was anticipated Fish Trap would be positive since they were infested a few years ago. The 18 July results are still pending at this time.

Seanger then reviewed the Lake Shamineau High-Water Study. He began by noting that in his previous work experience he found that water is a very sensitive issue. What may be good for one individual may not be the case for another. He fears there is great potential for this project to pit neighbor against neighbor, lake against lake, LID against LID, and ultimately property owners against government (DNR, Army Corps of Engineers, Soil and Water, County officials). He stated that this is not a CLID issue at this time since it does not fall under our powers granted by the county, but the board became involved following an invite to an informational meeting with the Shamineau LID board. A follow up meeting was also held. Seanger began his review of the project with a map depicting the route water would take from a pump station from Shamineau west to Lena Lake, under HWY 10 and beyond. He stated that if the project goes forward it can be anticipated that the water level of Crookneck will drop to a level close to the amount of draw down on Shamineau. Currently they would like to draw down Shamineau by 12 – 18 inches below their Ordinary High Water (OHW) level. Seanger noted that a subsequent draw down of Crookneck to a level of 12 – 18 inches below our OHW level would drop the current level by 2.66 – 3.16 ft. Estimated cost ranges from \$1.2 - \$1.5 million plus annual operational costs. At the meetings with the Shamineau board the CLID board shared a multitude of issues brought to them by approximately 35 Crookneck residents: high-water increases property value vs. swamp in bay; increased utilization of bays; cost savings associated with weed harvesting; less work removing cut off weeds from recreation use; eliminate majority of east marsh habitat; already invested in shoreline erosion mitigation; lower it now what happens when have a drought lasting one or more years (White Bear Lake); effect on shallow sand point wells; effect on water quality as decrease volume (overall shallow lake); native weeds are now at a manageable level; effect on fish habitat (notably less winter kill last few years); increased potential for ground water to leach from Transfer Station (dump) into Crookneck as Lena Lake hydrostatic pressure changes; lake water is approaching cabin; increased ice jamming; water in basement (high water table); filled in basement; dock is at its limit; and lost my beach. Overall members are opposed to taking the lake down more than inches from the current level with three stating up to but no more than a foot from where it is now. The Shamineau LID condensed these comments down to “some residents on Crookneck are concerned the bay may become weedier”. The discussion from members present at the meeting concerning this project was largely negative centering on impact on property values and inability to use the entire lake if it is drawn down to this proposed level as it would effectively turn the bays into swamps. Once the board updates the establishment orders and 5-year plan (part of next year’s Performance Plan) water management can be addressed by the CLID. Seanger reviewed the Shamineau’s approval process should they elect to go forward and the importance of members to speak their minds either for or against, in presence or by letter when the public hearings are held. Seanger

closed the discussion with two comments received with alternative recommendations to drawing the water down to demonstrate some individuals are thinking outside the box with ideas that don't impact everyone: county adopt an exception to permitting program allowing a property owner to raise their property up without applying set-back rules; and county establish funding program for property owners similar to previous septic system up-grade program.

Seanger noted that the entire CLID Annual Meeting power point presentation will be posted on the LCIA web page under "LID" as well as the minutes of this meeting once they are approved by the board during September.

Seanger asked if there was any other new business and none was raised. He asked for a motion from the floor to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m. Motion was made by John Snell with second by Rabe. The motion passed.

*Tina Snell*

Secretary