

## Crookneck Lake Improvement District Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting of the Crookneck Lake Improvement District (CLID) was held on July 31st, 2021 at the Scandia Valley Town Hall.

Dan Seanger, CLID Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M., introduced the Board of Directors, reviewed the agenda, and announced this was the first call to cast your ballots. The meeting's power point presentation, which contains graphics and additional information, is located at [CrookneckLake.com](http://CrookneckLake.com) under CLID.

Dan began the meeting with a snapshot overview of the Crookneck Lake 5-Year Management Plan and the CLID's Establishment Order contrasting roles and responsibilities of the CLID and the Lake Crookneck Improvement Association (LCIA). He then turned to an update of activities since the last CLID meeting. The 2020 late summer Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Survey, focused on identifying Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM), located EWM in the same area as previously treated in 2019. The area is diminishing in size from 2019 and the EWM continues to be isolated in this region. During September 2020, the area was treated and to date no evidence of viable EWM is present. A late summer AIS survey focusing on EWM and other AIS will be performed and should additional EWM be identified the DNR will be solicited to issue a permit to treat.

### Standard Agenda Items

Seanger turned to the standard agenda items beginning with the secretary's report as an example of the documents located on the [CrookneckLake.com](http://CrookneckLake.com) website under the heading "CLID", stating the 2020 annual meeting minutes were approved by the board, submitted to the county commissioners as part of our annual report, and then stored on the website.

Next Seanger reviewed the origins of the Crookneck Lake 5-Year Management Plan which serves as a historical repository for both CLID and Lake Crookneck Improvement Association (LCIA) reports and documents. Dan stated we are completing the fourth year of the plan and that it is organized into the major domains for establishing a LID, for example, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) management. This lead into a discussion on "Establishment Orders" contrasting what we can and cannot do based on our current order.

Next Seanger reviewed the status of the "2021 Performance Work Plan" approved at the 2021 annual CLID meeting.

1. Survey the lake for invasive species: Two aquatic vegetation surveys have been performed to date. The spring survey focused on Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and delineated an area of 11.9 acres for treatment. No viable Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) was identified. The second survey, Summer AIS Survey, surveyed the entire lake for AIS and surveyed the CLP treated area for efficacy of treatment and impact on native species. The survey demonstrated the treatment was highly effective for

treating CLP with minimal to no effect on the native population. Additional areas of CLP were also identified east of the treatment zone, a single location along the north shoreline, in the far-east (northeast) bay, in a few random areas in the west bay (first reporting in over 10 years). Also identified in the summer survey was the presence of Yellow Iris along the north shore. This is a new invasive to Crookneck Lake; although it should be noted that this plant is a regulated invasive species. Species are legal to buy, sell, transport and possess, but may not be introduced into a free-living state, such as released into public waters. Two surveys are pending. A late summer survey which will focus on EWM and a dive survey which will focus on Zebra mussels. Two surveys for Zebra Mussel (veliger stage) and Spiny Water Flea were collected. The results of these samples are pending. Results from 2018 – 2020 have all been negative. During 2020, professional dock services which remove over 30 docks across the lake, together with property owners have not identified any Zebra mussels.

2. Treat invasive species: During May, 11.8 acres of CLP was delineated and permitted for treatment by the DNR. The use of two herbicides was under consideration: Aquathol-K at a cost of \$18,073 or Diquat at a cost of \$2,380. Working with the DNR and our treatment contractor we secured the use of Diquat at a savings of \$15,693 to the CLID. Our intent is to treat any EWM identified during the late summer AIS survey.
3. Monitor the quality of the lake water: Crookneck Lake continues to be in a “Mesotrophic (healthy) State”. Total Phosphorus and Secchi Depth are “improving with 99%”, Chlorophyll-a data shows “no significant trend exists”, and the Total Trophic State Index is “improving with 95% confidence”. It should be noted that the presence of Zebra mussels would distort the above trends. The surveyor and numerous individuals have commented on the clarity of the water this year. Could this be the result of Zebra mussels or changing weather patterns...all speculation at this time?
4. Management of the CLID: Seanger reported the Board utilizes this checklist and the Treasurer’s Report to ensure all mandated filings, reports, and deadlines required by either state statute or our Establishment Order were met. We continue to be in full compliance.

Seanger made a second and final call to cast ballots for election to the Board of Director’s.

Treasurer’s Report: A recap of our financial status was reviewed, noting further details are found in the Annual Treasurer’s Report. Our beginning balance was \$76,401 and estimated ending balance is \$84,235. Estimated expenses total \$11,706. The uptick in our ending balance is primarily due to our ability to receive AIS Grants and approval to use alternative herbicide resulting in significant savings. The 2021 Treasurer’s Report is posted on “CrookneckLake.com” under “CLID”).

2022 Proposed Performance Plan, 2022 Proposed Performance Plan Budget and the 2022 Proposed Levy: Seanger reviewed the process used for approval of each indicating the members present would approve the plan and budget while the board has the responsibility to set the proposed levy. All three then go to the Morrison County Commissioners who approve them at our annual meeting with them during August or September.

Proposed 2022 Performance Plan and Proposed Performance Plan Budget: Seanger reviewed the proposed 2022 Performance Plan noting it is the same as 2021's. The Proposed 2022 Performance Plan Budget has a nominal increase for each line item. The rationale used to develop the treatment cost was to average the cost for treating CLP with Aquathol-K for 2019 and 2021, plus the average cost for treating EWM for 2019 and 2020, rounding down to the nearest thousand. Factors considered in this budget formulation: future availability of AIS grants, ability to use an alternative herbicide, extent of EWM infestation, and the two-year funding cycle (levy/assessment collections).

Seanger asked for a motion from floor to approve the 2022 Performance Plan. Julie Stein made the motion, seconded by Rick Theisen. Subject opened for discussion. No discussion ensued. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Seanger asked for a motion from floor to approve the 2022 Performance Plan Budget. John Marsh made the motion, Terry Stumbo seconded. After a short discussion on funding streams, levy collections, and treatment options and costs the budget was approved by voice vote.

Seanger asked for a motion from the floor to authorize the annual CLID meeting to be held in any weekend during 2022. John Marsh made motion; Rick Theisen seconded. During discussion Seanger explained the reason for this request is that state statute specifies that unless approved during the previous annual meeting, the annual meeting must be held during specific summer months. Motion passed by voice vote.

2022 Proposed Levy: Although this is a responsibility of the board, Seanger made the following motion at the direction of the board members present. The board makes a motion to hear from the floor any discussion referencing the 2022 levy. I request a second from the floor. Seconded by Greg Kloss. Seanger opened the discussion with his opinion of future grant availability, the ability to continue to use the alternative herbicide, cost of herbicides, CLP located during the summer survey and unknown EWM saga. He further stated he would be comfortable accepting the risk of setting the level at a rate to recapture an amount slightly below the 2021 estimated expenses vs. the proposed 2022 proposed budget. JJ Parker stated we have a healthy reserve which he is comfortable with lowering. Don Johnson stated levy consistency from year to year is desirable rather than a large differential between years. After an open discussion from the floor ranged from statutory limits on our bottom line, can funds be used for other items (fish stocking, blue line trench), better to have surplus than not enough, and preference to have a consistent levy. Seanger then closed the discussion after a final call and asked for a board member to make a motion for the 2022 levy. JJ Parker made the following motion, "The CLID Board will set the 2022 levy at \$60 which will be recommended to the Morrison County Board

of Commissioners for approval”, Don Johnson seconded. No further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous hand vote of the board members present.

Election of Board of Directors: Greg Kloss certified the ballot results and JJ Parker announced the results: twenty-six votes were cast (5 by mail, 5 by email, and 16 at the meeting) via a secret ballot. Donald Johnson (homestead/resident) received 25, April Powell (homestead/resident) received 26, and JJ Parker (non-homestead/non-resident) received 26 votes. Their terms on the CLID Board of Directors will run through the 2023 election.

### Old Business

Crookneck Lake Water Level: On 10 Oct 2019, the lake reached a record 3.86’ above its Ordinary High Water Level (OHW); on 24 Jul 2020 the level was 3.18’ above the OHW; on 19 Jul 2021 the level was 1.96’ above the OHW (down 1.90’ from the record high).

Publish CLID/LCIA Trigger Points: Delayed due to Covid-19. The intent is to now incorporate the trigger points into the review/revision of the 5-Year CLID Management Plan 2022.

Migration to new LCIA/CLID web domain: On-going with a target date of spring 2022.

### New Business

Contact Info: Notify a board member of property sales or change of addresses to ensure receipt of mailings.

2022 AIS Treatment: The CLID Board intends to treat the lake during 2022 for identified AIS with approved herbicides. If you wish to opt out and not allow treatment adjacent to your property notify a board member by April 30, 2022.

First call for next year’s Board of Directors. At this time, projected 2022-2024 term board vacancies: one resident/homestead and one non-resident/non-homestead. The non-resident/non-homestead position will definitely be vacant and require a candidate to fill the vacancy to the board. Contact any board member for more information on responsibilities or to have your name on the ballot.

Thank you to John and JJ Parker for today’s donuts and coffee.

Dan opened the meeting for any additional new business, there being none, Greg Kloss made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Janie Stern Seconded, approved unanimously by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 A.M.

Post Meeting Note: The meeting minutes were circulated to all board members for edits and approval. The minutes were approved as written by the Board.

*Don Johnson*

Don Johnson  
Secretary

ATCH: 2021 Annual Meeting Presentation (located at CrookneckLake.com under CLID)