

PARADISE LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD (PLIB)

MINUTES – August 12, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 P.M. Present were: Toni Drier, John Siegel, Bob Smith and Paul Teike. Absent was: Arden Bawkey.

Minutes approved as corrected: one typing error, addition of the phrase “up to a limit of \$1000” in motion on rewards for harvest boat users.

Correspondence: Drier stated that there seemed to be some confusion about making copies of correspondence for the public. She is not authorized to do so. Teike may do so as chair but emails must be edited before distribution.

Drier also stated that she had called Ash Alt about a survey committee to clarify that the Board had not formally approved a committee yet and explain about government bodies and the open meetings law.

Appearances: Teike introduced PLIB consultant Jennifer Jones, PhD, and asked that any questions be held until the presentation is complete. Jones gave a presentation on possible treatment options for invasive weeds on Paradise Lake. (See full report on PLIB website under Current Reports.)

Questions:

- After herbicide application, how long before we can swim? *24 hrs. Are they applied a certain time of the year? Usually up here it is mid to late June.*
- Is it better to harvest, then use an herbicide? *Harvesting damages the plant, so no.*
- On divers, can you use several teams? *Mike Smith is the only one who does this process. You may want to do DASH (Diver assisted harvesting) with benthic barriers.*
- Since we have an expert hired, we should do what she recommends. Speaker called for hand raising on those present who would favor herbicides.
- We have no control of treatments. None of the Board raised their hand. I would like a survey and then the Board takes action but the Board is still independent. How can we get our wants? *Teike responded that he wants the Board to follow what the majority of the stakeholders want.*

- What happened to laminar flo? *The process causes a lowering of ammonia which makes EWM (Eurasian Water Milfoil) crash. Septic issues have caused ammonia levels to rise from previous levels. Lakesavers let us down. (Lakesavers has been renamed Everblue.)*
- Six years ago, the Board should have had a plan for what to do if laminar flo stopped working. We have been let down big. *I think maybe natural methods have been exhausted. For chemical use, we must do extensive testing.*
- What does a harvester cost? Maybe it pays to buy a harvester and get a contractor to monitor it. *Harvesting takes down all weeds. A systemic herbicide will not touch pondweeds of which many varieties are present in this lake.*
- There are two steps: get the Board to agree on what the majority wants; get the state to agree. What does it take to get the Board to act on majority wishes?
- Smith related that in 1997 when EWM first appeared there was no PLIB. The Paradise Lake Association (PLA) came up with weevils. There are still native weevils in the lake. In 2004 you could hardly find EWM. In 2007 we started seeing an increase. Enviroscience, provider of the weevils, said that our weevil population was sufficient for EWM control. That was wrong. They no longer provide weevils. All they do is set up a program so you can grow your own. I'm not for chemicals until we exhaust every possible natural method of control.
- I like Jone's opinion if we did a two part system: large scale (100A) then watch for what works.
- There is no silver bullet.
- Jones stated that we could use a systemic herbicide and then the following year "boom." She believes we have hybridized EWM, native with invasive, and weevils work only with pure.
- Do what the majority wants.
- Teike stated that we are in the final year of a five year plan. Spoke about how at the end of the first five year plan, things were fine and residents wanted the status quo.
- Is it correct that John Siegel is the appointed riparian? Yes. Why did Enviroscience go out of business? *Not out of business, just did not continue the weevil production.*
- Can we keep bubblers and do chemicals? *This is not a cost/benefit option.*

- Based on today, it appears your recommendation is trichlovir.
- Drier stated that since we are still in the current five year plan, we cannot switch to chemicals next year.
- Jones noted that EGLE needs a feasibility study, survey, test results, etc.
- Why shouldn't EGLE approve a permit since we have tried other methods that don't seem to be working? *One never knows. They may locate an endangered species in the lake that would be affected.*
- Bob Smith does not live in Carp Lake Township. Why do we have someone from Walloon Lake on our Board? He should go help Walloon Lake solve its problems.
- What is the effect of herbicides on fish? *That is one thing that DNR looks at before permitting. Diclot does kill fish.*
- Teike stated that he would support anything that moves the current timetable up.
- Poor septic systems can impact weed growth. *Find most impact at access sites. Also plants give off seeds which can lie dormant in "seed banks" which can sprout at a later unknown time. Triclopir is not permitted in lakes that have an outlet which Paradise Lake does. Permits have been granted but an additive that "glues" the herbicide to the plants must be used. If a lake has loons, herbicides cannot be used closer than 500 ' from the nesting site. When permitting the State must be notified of any loon population which is a protected species. Applicators must abide by any restrictions.*
- Harvest was done July 24 in front of my property and it is now topping out again. We should weigh the cost of multiple harvestings versus cost of herbicide.
- How does that work with the herbicide that has a three year guarantee? The Board has to have a set SAD appropriation available for the term of the SAD program. *If pricelor is used, then the State does a data point check. If the weeds are 90% or more impacted, there can be no further treatment. If less than 90%, retreatment is allowed. Up until now the company has done this at no cost.*

At this point, Teike ended the question period and returned to the agenda.

Treasurer's Report:

- The bills for the past month were presented. Smith stated that there is only one bill he needs authorization for: he has arranged to dock the weed boat at the Marina at \$100/mo. and opened a gas charge account. Moved by Teike, seconded by Drier to approve payment of expenses for the weed boat. Passed

New Business:

- Smith read a resolution to pass the budget for 2020-2021. Moved by Smith, seconded by Siegel to accept the 2020-2021 budget. In a roll call vote the resolution passed: 4 ayes, 1 absent.
- Smith read out a section of MI Public Act 451 of 1994 part 309 concerning representatives on the Board. When he moved from Carp Lake, he presented a letter to the Carp Lake Township Board stating if they felt it better that he no longer serve as a representative, he would step down. At that time, the Board unanimously approved that he continue on the PLIB. Smith further stated that he felt that Mr. Boyer was wrong in stating that the Board could be dissolved by a petition of 2/3 of the riparians and read the multiple conditions needed to be met to dissolve the entire Board.
- The Date for the regular November meeting was set for Wednesday, November 11 at 7 P.M. at the Carp Lake Township Hall. Jones will be able to attend that meeting and give the yearend report.

Old Business:

- The dock fee was presented under Treasurer's Report.
- Drier related that at the prior meeting several persons had signed up to serve on this sub-committee and one person had applied via email. Teike moved and Drier seconded that a Survey Sub-committee be formed with those currently signed up serving in such sub-committee. Passed.
- Teike set a meeting date for the sub-committee for Wednesday, August 19, at 7 P.M. at the CLT Park Pavilion. Drier will contact all volunteers. Drier also stated that all meetings must comply with the Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Public comment:

- An attendee disagreed with Smith's interpretation of Act 409. Furthermore they did not feel that their voice was being heard. Emails were sent to the PLIB but no responses were received.
- Only two members of the five member Board live in Carp Lake Township. It is unfair to single out one member as not deserving to serve on the Board.
- There is a new page on the website called NOTICES. All notices of meetings, etc. will be on this page beginning now.
- How do we find out if something has been posted on the website?
- A resident of Center Township who has been familiar with Paradise Lake for some time and has researched its problem with invasives remarked that he feels that the use of herbicides is now the choice.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.