

LOWER SPRING LAKE DISTRICT
1st QUARTER MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2024, 10am

BOARD MEMEBERS PRESENT: Carol Dixon, Chairperson, Jody Deichl, Secretary, Debby Bartolerio, Treasurer, Kathy Weiss, Village of Palmyra Representative

ATTENDEES: In addition to board members, 15 Lake District members were in attendance.

Guests: A. Watkinson, DNR, C. Hutchinson, Jefferson Co. Land & Water Conservation Dept.

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 by C. Dixon. A warm welcome was extended to Colton Hutchinson, the new water resource management specialist for Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Department. Colton has already been involved in a virtual meeting and has put together an aquatic plant survey map for us. Welcome Colton - we appreciate your engagement and look forward to working with you.

MINUTES – The minutes from the August 19, 2023 annual meeting were read by J. Deichl. Minutes were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT – D. Bartolerio noted that the budget for 2023 looked good but was anticipating one additional harvester bill from the village. She will confirm with L. Mueller and then can close out the 2023 budget. She noted all line items came in under budget except for the harvester permit (307.50) and truck repairs/supplies (6,445.11) were over budget. She announced the Village has contributed \$3,000 and the Town \$2,000 again this year to assist in maintaining the lake. We greatly appreciate their collaboration and support! The balance in the savings account is \$17,801.96. L. Plennes and P. Zimmerman have agreed to audit the accounting records.

HARVESTER REPORT – J. Molosky reported that the harvester motor needed repair along with parts for the conveyor belt after it was pulled from the water in the fall. He also ordered a new manual as the old one was damaged when the harvester tipped over a few years back. He noted that “mouse control/patrol” has been good over the winter. He’s been applying peppermint oil regularly in the truck and it seems to be keeping them away. He feels the truck and harvester should be good maintenance-wise as they both now have a dedicated service/maintenance schedule. He noted that we should probably start actively looking for a harvester operator for the summer, as our previous operator has retired. He has put “feelers” out to the Eagle Scout program but has not heard back. N. Yarwood graciously volunteered to become our harvester operator. Thanks to J. Molosky for his dedication to the coordinator position.

DRAWDOWN COMMITTEE – At the annual meeting, D. Schultz volunteered to organize a small committee to meet with Village board members to understand their reasoning and opposition to the drawdown. The committee consisted of D. Bartolerio, D. Schultz, B. Nieders, S. Serafin and M. Temple. The committee felt it best to meet one-on-one with the board members. Unfortunately, none of the board members were interested in talking to them. D. Schultz did, however, meet with M. Fischer – the head of the Lion’s Fisheree, who provided a lot of good feedback. D. Schultz stated this continues to be a

work in progress as we move forward. D. & J. Molosky brought up a dinner conversation they had with a board member who showed concern after hearing about their unsafe shoreline conditions. D. Schultz encouraged Lake District members to have conversations and share experiences and informative stories with the people they meet as it does make a difference. More to come as we continue to look for ways to collaborate and work together to make the lake an asset for all to enjoy. Thanks to the Drawdown Committee for your continued efforts.

2024 CHEMICAL TREATMENT PROPOSAL – K. Ksobiech referred to the projected map of proposed areas to be chemically treated in the spring of 2024. It's at the discretion of the DNR which areas will be approved. The application will be mailed soon. Once areas are approved, an email will be sent to members noting the approximate application date. The day before chemical application, signs will be distributed and instructions given. Thanks to K. Ksobiech for completing the paperwork and the preparation needed.

GEESE DEPRIDATION – E. Ksobiech noted that the application for the permit will be mailed out soon. D. Bartolerio offered the use of their paddleboat should he need it this spring.

OPEN FORUM – L. Plennes asked why the pier for the harvester was left in the lake over the winter. She was concerned that the pier might get damaged. J. Dixon stated that by keeping the pier in place, when the DPW puts the harvester back in the lake, they will be able to line it up in the same optimum spot. J. Molosky will check for any pier damage. (Two days later, J. Molosky reported that the dock is in good shape.)

NEXT MEETING – Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 10:00am (Might be changed to April 13th)

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn was made by D. Bartiolerio and seconded by D. Henrichon. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.