

BUFFALO LAKE P&R DISTRICT QUARTERLY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES
SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022
PACKWAUKE TOWN HALL
8:00 a.m.

1. *Meeting was called to order:* Chairperson Joe Dion called the meeting to order at 8:00am.
2. *Roll Call of Board Members:* Vikki Trimble, Ro Klecz, Joe Dion, Judi Nigbor, Town of Packwaukee Representative, Al Rosenthal, and Larry Haygood. Absent Marquette County Representative. Al Rosenthal mentioned that the new Marquette County Representative will be Jon Vote
3. *Changes or Additions to the Agenda:* Joe Dion mentioned that the changes he would like to make to the agenda was to the "Acceptance of the Minutes" Joe would like to add the March 19, 2022, Special Meeting minutes. The second change would be to move- "Lake Level Petition – Status, Possible Action", to number 5 and the third change would be to move – "Announcements" to number 4. **Motion** made by Vikki Trimble to accept the agenda as is, and seconded by Larry Haygood, Discussion none, None opposed, Approved – Absent Marquette County Representative, Jon Vote
4. *Announcements:* Joe Dion stated that effective immediately at the adjournment of today's meeting he would resign from his position on the Board. The Board thanked Joe for his dedication and volunteerism to the board and the district.
5. *Lake Level Petition-Status, Possible Action:* Al stated that he spoke with Senator Ballweg, she had stated that she had met with DNR is regards to the response letter that the district had received from the DNR pertaining to the lake level adjustment. Al talked to Onterra, and they had mentioned that they are busy until the end of 2023. Onterra mentioned that DNR should have most of this information they are request due to the district filling previous lake management plans. Onterra provided a name of an engineering firm to possibly assist the district with the DNR requirements. Al called the engineering firm, and they were puzzled by the letter from the DNR to the District and felt that their firm couldn't take on a project like ours. Al was hoping to have some costs put together by this meeting, but he hasn't been able to obtain another engineering referral. Al stated that Senator Ballweg would help us meet with DNR. June 8th or June 15th looked like good dates to meet at 1:00pm. Al stated that he would set up the meeting.
6. *Acceptance of the Minutes:* **Motion** made by Al Rosenthal to accept the following minutes from March 12, 2022, and Special Meeting March 19, 2022, seconded by Vikki Trimble. Discussion none, None opposed, Approved - Absent Marquette County Representative, Jon Vote
7. *Discussion and action on the future Legal representation for the Buffalo Lake District:* The District's current attorney Bill O'Conner has moved to a bigger firm, Boardman & Clark. It was suggested that we keep Bill O'Conner and go with his new firm Boardman & Clark, starting June 1, 2022. Al stated that Bill's new firm has more experience with Lake Districts and Municipalities.

Motion made by Larry Haygood to transfer our legal representation to the new firm Boardman & Clark and have Bill O’Conner represent the district, seconded by Al Rosenthal. Discussion – the district doesn’t have to sign a contract and that there are no retainers, None opposed, Approved - Absent Marquette County Representative, Jon Vote

8. *Committee Reports*

a) *Finance & Dues:*

i. Treasurer’s Report Approval for March 2022, April 2022:

Motion made by Al Rosenthal to accept the Treasurer’s Reports from March 2022 and April 2022 seconded by Judy Nigbor. Discussion none. None opposed. Approved - Absent Marquette County Representative, Jon Vote

ii. Discussion of Potential Overruns: Joe wanted to mention that due to the cost of fuel, there will be overruns with our fuel costs. There maybe overruns in other accounts as well with the increase in products. It was decided that we would use the carryover to pay any overages.

Motion made by Larry Haygood to increase the fuel budget and take the overage from last year’s carryover. Motion made to accept the Treasurer’s Reports from March 2022 and April 2022 by Al Rosenthal, seconded by Judy Nigbor. Discussion - Al asked why the district was not getting fuel from the county. Gary had mentioned that last year’s price was higher than what the district is getting now but would double check. None opposed. Approved - Absent Marquette County Representative, Jon Vote

b) *Harvesting Committee:*

iii. **Update from Committee**

Joe Dion mentioned that the harvesting permit allows the district to start June 1st. Joe has asked the DNR for an early start but has not heard back from them. Joe also mentioned that the district’s harvesting permit expires at the end of 2024 which makes it a 3-year permit. Gary mentioned that the Stae Legislature is looking to increase harvesting fees for 2024. Bob mentioned that Aquarius puts on once-a-year meeting and stated that there is a lot of good information that comes out of those meetings. Larry asked if we were fully staffed and was told that we are right now. Larry asked if we were still on schedule to have the buildings built. Gary mentioned that the building is on schedule. Bob stated that his crew has been busy cleaning machines. Ro asked what equipment the district needs to be worried about. Bob mentioned #4 has had issues with leaks and the seams are in bad condition. It is a steel barge. Bob mentioned that used tires were purchased for the truck which saved the district money. Running water is needed at the district’s site. The current well is inoperable. Joe mentioned that the new conveyor should be at the site by June 1, 2022, but the remote operational pendant will be coming later. Joe stated that he would finish the paperwork for the conveyor’s grant process.

c) Communications: Nothing

d) Ecology: Nothing

e) Fish Committee:

iv. Joe Dion mentioned that fish count would be starting in June and Vikki mentioned that a few checks have come in from businesses from the Fish Committee fund.

9. Marquette Lake Group/County/Town Reports – Judy Nigbor mentioned that the concrete pad has been installed at the Freedom boat landing. The old concrete pad was not useable for Hollenbach’s boat landing, so the town is applying for ARAPA funds to put in a pad. The Causeway is not going to happen this year, the County denied the gravel pit, and Packwaukee’s Town Clerk has resigned. Marquette County has ARPA Funds available - American Rescue Plan Act- Judy mentioned that maybe the district should try for some funding. There is no guarantee that the district would get the funding but thought the district should apply.

8) Unfinished Business – Gary mention that he has used his time and personal vehicle to dump district garage. Gary asked the District Board to communicate with Town Board to get permission for the district to dump garbage at the dump. Either the district needs a dumpster, or we needs obtain permission to be able to dump garbage at the dump. Vikki stated that she would get this on the Town Board’s agenda.

9) New Business – Judy asked who would be replace Joe as Chairperson. It was mentioned that Al Rosenthal take that position. Vikki will talk to Al. Thank you again to Joe Dion for his service as Chair and his volunteerism to the district. Joe stated that he will give the buoys coordinates to the harvesting crew.

11) Adjournment: **Motion** made by Larry Haygood to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:20am

Respectfully Submitted by Ro Klecz

DRAFT