



## **OCONTO COUNTY LAKES AND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION**

**PO Box 233, Townsend, WI 54175-0233**

### **ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES:**

**AUGUST 22, 2020**

**Riverview Pavilion, Mountain**

Board members present: Steve Heimerman, Steve Dupuis, Dwight Ziegler, Kathy Wiggins, Matt Marty, Nancy Patrick.

Organizations recorded as present: Inland Lake, Ranch Lake, Oconto Sportsmen's Club, Archibald Lake, Winslow Lake, Townsend Flowage, White Potato Lake Advancement, Boot Lake, Leigh/Underwood, Crooked Lake District, Kelly Lake Advancement Assoc., Chute Pond P & R District, Maiden Lake, Machickanee.

20 people signed the attendance sheet.

The meeting was called to order by President, Steve Heimerman at 9:00 a.m.

### **2019 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES:**

Matt Marty moved to approve the minutes; Pat McNamara seconded. The motion passed.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Dwight Ziegler announced we have 23 member organizations. The new members are Lake Ucil Homes Association and Paya Lake. Only two organizations are unpaid to date: Anderson Lake and Mary Lake District. Our bank statement as of July 31, 2020 is \$2,330.57. A complete statement is at the end of the minutes. Matt Marty moved to approve the treasurer's report, Matt Connel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES TREATMENT: EWM (Eurasian water milfoil)**

Steve Heimerman summarized the three recommended stages of handling EWM: 1. When there are only a small number of plants discovered, pursue hand pulling. 2. When there are larger areas, try something like the D.A.S.H. (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) system, which is the extraction of water plants using a diver, suction tube, a unique set of pumps mounted on a boat and a bagging or filtration system. 3. The next stage would be chemical spot treatment, then whole lake chemical treatment.

Ken Darby of Kelly Lake presented their D.A.S.H program. They have hired a DASH boat to perform the EWM removal in the past, but it is very expensive. They decided to build their own D.A.S.H. boat. Someone donated a pontoon boat and they got a Healthy Waters grant to purchase the rest of the needed equipment. The cost of the equipment came to \$6,000. They have their own divers which will help keep the costs down.

Could other lakes share Kelly Lake's boat? Kelly Lake would train people to use it.

A question arose about the number of EWM fragments that escape the DASH system. It is believed there are about 80-90% fewer fragments than with hand pulling.

The DNR and several lakes are trying a new system of enclosure curtains to surround chemically treated areas to keep the concentration of the treatment chemicals high enough to be more effective. Marinette County has been a leader in this project. Archibald Lake tried a small area this summer.

Archibald Lake's trial curtain enclosure project was presented by Ken Schwebke, including bringing an actual roll of the enclosure curtain and a few other items they used. The project cost their lake association \$6,500, but they will be able to use the equipment for future treatments. They made 1,600 feet of barrier curtain (100 feet long x 20 feet wide sheets of reinforced plastic) and rolled them onto 15 spools. Buoys were placed to mark the area and signs were installed to keep boaters away. They treated 1 acre of EWM inside the enclosure with 2,4D. They also treated 2 acres of the surrounding open water area to compare the effectiveness of the barrier curtains. It took the installation team two hours to place the curtains. The curtains were left in for three days after the treatment.

A survey was taken the first week of August, and a report of the results will be taken early September. An unofficial observation is that it looks like the curtained section had better results than the surrounding open water area.

At this time Archibald Lake Association has decided not to share its curtains for other lakes to use because of the difficulty of decontaminating the curtains, but it is possible for lakes to share equipment if the curtains are decontaminated before being used in a different lake.

Archibald Lake has invested \$11,000 for this project this year. Last year they spent \$24,000 for a DASH treatment. They plan to treat a 2-acre area next year. Archibald Lake was the first deployment of this system in Oconto County.

Chute Pond and Archibald Lake will apply to the WDNR for a Herbicide Enclosure Study Grant for next summer. OCLAWA will be the grant requestor.

Dwight Ziegler of Inland Lake and Betty Zimdars of Townsend Flowage District explained how the two groups went together to perform a whole-lake treatment. They used a new granular product called Sonar One, Flurodone which was just approved by the WDNR. The granules take the whole summer to dissipate. There will be three treatments. The advantage of this product is that there is no lag time between application and lake use by dogs and people. For Inland Lake, 80 acres were treated and the cost is \$85,000; \$16,000 more for the third treatment. Just to compare costs, they paid \$226,000 three years ago for a new weed harvester, with the help of a \$90,000 grant.

#### GRANT PROGRAM CHANGES:

Steve H. passed out a Grant Cycle Timeline handout. One of the newer timeline dates is that September 1 is the deadline for submitting a pre-proposal to the local biologist. The biologist will then determine whether a pre-application meeting is required. The deadline for a grant application is due November 1. The handout is included at the end of the minutes. This new timeline includes the OCLAWA Healthy Waters Cost Share grants.

It is suggested that if you apply to the state for a grant, you should apply for a Healthy Waters grant too; you get extra points for doing so.

Final application for the Healthy Waters Grant should be sent in no later than October 15.

New this year for the Healthy Waters grant is that if this year's \$35,000 allotment is not completely used up, and if a project pops up past the application deadline, an organization can apply for a grant without having to wait for the next year's grant cycle.

Another grant source: Lumberjack RC&D had \$73,000 available for public area grants, such as handicap access boat landings, parks, playgrounds. Steve Heimerman is a member-at-large for this organization.

#### NEW COORDINATOR POSITION DISCUSSION:

There is preliminary discussion for OCLAWA to coordinate a public/private partnership effort to combine the resources of a few counties together to hire or contract someone to be a coordinator for Aquatic Invasive Species control efforts, Clean Boats, Clean Waters, Citizen Lake Monitoring activities. The Oconto County land conservation secretary has agreed to do the administrative work. The vision is to have OCLAWA contribute monetarily toward this effort, which would mean serious fundraising. This year's raffle was cancelled, but there was agreement to do one next year. Other fundraiser ideas suggested were a banquet and a "lakes-challenge" golf outing.

#### DUES CHANGE PROPOSAL:

It was proposed that the annual dues be increased to \$50 per year due to our more active participation in waterways activities (reimbursing for gas mileage, etc.) and wanting to send two people to the annual Wisconsin Lakes convention, among other activities. Ken Darby moved to increase the yearly dues to \$50.00. Matt Marty seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### LAKE LEADERS INSTITUTE:

An idea is developing that this program proceed on a county level rather than a statewide level, and that OCLAWA might sponsor it. It would consist of 20-30 people. This program consists of intense training of lake ecology, communication, collaboration and other related issues for lake leaders. This format could concentrate on county specific issues.

#### BYLAWS REVISION:

After some discussion and helpful suggestions, Matt Marty moved to accept the presented changes; Amy Klebe seconded the motion. The bylaws CHANGES were approved unanimously by voice vote (20 yes, 0 no).

#### OCLAWA BOARD OPENINGS:

Two current board members are up for re-election: Steve Dupuis and Nancy Patrick.

Also, there are two open positions. Mary Marks, Kelly Lake and Amy Klebe, Boot Lake volunteered to be nominated to the board. Ken Darby moved to accept these nominations; Dwight Ziegler seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Matt Marty moved to adjourn the meeting; Matt Connel seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Wiggins, Secretary