



# Alpine Lake

Protection & Rehabilitation  
District

P.O. Box 155, Wautoma, WI 54982

August 26, 2023

Lake Alpine Park Pavilion (combined with the annual picnic afterwards)

ANNUAL Meeting

10:00 am

PRESENT: Jason Kunding (Chairman) Chris Schroeder  
John Manion (Interim Secretary) Michael Baranowski  
Mary Sue Braun (Treasurer)

VISITORS: John Jarvis, County Commissioner

GUESTS: Approximately 70 Lake Alpine Residents

- Jason Kunding called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Statement of Proper Posting – The Annual meeting notification was in the Newsletter that was mailed via the USPS. MOTION to approve the proper posting by Joan Matone, seconded by Jason Kunding. MOTION PASSED
- Agenda Approval – Agenda was amended to include and update from the Sunshine Committee. MOTION to accept the amended agenda was made by Eunie Ripp; seconded by Jason Kunding. MOTION PASSED
- Secretary Report – John Manion read the minutes from the Informational Meeting held June 3, 2023.
- Committee Reports
  - Sunshine Committee – Eunie Ripp had nothing to report on.
  - Water Testing – Mary Sue Braun reported the water temperatures on August 25<sup>th</sup> were close to 80 degrees and holding steady while visibility has been about 8 feet. If anyone wants to know more about this, see the DNR website under Citizens Water Testing.
  - Outreach and Recognition – The volunteer Dinner will be held September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Moose Inn. Cocktails at 6:00 pm followed by dinner at 7:00. See the sign-up sheet.
  - Fish Stocking - Bill Elliott reported the We Really Kare Fish Club cost for stocking local lakes was around \$28,000 last year. He expects the cost per fish to increase significantly next year. Next year they are planning on stocking walleyes; 12 lakes at 500 per lake. Average cost per fish will be \$5/ea. He then said this past winter fisheree was the biggest and most profitable ever and they are hoping the 2024 winter fisheree to do as well. Bill said the fishing on our lake this year has been the best he has ever seen in all the years on the lake. There have been record Northern pike and bass this past year.
  - Lake Management Update
    - Dredging was completed in January and there was a permit applied for and approved May 2nd for harvesting plants. Another permit was approved June 21st for spraying the lake and the spraying was completed June 29th and about 4.5 acres were done.

- The drawdown results were positive for the reduction of milfoil, per Jim Scharl. The treatments seemed to work better than in past years as the south bay was clear of plants by July 17th. Jason felt that moving the treatment dates up to June was more beneficial than doing it in July as in past years.
  - Harvesting took place the week of July 17-20 and 35,000 pounds of plants were removed.
  - August 8th there was a Point of Intercept survey (240 points on our lake) and there was a lower density of weed growth. A total of 14 different plants were found and only 3 of those (milfoil, hybridized milfoil, and Japanese pond weed) were invasive.
  - More harvester cutting has started and will be completed this coming week.
  - Lake Management plans for the rest of 2023 include contacting another harvesting service to determine their availability and cost. New Tech Bio will be contacted as they do enzyme control to reduce muck and sediment. We will also be looking at the sediment depth at the inlet to determine the impact after this year's dredging.
- Annual Audit – Mary Sue Braun reported that an audit took place at her residence. Ingrid Kundinger and Sherri Manion reviewed transactions, checks written and accounting information for the past year. All transactions were acceptable and determined a successful audit.
- Treasurer's Report – Mary Sue Braun reported we have cash in the Operating Account of \$20,446 but additional payments were made today so that amount will be lower. Our investment account balance in the government investment pool is now \$ 93,567 and she did note that we are now back into the CD (Certificate of Deposit) market as banks are now offering more favorable rates. We did lock in on a 5% short-term rate. MOTION to accept the financials was made by Jan Jaecks; seconded by Jason Kundinger. MOTION PASSED
- Old Business - Jason Kundinger reported that there was no Old Business to discuss.
- 2024 Annual Budget
  - Mary Sue Braun reported that last year we reduced the property assessment to \$125 and this year we are proposing to keep it the same. She noted this was possible because the dredging project came in well under budget and we are now earning interest on our bank account balance which will add another \$5,000 to our account.
  - Some expenses are expected to increase next year due to anticipated inflation but the Lake Management expense of \$5,000 will be paid this year, not next year.
  - Joan Matone reported that she received correspondence from a resident who asked that we consider raising the assessment a substantial amount in order to fund more items in the Lake Management Plan. Discussion on this topic included: A) Any increase in the assessment would have to be addressed in a special meeting and approved before the budget is approved. B) Tom Wood made a motion to increase the assessment to whatever is necessary but the motion was too vague to be considered. C) Jason reviewed previous years on what we spent on the lake and the cost of creating the lake plan alone is \$5,000. D) Jason suggested creating a discretionary fund in the budget to use on projects that could be done without approval. E) Bill Elliott voiced an objection to raising the assessment because so many lake members live on a fixed income. Plus, the District has a large amount of available cash on hand already. F) Ginny Schroeder asked what can be done to reduce the excessive muck in the lake? If we do not save up in advance, how can we have enough to pay for what we need, when we need it? G) Jason does not recommend changing the budget at this time or raising the assessment. MOTION to close discussion on raising the assessment was made by Bill Elliott; seconded by Michael Baranowski MOTION PASSED by a 27-5 vote.

- MOTION made by Mary Sears to accept the proposed budget for 2024; seconded by Marlin Carlson. MOTION PASSED
- New Business
  - Goose Egg Remediation
    - Residents must sign up to have their property assessed for goose eggs. Pink flags are available to identify property. Looking for volunteers to help in this process.
    - Clyde Simonson leads this program for our lake and he explained the process of what he does to control the geese population. He reported that they found and treated 7 nests with 43 eggs on the islands.
    - As the nesting season progresses it gets increasingly difficult to find the nests in the heavy cover.
    - There were still 30-40 goselings seen on the lake but Clyde said they seem to have left once they were mature enough to do so.
    - Some nests are difficult to find, especially if the nests are deep onto people's property so he is looking for more volunteers. Volunteer time would be April-June.
    - Geese can lay eggs up to 3 times a year if the eggs are destroyed, but if the eggs are covered in oil and left alone, there will only be one hatch.
    - Eggs are marked and recorded and not removed until they would have normally hatched.
    - Egg treatment cannot be done without the homeowners written permission.
    - MOTION made by Ingrid Kunding to proceed with 2024 goose egg remediation; seconded by Brett Larsen. MOTION PASSED
  - Five Year Lake Management Plan Approval
    - Several plan options were presented at the June Informational meeting. The Wisconsin Lakes & Ponds group assembled the plan and gave the board a rough draft to review and modify. An email was sent out with the proposed plan to Lake Members and a comment period was given with an August 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Some comments were received and Jason reviewed them.
    - Jason reviewed several suggestions that were given that were already covered in the plan and did not require further approval. Example: dredging in the south bay, large size aerators.
    - Note: Adding a suggestion to the plan does not mean it is going to get done. But in order to give it a try, or even review it, it must be in the plan.
    - Suggestion: Can we add natural enzymes to the lake to promote the reduction of muck in the lake? This could be added to Goal #4. Our expert said that this idea has had little success on other lakes and would likely not be approved by the DNR. MOTION was made by Tom Wood to add to the plan goal #4 the use of enzymes in the lake; seconded by Jason Kunding. MOTION PASSED
    - Suggestion: Can we build a retention pond on the private property across the road to divert the residue from upstream lakes? Explore Motion was denied as the suggestion was made after the comment deadline.
    - Suggestion: Can we look into a way to filter the inlet to reduce residue? MOTION to look into a filter at the inlet made by Eric Trater; seconded by John Manion. MOTION PASSED
    - Dredging the south bay to make it deeper would not be allowed. It is already 4-6 feet deep and navigable.

- MOTION made by Bill Elliott to send the lake plan to the editor with our approvals for Alpine Lake; seconded by Michael Baranowski. MOTION PASSED
  
- Election of Commissioners for 2024
  - There are two 3-year terms up for consideration for 2024-2026.
  - Commissioner Michael Baranowski's term is up but he has agreed to serve another term if approved. Jason Kundinger nominated Michael Baranowski; seconded by Bill Elliott. Michael has agreed to serve another term.
  - Jason Kundinger's term is up and Eric Trater offered to volunteer to serve. Jason nominated Eric Trater, seconded by Jim Puttkammer. Jason has agreed to stay on as an advisor.
  
- Public Speak Out
  - Jim Puttkammer stated that items have been stolen off lake properties again. One person stole a generator. The thief was captured on camera and caught by authorities.
  - Bill Elliot recommended we change our bylaws to include a requirement that the board President (Chairperson) stays on the board for one year following his/her term in an advisory capacity to train the new commissioner.
  - The Waushara County Land Conservation Department will be doing the shoreline assessment survey on Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. The pontoon boat doing the assessment may exceed the No-Wake speed limit. Drones will be assessing as well.
  - A resident recommended that if you get any mail that is not yours, please put it back in your mailbox and put the flag up. The Post Office has new personnel and this will help them learn they made a mistake.
  
- MOTION to Adjourn made by Jim Puttkammer, seconded by Dave Ripp at 11:30 am.