

**BEAR LAKE-LAKE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, February 9, 2023
NORTH MUSKEGON CITY HALL**

Vice Chairman Paul Pek called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Paul Pek, Craig Howell, Brenda Moore and County Commissioner Jessica Cook

EXCUSED: Chairman Darrell Van Fossan

ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Lynne Fuller

ROLL

City Clerk Fuller called the roll.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Cook moved to approve the agenda. The motion was supported by Ms. Moore and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Cook moved to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2023 meeting. The motion was supported by Mr. Howell and carried unanimously.

OFFICER REPORTS

Mr. Pek reported that Mr. Van Fossan is doing well after surgery. He also reported that the web site has been updated with Commissioner Cook's name.

2023 BUDGET

Treasurer Craig Howell presented a proposed budget for 2023. He expressed concern that the invoice from GVSU has not been received; however, the total funds expended in 2022 was \$55,765 of the \$79,000 budget.

Mr. Howell recommended following the same path as last year by budgeting a general amount for all lake treatments instead of separate appropriations for specific treatments.

Following discussion, Vice Chairman Pek moved to accept the proposed budget as preliminary until proposals for lake treatment are reviewed and finalized. The motion was supported by Ms. Moore and carried unanimously.

2023 LAKE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

The Board discussed the Lake Management Plan Update from PLM for 2023. It was noted that Chairman Van Fossan has discussed with Jaimee Desjardins the possibility of keeping costs the same or possibly entering into a multi-year agreement that the Board could terminate at any time.

Ms. Moore moved to continue the relationship between the Board and PLM for lake management. The motion was supported by Mr. Howell and carried unanimously.

2023 WATER TESTING

Vice Chairman Pek moved to continue with GVSU as testing provider with the understanding that the plan remain the same as last year but to request that they present options for testing. The motion was supported by Commissioner Cook and carried unanimously.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT PHRAGMITES TREATMENT SUPPORT

The Conservation District is sending a mailing regarding treatment for phragmites. Resident approval is required for the treatment of each property.

Ms. Moore moved to partner with the Conservation District and encourage all lake residents to participate. The motion was supported by Mr. Howell and carried unanimously.

There was also discussion about participating in the MICorps Cooperating Lakes Monitoring program which uses volunteers to monitor lake quality. Ms. Moore said that there is an issue with maintaining the volunteer base and the data isn't as good as that provided by GVSU.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT NATIVE PLANT SALE COOPERATIVE

Ms. Moore moved to promote the native plant sale with no commitment of purchase volume from residents. She would also like to speak with Conservation District staff members about the plant sale as well as MICorps.

NEWSLETTER

The Board's newsletter will be mailed before summer begins and Mr. Pek requested suggestions for its contents.

SURVEY

The Board discussed the planned survey. Ms. Moore said that previously a survey was conducted door-to-door, not through mailing. It was agreed that the survey could include a question regarding how each resident uses the lake (fishing, etc.). A list of issues could be developed and questions will be formulated from those issues.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice Chairman Pek requested that, at the next meeting, the Board discuss the order of the agenda in relation to the By-Laws.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bonnie Slayton of 524 Lake Drive expressed concern about the number of developments in existence and planned for Muskegon Lake and the potential effect they will have on Bear Lake. Ms. Moore suggested writing a letter to Senator Jon Bumstead who is on the Appropriations Committee about the use of millions of dollars of grant money intended for lake cleanup and the effect of marinas on that effort. Mr. Pek commented that there was a study completed by the DNR on the effect of wake boats and the fact that patrols were planned to educate boaters on the water. Ms. Moore also commented that there is such a thing as "lake capacity".

Lynn Dudak of 430 Bear Lake said the lake behind her house has never looked so good and she is very pleased with the Board's diligence.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Lynne Fuller, City Clerk