

**BEAR LAKE-LAKE BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
Thursday, July 13, 2023  
NORTH MUSKEGON CITY HALL**

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

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

EXCUSED: Chairman Darrell VanFossan

ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Lynne Fuller and Mayor Sabina Freeman

**ROLL**

City Clerk Fuller called the roll.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Cook moved to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2023 meeting, striking the portion highlighted in the draft minutes. The motion was supported by Mr. Howell and carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Adam Hughey, Project Coordinator from the Muskegon Conservation District, introduced himself and stated he is attending meetings with people involved in the watershed as a point of contact when necessary. He also reported that they are awaiting approval for a mute swan cull. The District is also having a tire recycling event and encouraged the Board to share the information on the Facebook page.

Eric Keen, 90 N. Bear Lake Road, expressed concerns about the shoreline becoming difficult to navigate because of the vegetation growing as a result of the healthiness of the lake.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Pek reviewed communications received regarding native vegetation on Gust's pond and the recreational and safety impact of native plants. PLM was consulted regarding treatment of private ponds but they are not included in the permit. Private property owners can contact PLM if they want treatment for the ponds but this is not the Board's jurisdiction.

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

### **CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pek for Mr. VanFossan)**

#### **Survey 1 and Treatment**

Mr. Pek provided the results of Survey 1 in the form of a map identifying invasive vegetation in green and mixed nuisance natives in red. PLM recommends using a mixture of ProcellaCOR and Diquat for treatment of green areas and contact herbicides for the red. Low level treatment would be in swim areas and close to docks.

#### **First Phoslock Treatments**

The first Phoslock treatments in the deep holes of the lake was completed on June 14, 2023.

#### **Survey 2 and Treatment**

Mr. Pek spoke with PLM about the possibility of treating for native vegetation.

#### **Nuisance Native Plants**

Discussion continued about the native vegetation that is becoming a nuisance and making the swimming areas and docks difficult to navigate. Following discussion, Mr. Howell moved to proceed with the native plant treatment recommended by PLM and approved by Al Steinman, but to contact residents in the red shaded areas on the map asking if they would like to have their shoreline not treated. The motion was supported by Ms. Moore. Residents will be given until the day prior to treatment to let Mr. Pek know if they want the treatment. They will also be instructed to mark their docks with a PDF Mr. Pek will provide if they don't want the treatment.

### **TREASURER**

Mr. Howell reported that one year ago the Board voted to authorize the City to invest unused funds. In the past year those investments have increased fund balance by \$4,000-\$6,000. He also reported after processing invoices for GVSU and PLM, available funds are in good shape moving forward.

### **SECRETARY**

Ms. Moore will move forward with the Lake Management Plan using the current outline. The Board will review a draft of the plan before it is finalized.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **City and Township Beaches**

PLM has reported that no treatment is necessary at the beaches. Zebra mussels can be taken care of through a community clean-up. Mayor Freeman suggested contacting the City's Public Works Director, Mark Disselkoen, regarding this matter.

**Education Seminar and Survey**

Mr. Pek said he does not have time to organize an educational seminar or the survey at this time. Those projects are planned for later in the fall.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Moore reported that her office has acquired some new equipment that could be used to test private ponds. She will pursue that endeavor.

Lynn Dudek requested a report on algae treatment in the channel. Mr. Pek will get that report and provide it to her.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Next meeting: August 10, 2023

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Lynne Fuller, City Clerk