

CLIFFORD LAKE
LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD
MEETING
MARCH 9, 2011

A meeting of the Clifford Lake, Lake Improvement Board was held at the Montcalm County Drain Commission, 211 W. Main Street, Stanton, Michigan on the 9th day of March 2011 at 4:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Otto at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: John Otto, Chairman
Abutting Property Owners' Representative

John Johansen, Member
Montcalm County Board of Commissioners

Sandy Raines, Secretary/Treasurer
Montcalm County Deputy Drain Commissioner

Larry Deuel, Member (Via Phone)
Douglass Township Representative

Scott Zerka , Member
Douglass Township Representative

ALSO PRESENT: Tony Groves, Progressive AE
Elaine Millard, Property Owner
Carrie Wills, Drain Commission

The board welcomed Scott Zerka as the new board member. He was appointed by Douglass Township Board as their representative to replace Steve Dawdy, who is no longer a resident of the township.

A motion was made by John Johansen and seconded by Scott to approve the agenda with additions under New Business for Michigan Lakes & Streams Conference and Act 451, of 1994, Lake Improvement. Motion carried.

A motion was made by John Johansen and seconded by Sandy to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2011 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Election of Officers

Chairman Otto asked for nominations for Chairperson of the Board. A motion was made by John Johansen and seconded by Sandy to retain John Otto as the Chairperson and Don as Secretary/Treasurer and to cast a unanimous vote for both positions. Motion carried.

Public Comment

None

OLD BUSINESS

Weed Control Program

Tony told the board that the letter has been sent to the applicator with approval to submit the permit application. Spring survey will be done once the ice is off the lake. He doesn't foresee any surprises this year. First treatment will probably be after Memorial Day but before the 4th of July. The board discussed pretreatment posting around the lake. There have been problems in the past with property owners not having their lots posted. The board asked if notices could be posted around the whole lake this year if a large portion of the lake needs treatment. Larry suggested that the lake association secretary might mail out information regarding the date and areas for the treatment if the information is made available to her. Larry and Scott will be contacted to accompany Tony on the lake survey. Areas around Elaine's and Deb Smith's properties will be observed to see if lily pad treatments are needed this year.

New Business

Newsletter

Tony presented the board with a draft of the newsletter which will be mailed around the middle of May. The treatment notice will be mailed out separately again this year. The board asked if Tony could include something in the front page article to explain state requirements for treatment posting.

Michigan Lakes & Streams Conference

John reported the ML&S conference is scheduled for April 15 and 16 at Boyne Falls. The board has always sponsored one member to attend and asked if Scott would be interested in going this year.

A motion was made by John Johansen and seconded by Sandy to reimburse Scott for incurred expenses for food, lodging, and transportation to attend the conference. Motion carried.

Act 451 of 1994

Chairman Otto reported that Governor Snyder is proposing in the new state budget to retain the fee structure for permit applications. The fee structure currently used does not seem to be a fair split in regards to number of acres to be treated. Because the actual number to be treated cannot be determined prior to the application and because the state won't amend a given permit to include more acreage, the permit is submitted using an exaggerated number of acres which is more expensive. More splits between acreage/cost would prevent small lakes from paying the same amount as larger lakes. John Johansen will discuss the issue with our state senator and express the board's view.

Budget

The balance in the lake fund is \$3443.85; the tax collection this year will be \$19,500. Depending on this year's treatment cost, that may not leave much to carry over to the next 5-year program. There was a shortage of funds when an unexpected expensive treatment was needed and the board does not want to see that happen again during the next 5-year program. The board will keep that in mind next year when setting budgets for the new program.

There being no further business to come before the Lake Board, a motion was made by John Johansen and seconded by Sandy to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m.. Motion carried.

Donald E. Cooper, Secretary/Treasurer
Clifford Lake, Lake Improvement Board

State of Michigan } ss:
County of Montcalm }

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the minutes of a meeting of the Clifford Lake, Lake Improvement Board, Montcalm County, Michigan held on March 9, 2011 and that said minutes are on file in the office of the Montcalm County Drain Commissioner and are available to the public.

I further certify that notice of the meeting was posted at least 18 hours before the meeting at the office of the Montcalm County Drain Commissioner, which is the principal office of the Clifford Lake, Lake Improvement Board.

Donald E. Cooper
Montcalm County Drain Commissioner