

**DUCK LAKE**  
**LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 16 2011**

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A meeting of the Duck Lake, Lake Improvement Board was held at the Montcalm Drain Commission, 211 West Main, Stanton, Michigan on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011 at 1:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sandborn at 1:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Marv Sandborn, Chairman  
Abutting Property Owners Representative

Donald E. Cooper, Secretary/Treasurer  
Montcalm County Drain Commissioner

Marie Nico, Member  
Crystal Township Representative

Bob Gagne, Member  
Crystal Township Representative

Betty Kellenberger, Member  
Montcalm County Board of Commissioners

ALSO

PRESENT: Pam Tynning, & Ben Halbersma, Progressive AE;  
Carrie Wills, Drain Commission  
Dick Walthorn, David Wight, Property owners

A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Betty to accept the agenda with an addition under New Business for weeds on field and under Old Business for harvesting contract. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Marie and seconded by Betty to approve the minutes from April 5, 2011 as presented Motion carried.

Liaison Committee Report

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

2011 Weed Control Program

Pam reported that a lake survey was done today. There is more milfoil than usual. A survey will be done at the end of summer to see if there is enough milfoil to warrant a sonar treatment next year. Pondweeds are not bad yet but another survey will be done in a couple weeks to re-

evaluate. Milfoil treatment will be done in a few weeks with 2, 4-D and Dyquat and harvesting will be done later as needed. There was discussion about restricted use of chemicals due to shallow wells and watering restrictions.

#### Harvesting Contract

Marv has signed the harvesting contract with Mike's Clearwater Harvesting, Inc., the subcontractor that did the harvesting last year. Per the contract, harvesting will be done sometime between July 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### Weeds In Field

The owner of the property that is used as a dump site for harvested weeds would like to have the weeds spread out over the field instead of just being piled in one spot. Crops are planted in the field so the spreading cannot be done until the crop is harvested. The property owner does not charge the lake board for use of the dump site.

A motion was made by Marie and seconded by Bob to hire someone to spread the weeds at a cost not to exceed \$800. Motion carried.

#### Water Quality Test Results

Board members received a copy of the results of the water testing for sample taken from the lake and from the Manzer Drain. The overall quality of the water in the lake is better than the drain water. Before installation of the public sewer and the diversion project, the results were the opposite. A new law taking effect next year will prohibit the use of phosphorous in lawn fertilizers. However, the law does not apply to farming.

#### Lake Dredge

Marv has not been able to contact Dr. Scott McNaught.

In a feasibility study done in 1990, the cost to dredge the lake was estimated at about \$5 million. There are no grants available to help with the dredging costs. Marv does not want to drop the idea of a dredge in the future, but for now he is not sure that any more money should be spent to pursue the project. The board received a proposal for soil sampling of property that Dick Walthorn has offered to use as a dump site. The proposal was for \$1200 for nine samples. The board discussed soil samples, land use restrictions, DEQ permits, possibility of purchasing their own dredge machine etc. Dick suggested that a group of property owners may consider dredging a portion of the lake at their own expense. He is also willing to get licensed to operate a dredge machine should the board decide to purchase one.

#### Proposed 5-Year Program 2012-2016 (Tax Rolls 2011-2015)

The Crystal Community Center has been reserved for the public hearings on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. The hearings will be held in the auditorium. The board decided it is not feasible at this time to pursue the dredge project. Language should be included in the budget to explain that the dredge is still a possibility for the future.

A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Marie to approve the new 5-year program presented by Pam in the amount of \$48,000 per year. Motion carried.

#### Swem Property, 005-015-004-00/Revise Factor

The question of whether or not to adjust the benefit factor on property owned by Mildred Swem was presented at the last board meeting. A title search was done by the Register of Deeds office

to determine ownership of the parcels in question. It was found that Mrs. Swem's property ends at the road and she has an easement for ingress and egress to the lake across the property that lies between her parcel and the lake. The owner of the property on which Mrs. Swem has the easement is assessed for lake front property (benefit factor of 1).

A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Don to adjust the assessment on Mildred Swem's property from a factor of 1 to .5. Motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Map of Oil Wells

Prior to the meeting, Pam had furnished a map of the oil well locations around Duck Lake. At least one of the sites is still pumping. Most are no longer operating but at one time there were about 150 m/l oil wells. The board has wondered if the large number of oil wells could have contributed to the problem of the high arsenic level in the lake sediment.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Marv would like to continue to support the Maple River watershed project as it was presented at the last meeting. No money will be needed for support if members volunteer time and resources to the project.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Bob and seconded Marie to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 p.m. Motion carried.

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Don Cooper, Secretary/Treasurer

Dated: May 16, 2011

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 Duck Lake Improvement Board, Montcalm County, Michigan held on May 16, 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 Duck Lake, Lake Improvement Board.

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Donald E. Cooper

Montcalm County Drain Commissioner