

BALDWIN LAKE
LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD
MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29, 2009

A meeting of the Baldwin Lake, Lake Improvement Board was held at the Eureka Township Hall, Greenville, Michigan on the 29th day of September, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gibbs at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Donald Gibbs, Chairman
City of Greenville Representative

Donald E. Cooper, Member
Montcalm County Drain Commissioner

Doug Drake, Member
Eureka Township Representative

Ronald Peek, Member
Abutting Property Owners' Representative

ABSENT: Tom Lindeman, Member
Montcalm County Board of Commissioners

ALSO
PRESENT: Jaimee Conroy, Environmental Scientist
Professional Lake Management
Linda Weger, resident

A motion was made by Cooper and seconded by Drake to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Drake and seconded by Peek to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2008 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was given. Drake reported that we currently have a balance of \$7080.74 in the account. All bills for the 2009 season have been received and accounted for. Two bills still need to be paid: \$505.00 to PLM for the Water Quality Program and \$400.00 for the Permit Fee to the State of Michigan for the 2010 season. PLM is recommending that we accelerate payment of this invoice because the state is likely to cut staff in the permitting department. Balance after these two transactions will be \$6175.74. A motion was made by Cooper and seconded by Peek to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Review of 2009 Activity

Jaimee Conroy of Professional Lake Management reported on the results of the 2009 season management program. As reported in the AVAS survey conducted on August 26, 2009 by PLM, Baldwin Lake is currently free of Eurasian watermilfoil. This was the exotic plant that we had targeted for 2009 with the chemistry Sonar AS. There is currently NO evidence of this plant in the lake. Ms. Conroy suggested that the problem plant will return to the lake in time due to circumstances beyond the control of the lake board, i. e. as a result of “foreign” boats launched in the lake and fragmentation of any new plants. However, management of this plant for the next 3-4 years can probably be handled on a “spot” basis. The state only allows Sonar AS to be applied every third year. Ms. Conroy stated that because the Sonar product is so tightly regulated by the state that they needed to be on-site frequently to monitor the results. It is a requirement.

PLM also did two algae treatments for the lake and that probably was not adequate. While the cold weather through July probably kept algae down in the early part of the season, August had considerable growth.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Proposed Management Plan for 2010

Ms. Conroy and the board discussed the treatment options proposed for 2010. We do not expect EWM to be a major problem for at least a couple of years so we will target other species of exotics and some native plants. It was noted by Gibbs that because EWM was not a problem this past year, other plants have taken hold in its place. Ms. Conroy identified them as Eel Grass, Chara, Sago pondweed, Wild celery and Water lily. PLM presented a management plan that included the more traditional chemistries (used in the past) for plant control and advised that perhaps as many as 4 algae treatments would be advisable.

PLM is recommending strongly that under the restrictions allowed, the lake board consider managing the Water lily on a more formal basis. While the Lake board has attempted to control this plant on a homeowner by homeowner basis in the past, it has resulted in zero participation. The lake board feels that management of this plant in the “public” areas is important to the extent that it creates a better and more useful recreational environment while not adversely affecting the fishery. Prior to final discussion about the 2010 assessment, the board agreed to begin to manage the Water lily to the extent that it is fiscally able.

Five-year Program

The board questioned Ms. Conroy on the ability of her company to satisfy the requirements of the state regarding the establishment of the next 5 year plan and to prepare documentation for the Hearing of Practicability. She stated that PLM considers

