

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, September 13, 2021**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Board of Directors met for their monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, September 13, 2021 via an in-person meeting held at the Chisago County Government Center, Conference Room 150B in Center City, MN and a virtual Meeting with the following Board of Directors present: Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02, Lake Improvement District (LID) Board member **Monica Kinny attended the LID Board meeting on Monday, September 13, 2021 at 6:30 pm via Microsoft Teams.** LID Board member Kinny was seen and heard via electronic means and participated from the Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 39649 Grand Avenue, North Branch, MN 55056, a location open and accessible to the public. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02, Subd. 3, persons interested in monitoring the meeting electronically from a remote location viewed the meeting through the Microsoft Teams meeting link.

Others present, attended the in-person meeting or Virtual meeting at a location of their choice through a personal device (e.g. laptop, tablet, cell phone or personal computer). Each LID Board Director and others present were allowed to view documents presented during the in-person and virtual Meeting via their devices and to participate in discussion through microphones located in their devices.

Also present: Administrator Jerry Spetzman, Chisago County Water Resource Manager Susanna Wilson Witkowski, Chisago County Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist Camden Droppo and Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc. staff Greg Graske and one citizen.

The Chair Mike Mergens called the business meeting to order at 6:32 pm and lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Behnke offered a motion to approve the agenda for the Lake Improvement District (LID) meeting. Motion seconded by Director McBride and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Director Paquay offered a motion to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2021 LID Board meeting, as amended. Motion seconded by Director Schumacher and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Spetzman provided the Board with the August 2021 year-to-date budget summary and stated that the budget was on track.

Director McBride offered a motion to approve payment of the following invoices:

EOR	Summer channel and weir inspection, create CADD drawing of NC-NL outlet channel survey, review of past channel surveys, prep for Board meeting, communication with Jerry.	1,820.25
EOR	Mileage - Reimbursable.	29.68
EOR	Attend Board meeting on July 12, 2021.	250.00
EOR	Follow up with WSB about carp proposal and coordination with AIS Subcommittee.	191.25
Keller Excavating	Clean debris and rocks out of 7, 24-inch culverts at Swamp Lake. Placing materials on the side.	3,200.00
Lindstrom Hardware	Cable ties for line collectors. Monitoring bin.	13.68
PACE Analytical	LID Water Quality Monitoring analysis - June 2021.	785.00
PACE Analytical	LID Water Quality Monitoring analysis - July 2021.	785.00
PACE Analytical	LID Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring analysis - May 2021.	485.00
PACE Analytical	LID Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring analysis - June 2021.	400.00
PACE Analytical	LID Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring analysis - July 2021 - Wallmark Lake.	70.00
Monthly Expense Total		8,029.86

Motion seconded by Director Paquay and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

The Chair opened the Citizen's Forum at 6:36 p.m. No citizens offered comments. The Chair closed the Citizen's Forum at 6:37 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Bob Milam with the Green Lake Association presented to the Board with an Aquatic Invasive Species Control Partnership request for delineation field work and treatment of 42.1 acres of curly-leaf pondweed and 68.8 acres of Eurasian Watermilfoil in Big and Little Green Lakes. The LIB Board discussed the total request amount of \$10,076.40 and determined that the correct request amount should be \$10,669.50. The Green Lake Association will submit an invoice to the LID Board with the corrected amount of \$10,669.50.

Director Schumacher offered a motion to recommend that the LID Board approve funding up to \$10,669.50 for delineation field work and curly-leaf pondweed and Eurasian Watermilfoil treatment at Big and Little Green lakes for the 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species Control Partnership application from the Green Lakes Association. Motion seconded by Director McBride and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Wilson Witkowski reviewed with the Board the summary from Assistant Chisago County Attorney Jeff Fuge on the requirements for roll call voting in which one or more or all LID Board members attend a board meeting remotely.

Spetzman reviewed with the Board the minutes from the LID Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Workgroup Meeting held on August 10, 2021. Spetzman reviewed the Board the Common Carp Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) Survey for Green and South Center Lakes and recommendations from the AIS Workgroup. In order to meet seasonal deadlines to complete the survey, Spetzman sent the proposal from WSB to conduct the CPUE Survey for Green and South Center Lakes in 2021 to the Chisago County Board of Commissioners for review and approval at their meeting on September 15, 2021.

Director McBride offered a motion to recommend to the Chisago County Board of Commissioners to approve funding \$8,385.00 for the Common Carp Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) Survey for Green and South Center Lakes for 2021. Motion seconded by Director Behnke and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Director Behnke offered a motion to recommend that the LID Board approve funding \$8,385.00 for the Common Carp Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) Survey for Green and South Center Lakes for 2021. Motion seconded by Director Schumacher and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Spetzman reviewed with the Board the minutes from the LID Planning and Budget Workgroup meeting held on August 17, 2021. Spetzman reviewed with the Board the 2021 and 2022 LID Budgets, the amended \$291,904 LID levy approved for 2021, and moving reserve spending to levy requests in the 2021 Budget Summary spreadsheet. With the additional request of \$17,550 by Commissioner DuBose, the total 2022 LID levy would be \$309,654 if approved by the Chisago County Board of Commissioners.

Director Schumacher offered a motion to recommend that the LID Board approve the amended LID Budget for 2021 reflecting the approved LID levy amount of \$291,904 by the Chisago County Board of Commissioners. Motion seconded by Director Paquay and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Director Behnke offered a motion to recommend that the LID Board approve the proposed LID Levy 2022 of \$309,654 under consideration by the Chisago County Board of Commissioners. Motion seconded by Director McBride and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Spetzman reviewed with the Board the proposed position description and request for a full-time Water Resource Specialist position for 2021 and 2022.

Director Behnke offered a motion to recommend that the LID Board approve the Water Resource Specialist position to be filled in the 4th quarter of 2021 and all of 2022, to be a full-time position and the position be posted for availability. Motion seconded by Director Schumacher and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Spetzman reviewed with the Board the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) request for comments and recommendations from the LID Board on the Surface Water Irrigation permit request for Green Lake Villas, located in Chisago City, and their application to use water from Little Green Lake to water lawns and landscaping located in the subdivision. Spetzman reviewed with the Board the recommendations for the DNR request for comments to the LID Board from the LID Planning and Budget Workgroup from their meeting on August 17, 2021. The LID Board discussed developing a consistent policy and recommendation for future and similar applications, DNR enforcement of the approved permits, and adding appendix language to the 2016 LID Channel and Weir - Operations and Maintenance Plan.

Director Paquay offered a motion that the LID Board recommends no irrigation from Little Green Lake for the Green Lake Villas, Chisago City, Lake Surface Water Appropriation Permit application. However, if the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) approves the permit to allow for irrigation from Little Green Lake, the LID Board highly recommends these restrictions as follows:

1. These recommendations only apply in situations where the applicant is applying for a DNR Lake Surface Water Use Appropriation Permit of 10,000 or more gallons of water per day.
2. Lake water use is only approved when lake levels exceed the LID weir outlet elevations as stated in the 2016 LID Channel and Weir Operation and Maintenance Plan (updated June 27, 2017).
 - a. The outlet elevation for Green/Little Green/Ellen Lakes is 891.0
 - b. The outlet elevation for Chisago/North Lindstrom/South Lindstrom/North Center/South Center Lakes is 899.2
3. When water levels are below the outlet elevations, alternate sources of irrigation water must be used – such as city water supplies, or ground water wells.
4. A water conservation plan needs to be included with the application. Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District can assist with development of the plan.

Motion seconded by Director Behnke and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Wilson Witkowski reviewed with the Board the availability of Eurasian and hybrid watermilfoil genetic analysis through Montana State University. Bob Milam with the Green Lake Association (GLA) noted that GLA participated in the analysis in June of this year.

OLD BUSINESS

Spetzman updated the Board on the letter of permission to conduct surveys for the survey and easement acquisition project for the North Center North Lindstrom Channel maintenance. The Chisago County Board of Commissioners reviewed and approved the survey proposal at their meeting on August 18, 2021. The next step is developing a request for quotes to conduct the surveys.

Spetzman updated the Board on the current treatment of invasive phragmites populations, funded by the University of Minnesota, at areas located in the LID that were identified through the roadside surveys conducted in 2019.

Wilson Witkowski and Director Paquay updated the Board on the LID/Lake Association booth held at Chisago City Ki-Chi-Saga Days on August 19 - 22, 2021.

Camden Droppo, the new Chisago County AIS Specialist/Lead Watercraft Inspector, introduced himself to the LID Board.

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the Chisago County Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program including watercraft inspections and decontaminations and results from the Starry Trek event held on August 21, 2021.

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the upcoming Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) Research and Management Showcase on September 22, 2021.

Director Schumacher offered a motion to allow the LID Board to pay registration fees for up to three Directors and one Staff totaling up to \$100 (\$20 per person registration) to attend the Aquatic Invasive Species Research and Management Showcase on September 22, 2021. Motion seconded by Director Behnke and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the upcoming North American Invasive Species Management Association Annual Conference on September 27 – 30, 2021.

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the upcoming Chisago County Children's Water Festival on September 22/23, 2021, at Wild Mountain in Taylors Falls, MN.

Wilson Witkowski reviewed with the Board the Lower St. Croix, One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) planning activities, including the approved Work Plan and Budget by the 1W1P Policy Committee and projects and funding activities for 2021 and 2022.

STAFF & ENGINEERING REPORTS

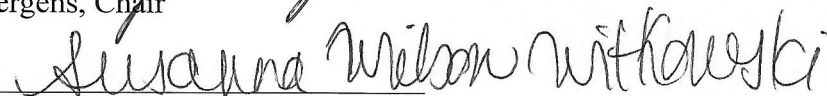
Emmons and Olivier Resources Inc. (EOR)

Greg Graske, Emmons and Olivier Resources Inc., updated the Board on the recent maintenance and removal of vegetation and rocks in the seven culverts located by Swamp Lake.

Graske reviewed with the Board on the Summer Channel and Outlet Structure Inspection conducted on July 9, 2021. Graske reviewed the Recommended Actions, Suggested Follow Up Items, and Minor Maintenance Items Completed as noted in the report. Graske suggested completing quarterly compared to weekly inspections in the future and completing the required maintenance as noted in the report to prepare for possible future highwater conditions in 2022.

Director Schumacher offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. Motion seconded by Director McBride and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** Margaret LeVasseur


Mike Mergens, Chair

Attest: 
Susanna Wilson Witkowski, Water Resource Manager