

**APPROVED MINUTES
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, April 3, 2023**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) Board of Directors met for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 3, 2023 via both an in-person and virtual meeting held at the Chisago County Government Center, Room 150B, in Center City, MN with the following Directors present: Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **ABSENT:** None

Notice of Participation via Teams

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02, LID Board Director Gary Schumacher remotely attended the meeting on Monday, April 3, 2023 at 6:30 pm via Microsoft Teams. Schumacher was seen and heard via electronic means and participated from 8840 98th Street Road, Unit C, Ocala, FL 34481, 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 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: Chisago Lakes LID Administrator Ben Elfelt, LID Water Resource Specialist Monica Kinny, Chisago County Water Resource Manager Susanna Wilson Witkowski, Chisago County Commissioner Marlys Dunne, EOR Engineer Greg Graske, WSB Director of Fisheries Tony Havranek, and 2 citizens.

Chair Mike Mergens called the business meeting to order at 6:30 pm and lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director McBride offered a motion to approve the amended agenda for the LID meeting. Motion seconded by Director LeVasseur and, upon a roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to approve the items on Consent Agenda for the LID meeting, including a) Approval of Minutes: from the Special Board Meeting on March 20, 2023, and b) Financial Report and c) Approval of Invoice Payments. Motion seconded by Director LaMotte and, upon a roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: : **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd

McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

April 2023 LID Invoices Received		
Invoice Detail	LID Budget Category	Amount
EOR	Meeting Attendance	250.00
EOR	Water Levels	914.25
MNDNR	Permit Fees (Vegetation Removal & Weir O/M)	335.00
Monthly Expense Total		1,499.25

The Chair opened the Citizen's Forum at 6:34 p.m. One citizen offered comments. The Chair closed the Citizen's Forum at 6:35 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

The LID Board opted to table the discussion on a Carp Management Plan Proposal presented by Tony Havranek from WSB. The discussion will be added to the May LID Board agenda.

Director McBride offered a motion to approve registration fees for the following community events: a) Karl Oskar Days booth (\$100), and b) Ki Chi Saga Days booth (\$65). Motion seconded by Director Behnke and, upon a roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: : **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to approve the 2023 Lake Water Quality Monitoring Proposal from Alliance Analytical Services. Motion seconded by Director Paquay and, upon a roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

At the LID Board meeting on December 6, 2021, the LID Board approved the following motion: To recommend to the Chisago County Board of Commissioners to allow the LID Board to partner with the City of Lindstrom for a fifty percent split payment up to \$15,000 funded through LID Board reserves of the total cost for eradication of goldfish in the Lakeside Woodlands holding ponds located near Kroon Lake in Lindstrom, MN.

Director Behnke offered a motion to approve a 50% reimbursement in the amount of \$12,285.50 from reserve funds to the City of Lindstrom for Goldfish removal from two

stormwater ponds in the Lakeside Woodlands neighborhood. Motion seconded by Director LeVasseur and, upon a roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

Elfelt updated the board on a potential joint study to evaluate soft armoring approaches for protecting shorelines from waves in collaboration with researchers from the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory at the University of Minnesota.

OLD BUSINESS

Director LaMotte offered a motion to forego creating a new workgroup to address LID Bylaws and Elections and to instead add these duties to the Planning and Budget workgroup. Motion seconded by Director McBride and, upon a roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

Elfelt reminded the board that the rain barrel sale is ongoing, and several people had requested the LID Coupon Code.

Elfelt updated the board on a permit application that was submitted to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to provide rakes at boat landings to help remove excessive aquatic plants from access points.

Elfelt relayed the updates and recommendations from the March 20, 2023 Channel & Weir Operations and Maintenance Workgroup report:

- a. Bluhm Construction, Inc. will survey the Lake Ellen Weir and determine if they are able to remove the accumulated sediment, and
- b. The Lofton and Lake Ellen Weir Structural Inspection Proposal from Collins, Inc.

Director McBride offered a motion to approve the Lofton and Lake Ellen Weir Structural Inspection Proposal in the amount of \$4000, (\$2000 per weir), from Collins, Inc. Motion seconded by Director Behnke and, upon a roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

STAFF & ENGINEER REPORTS

EOR Engineer Greg Graske updated the LID Board on projected lake levels based on precipitation received this winter. Flooding is not anticipated due to the low lake levels before ice up last fall.

Kinny shared with the board a note of thanks that would be shared with Croix Valley Pick-Up in appreciation of their continued partnership in providing trash receptacles at area boat launches during icehouse removal/lake cleanup activities.

Elfelt informed the board that letters went out soliciting volunteer water quality monitors on several LID lakes for the 2023 open water season, and that the spring channel and weir inspection would take place on April 27th.

Elfelt updated the board on upcoming outreach activities including a presentation to the Chisago Lakes Rotary and Watershed Partners.

Kinny invited the LID board to follow the new Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Facebook page, and to watch for upcoming Chisago County Press articles about the channel and weir system/lake levels and LID function and tax information. Kinny also mentioned that the Press ran a front-page article summarizing the LID's Hook, Line & Sink and Get the Lead Out Programs.

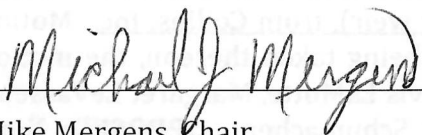
Wilson Witkowski gave updates on the county AIS Treatment Grants for Lake Associations and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative – Invasive Phragmites Grant Application.

Wilson Witkowski shared with the board the schedule for the season of Watercraft Inspections, Zebra Mussel and Spiny Waterflea monitoring, and the Starry Trek program.

Wilson Witkowski informed the board that Sunrise Lake would undergo a Point-Intercept Survey this year, shared participant numbers for the recent Right of Way Workshop that took place, offered AIS Detector Training reimbursement opportunities (\$195 value) for citizens within the county, and that an upcoming St. Croix Youth Summit would take place on April 20-21, 2023.

Director McBride offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. Motion seconded by Director LaMotte and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows:

IN FAVOR THEREOF: Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None


Mike Mergens, Chair

Attest: 
Benjamin Elfelt, Administrator
Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District