

**APPROVED MINUTES
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, July 10, 2023**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) Board of Directors met for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 10th, 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, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, and Steve Paquay. **ABSENT:** Travis LaMotte, Gary Schumacher

Notice of Participation via Teams

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02, Lake Improvement District (LID) Board Director Todd McBride remotely attended the meeting on Monday, July 10th, 2023, at 6:30 pm via Microsoft Teams. McBride was seen and heard via electronic means and participated from Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport, 4300 Glumack Dr., St. Paul, MN 55111, 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, and EOR Engineer Greg Graske.

Chair Mike Mergens called the business meeting to order at 6:31 pm and lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Director McBride offered a motion to approve the items on Consent Agenda for the LID meeting, including a) Approval of Minutes from both the Board Meeting on June 5th, 2023, and the North Center/North Lindstrom Channel Workgroup Meeting on June 26th, 2023, the b) Financial Report, and c) Approval of Invoice Payments. Motion seconded by Director LeVasseur and, upon a roll call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, and Steve Paquay. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Travis LaMotte, Gary Schumacher

July 2023 LID Invoices Received		
Invoice Detail	LID Budget Category	Amount
EOR	Meeting Attendance	250.00
EOR	Water Levels	2,167.80
Alliance	Water Testing	1,680.00
Alliance	Water Testing	246.00
Workshop on the Water (x4)	Conferences, Dues, Training	120.00
Monthly Expense Total		4,463.80

The Chair opened the Citizen's Forum at 6:34 p.m. No citizens offered comments. The Chair closed the Citizen's Forum at 6:34 p.m.

Director Travis LaMotte joined the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Elfelt shared a pie chart diagram he created which displays LID Program Operation Expenses.

Director McBride offered a motion to approve the LID Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, amended as follows: move \$8,500 in County Staff Support expenses and \$9,500 in Aquatic Invasive Species Partnership Program expenses from reserves to levy funds; and to present a 5.5% levy increase request of \$18,000 to the County Board. 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, and Steve Paquay. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Gary Schumacher

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to table the North Center/North Lindstrom Channel Workgroup's recommendation until more information can be gathered; not to exceed 90 days. 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, and Steve Paquay. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Gary Schumacher

Director Todd McBride left the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Director Behnke offered a motion to approve \$2,278.61 for North Center Lake and \$2,278.61 for South Center Lake as part of the LID/Lake Associations Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment Partnership Program. 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, Mike Mergens, and Steve Paquay. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Todd McBride, Gary Schumacher

OLD BUSINESS

Director Behnke offered a motion to approve \$70 in registration fees (\$10 per person) to allow all LID Board Directors to participate in the LID Tour of Projects on July 31st, 2023. 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, Mike Mergens, and Steve Paquay. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Todd McBride, Gary Schumacher

STAFF & ENGINEER REPORTS

LID Updates:

Elfelt informed the Board that the Invasive Phragmites Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grand funds were approved for treating Phragmites within the LID.

Elfelt shared with the Board that Water Quality monitoring within the LID is ongoing with both staff and volunteer efforts.

Elfelt updated the Board on LID staff's attendance at Lakes Appreciation Night during Harmony in the Park in Lindstrom, and a shared LID/Lake Association Booth at Karl Oskar Days the previous weekend. Visitors at both booths were steady and discussions included water levels and the North Center/North Lindstrom Channel Project.

Elfelt stated that the June 27th Workshop on the Water was well attended, and that Wilson Witkowski and Elfelt participated in a question-and-answer session regarding the delisting of North and South Center Lakes.

Elfelt reminded the Board that next up is Ki-Chi-Saga Days on August 19th and 20th, and that the LID Board will host a LID/Lake Associations Booth at that festival as well.

Chisago County Water Resources Updates:

Wilson Witkowski discussed with the Board the changes in the Slow-No-Wake policy, buoy placement, and signage updates. It was not clear whether the policy updates need approval by the County Board but clarification will be forthcoming.

Wilson Witkowski stated that there is still space available for the upcoming St. Croix River Workshop on the Water in Stillwater on July 25th, and shared information on the upcoming Restoring Relationships - a Summit for Volunteers being held on August 22nd at Belwin

Conservancy, sponsored by the St. Croix Watershed Environmental Education Partnership, (SWEEP).

Wilson Witkowski shared with the Board that the Center Lakes Association and Pioneer Lake Association had submitted requests for ARPA reimbursements.

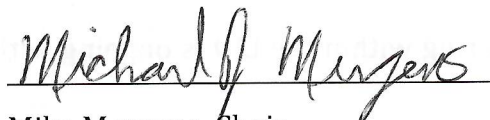
Wilson Witkowski stated that as of June 28th, the 13 county watercraft inspectors had performed over 7,000 inspections, and that Zebra Mussel veliger and Spiny Waterflea monitoring had been conducted: results to be available at a later date.

Wilson Witkowski reminded the Board that Starry Trek will take place on August 19th to look for Invasive Starry Stonewort, and volunteers are encouraged to attend.

EOR Update:

EOR Engineer Graske stated that the summer channel and weir inspection will be scheduled for the end of July.

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 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, Mike Mergens, and Steve Paquay. **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Todd McBride, Gary Schumacher


Mike Mergens, Chair

Attest: 
Benjamin Elfelt, Administrator

Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District