

**APPROVED MINUTES
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, October 2, 2023**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) Board of Directors met for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 2nd, 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, 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, Environmental Services Director Kurt Schneider, EOR Engineer Greg Graske, and two 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 made a motion to approve the amended agenda for the LID meeting. Motion seconded by Director LeVasseur and, upon a voice 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 Behnke offered a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda for the LID meeting, including a) Approval of Minutes from the Board Meeting on September 11th, 2023, the b) Financial Report, and c) Approval of Invoice Payments. Motion seconded by Director Schumacher 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

October 2023 LID Invoices Received		
Invoice Detail	LID Budget Category	Amount
EOR	Meeting Attendance (August)	250.00
EOR	Water Levels (August)	841.50
EOR	Point Intercept Survey - South Center Lake	3,942.75
Monthly Expense Total		5,034.25

The Chair opened the Citizen's Forum at 6:32 p.m. One citizen offered comments. The Chair closed the Citizen's Forum at 6:40 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion took place regarding the LID budget fund balance versus reserve money. The fund balance is total dollars available to the LID, which is not a separate "pot of money" from the reserve funds. Revenue is allotted to the LID fund twice per year, in July and December, in a roughly 50-50 disbursement. The reserve funds and the upcoming December allotment will cover the monthly cash flow until the next disbursement in July, but there is no room for large or unplanned expenses that have not already been budgeted.

Elfelt will contact local trappers to obtain price quotes for removal of a beaver lodge near the bridge between North and South Lindstrom Lakes.

Kyle Nicks, Engineer Diver at Collins Engineers, Inc. shared the preliminary results of the Lofton and Lake Ellen Weirs inspection. Nicks detailed the deficiencies in a majority of the steel load-bearing members in both weirs and discussed next steps for planning purposes. He recommended budgeting approximately \$250,000 to complete the needed repairs and mechanism updates, and to plan to have the work done on both weirs at the same time. It was also recommended to undertake the repairs in late summer or fall when water levels are traditionally lower and the weirs do not need to be operational.

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to approve reimbursement of \$10,145.30 to Green Lake as part of the LID/Lake Associations Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment Partnership Program. Motion seconded by Director Paquay 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

The Green Lake Association may be able to request an additional \$671.70 reimbursement for channel treatments at a future meeting.

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to table the Center Lakes Association's additional funds request until the November meeting. Motion seconded by Director Schumacher 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

Workgroup Reports

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to have LID staff proceed with gathering two additional water level modeling price quotes for the North Center-North Lindstrom Channel Restoration Project. Motion seconded by Director Schumacher 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

Elfelt recommends running the channel model and having the North Center-North Lindstrom Channel Workgroup develop an organizational framework and agenda before reconvening a Citizen's Planning Committee (formerly the North Center-North Lindstrom Channel Task Force).

Elfelt shared with the Board that the Budget and Planning Committee had reviewed and made minor clarifying changes to the LID Bylaws. Additional updates will be forthcoming.

OLD BUSINESS

Elfelt informed the Board that, as demonstrated by WSB's carp electrofishing survey, the Center Lakes are considerably above the management threshold of 89 lbs/acre, North Lindstrom is right at the threshold, and South Lindstrom and Chisago fall below. WSB will train LID staff to use the tracking receiver to obtain carp movement data this fall and winter.

STAFF & ENGINEER REPORTS

LID Updates

Elfelt shared with the Board that terrestrial Phragmites treatment would be underway within the next couple of weeks.

Chisago County Water Resources Updates

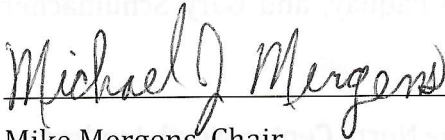
Wilson Witkowski reviewed with the Board that the Children's Water Festival was a success, and that water access monitoring has wrapped up for the season with no new AIS observed. AIS staff are collecting zebra mussel plates from volunteers and will be inspecting them upon receipt. A new AIS dock inspection program is being unveiled this fall and will be promoted

to county residents. A meeting has been scheduled with county Lake Associations to review how ARPA treatments went this year, and to explore the possibility of forming a county-wide Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA). Washington County will soon be updating their Groundwater Plan and Wilson Witkowski will observe the process for our county.

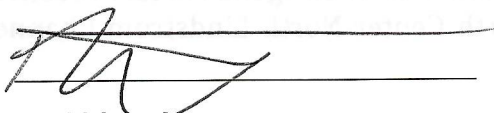
Emmons and Olivier Resources, Inc. Updates

Graske shared that the fall channel and weir inspection would take place soon and that the Lake Ellen weir would be closed for the winter at that time.

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Motion seconded by Director McBride 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