

**APPROVED MINUTES
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, November 6, 2023**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) Board of Directors met for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, November 6th, 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. WSB Fisheries Director Tony Havranek joined the meeting virtually at 7:15 pm.

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

Director McBride made a motion to approve the 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 October 2nd, 2023, the b) Financial Report, and c) Approval of Invoice Payments. 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

November 2023 LID Invoices Received		
Invoice Detail	LID Budget Category	Amount
Alliance	Volunteer Water Sample Analysis - September	738.00
Alliance	Water Sample Analysis - September	1,188.00
Alliance	Water Sample Analysis - August	1,722.00
EMWREP	3rd Qtr. - Water Resource Ed. - Shared	1,671.40
EOR	Meeting Attendance (September)	250.00
EOR	Water Levels, Weir Inspection, NC-NL Channel	3,853.77
SWCD	Goal 6, Shorelines: <i>Glen, Halley, Fultz, Greiman</i>	2,004.56
WSB	East Basin Carp Baseline Data Collection	7,080.80
Monthly Expense Total		18,508.53

The Chair opened the Citizen's Forum at 6:32 p.m. No citizens were in attendance. The Chair closed the Citizen's Forum at 6:32 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Schumacher offered a motion to approve the 2024 General Engineering and Administrative Services Agreement between Chisago County and Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc. for the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District. Motion seconded by Director LeVasseur 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

Director Behnke offered a motion to approve the 2024 Professional/Technical Services Contract by and between Chisago County and the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District. 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

Director McBride offered a motion to approve reimbursement of \$214.65 to the Chisago Lindstrom Lakes Association, and to divide evenly the remaining \$1,457.05 between the Green Lake Association and the Center Lakes Association as part of the LID/Lake Associations Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment Partnership Program. Motion seconded by

Director LeVasseur 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

Director McBride offered a motion to approve the updated By-Laws of the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District. 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

Kinny shared the 2024 LID Board of Directors election timeline stating that Area 3 and Area 4 Board seats will be up for election. Candidate applications will be available December 1st with an application deadline of December 31, 2023. Voting on candidates will commence January 8th through February 5th, 2024, at 4:00 pm.

Director LeVasseur offered a motion to approve the 2024 LID Meeting Calendar with an adjusted meeting date of July 8th. 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 gauged the interest of the LID Board to participate in a facilitated planning discussion to assess and prioritize LID goals and funds going forward.

OLD BUSINESS

Tony Havranek, WSB Director of Fisheries, discussed recent carp electrofishing and tagging within the East Basin of the Chisago Lakes LID, (North & South Center, North & South Lindstrom, and Chisago Lakes). He stated that the goal for 2023 was to develop abundance estimates and install 20 individual radio tags for the purpose of tracking carp movement within the connected lakes. The radio tags will make it possible to determine where the adults congregate over winter, as well as locating possible nursery sites in the spring. A report will be forthcoming, which will include a summary of work completed and recommendations for future management activities.

Elfelt relayed to the Board that funding for required weir repairs would likely be in the form of a county loan or a levy increase. Next steps include discussion of options with County Auditor-Treasurer, Bridgitte Konrad and County Administrator, Chase Burnham.

STAFF & ENGINEER REPORTS

LID Updates

Elfelt shared with the Board that hand-spraying of the remaining phragmites stands had been completed slightly under budget.

Elfelt relayed to the Board that the beaver contractor had yet to locate any activity but would continue his search.

Chisago County Water Resources Updates

Wilson Witkowski shared with the Board that Jack Doepke from Chisago Lakes Public Television had produced an 11-minute synopsis of the 2023 Children's Water Festival and encouraged the Board to watch and share the video widely: https://youtu.be/sSw7LH0Lw_M

The county-wide Aquatic Invasive Species program inspectors have concluded their inspections for the season and winterizing of equipment is underway.

Wilson Witkowski notified the Board of an upcoming November 13th Water Plan/Lake Associations Meeting to review ARPA Treatment and Education Grants, as well as explore the possibility of creating a coalition of lake associations (COLA).

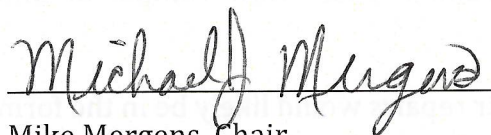
A SWEEP fall networking event will take place on November 16th entitled Inclusive, Accessible Outdoors.

A webinar entitled Living Large on a Small Lake – Exploring Natural Environmental Lakes will take place on November 8th.

Wilson Witkowski shared that the Watershed Based Implementation Funding Work Plan is underway for fiscal year 2024.

The Lower St. Croix Partnership created an education program video for 2023 which can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/uoQnnueiG64>

Director McBride offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. 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



Mike Mergens, Chair

Attest: 

Benjamin Elfelt, Administrator

Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District