

**APPROVED MINUTES
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, July 8, 2024**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) Board of Directors met for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 8th, 2024, 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 Microsoft 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: LID Administrator Ben Elfelt, LID Water Resource Specialist Monica Kinny, County Water Resource Manager Susanna Wilson Witkowski, County Commissioner Marlys Dunne, EOR Water Resources Engineer Greg Graske, and one citizen.

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 as presented. Motion seconded by Director Paquay 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 June 3rd, 2024, b) the Financial Report, and c) Approval of Invoice Payments. Motion seconded by Director Schumacher 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

July 2024 LID Invoices Received		
Invoice Detail	LID Budget Category	Amount
EOR	Board Meeting Attendance	275.00
EOR	Water Levels	572.00
Lindstrom Hardware	X-Large Zip Ties (HLS)	10.49
Monthly Expense Total		857.49

The Chair opened the Citizen's Forum at 6:33 p.m. One citizen offered comments. The Chair closed the Citizen's Forum at 6:34 p.m.

WORKGROUP & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elfelt relayed the most recent activities of the Invasive Phragmites Planning Team, including a tour of the Chisago Lakes Joint Sewage Treatment Facility and the development of a plan to replace the existing reed beds with non-invasive phragmites plants. Several additional populations of invasive phragmites were discovered at the facility and will also need removal.

NEW BUSINESS

Elfelt shared with the Board that water levels at the Lofton Avenue weir are multiple feet below what would necessitate opening it, and that the Lake Ellen weir has been open since early spring and water is currently flowing out of the system.

Elfelt stated that the North Center–North Lindstrom Channel is currently navigable but to proceed with caution due to rocks and a strong current at the entrance.

Director Schumacher made a motion to approve \$3000 from reserve spending to contract with Minnesota Native Landscapes to treat the invasive phragmites population at the Ivywood site. Motion seconded by Director Paquay 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

OLD BUSINESS

Elfelt relayed to the Board that Collins Engineers, Inc. will notify him when the weir replacement plan is 60% complete. Bid-ready designs should be ready by the end of September.

Director McBride made a motion to approve spending \$500.00 to purchase a dock from Center City. Motion seconded by Director LeVasseur and, upon a voice vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher. **ABSTAINED:** Jill Behnke (Conflict of Interest) **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

Elfelt will clarify the continued use of the existing LID logo now that the County is phasing out the use of a similar logo, and whether or not the LID may use a form of the new County logo designed by Olive and Company. Purchase of 3 new poster board displays will be postponed until the LID logo is finalized.

Elfelt shared with the Board that use of the Arrowhead Transit bus is free of charge, and that approval was granted to utilize the Center City Firehall on September 16, 2024, for the LID Fall Tour of Projects.

Kinny reminded the Board that Karl Oskar Days would take place on July 12th and 13th, and that many spots remained to staff the shared LID/Lake Associations booth. Ki Chi Saga Days is scheduled for August 17th and 18th, 2024.

STAFF & ENGINEER REPORTS

LID Updates

Kinny shared that the Board could participate in the MAISRC 2024 AIS Research and Management Showcase and an AIS Detectors webinar.

Kinny informed the Board that two new Hook, Line & Sinker collectors had been installed at Beach Park (fishing pier) in Lindstrom and the fishing pier on North Center Lake.

Chisago County Water Resources Updates

Wilson Witkowski updated the LID Board on the following:

The Children's Water Festival is looking for volunteers for its 22nd annual festival on September 26th.

Starry Trek will take place on August 10th and registration is open.

Slow-No-Wake signs have been posted at several lakes throughout the county and LID.

The We Are Water MN Exhibit kicked off last month and a list of activities and volunteer opportunities can be found here: <https://www.chisagocountymn.gov/1349/We-Are-Water-MN-Exhibit> Upcoming events include a youth poetry contest, a water storytelling event at the North Branch Library, and an Art + Water Bar night at the Uncommon Loon.

EOR Updates

Graske informed the Board that a point-intercept survey is scheduled for Green and Little Green Lakes at the end of July.

Director McBride offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. 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


Mike Mergens, Chair

vice chair

Attest:


Benjamin Elfelt, Administrator

Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District