

**APPROVED MINUTES
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, November 4, 2024**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) Board of Directors met for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, November 4th, 2024, via both an in-person and virtual meeting held at the Chisago County Government Center, Room 160A, 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 Collins Engineers' Michael Hulstein, P.E.

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

Director LeVasseur made a motion to approve the agenda for the LID meeting as amended. Motion seconded by Director McBride 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 McBride 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 7th, 2024, b) the Financial Report, and c) Approval of Invoice Payments. Motion seconded by Director Paquay and, upon a voice vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay, and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** None

November 2024 LID Invoices Received		
Invoice Detail	LID Budget Category	Amount
EOR	Board Meeting Attendance	275.00
EOR	Water Levels	520.00
Lake Management, Inc.	Phragmites Control - Lakes	6,101.48
Minnesota Native Landscapes, Inc.	Phragmites Control - Ivywood	2,920.00
Rapid Press	LID Logo Note Cards & Stickers	223.50
Monthly Expense Total		10,039.98

The Chair opened the Citizen's Forum at 6:33 p.m. No citizens were in attendance. The Chair closed the Citizen's Forum at 6:33 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Behnke offered a motion to table the public comment opportunity on the Chisago Lakes Joint Sewage Treatment Commission wastewater permit until after the next Invasive Phragmites Planning Team meeting. 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 made a motion to recommend to the County Board to accept option B of the Peterson Companies bid in the amount of \$129,492.00 to refurbish the Lake Ellen Weir, with contingency spending not to exceed \$20,000 to clean and paint the steel beams of the structure. Motion seconded by Director LaMotte 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 McBride made a motion to recommend to the County Board to accept option A of the Peterson Companies bid in the amount of \$282,499.20 to refurbish the Lofton Weir, with contingency spending not to exceed \$20,000 to clean and paint the steel beams of the structure. Motion is contingent on the LID receiving requested Capital Improvement Plan funds from Chisago County. Motion seconded by Director LaMotte 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 McBride made a motion to approve Phase 3 project management services from Collins Engineers not to exceed \$33,000, contingent on receiving a revised quote splitting the costs for each weir. 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

OLD BUSINESS

The Board was given a timeline of key dates for the 2025 LID Election and informed that Areas 5 and 7 would be up for election during that time period.

Elfelt shared with the Board that three landowners along the North Center – North Lindstrom Channel have granted permission for surveyors to walk the land in order to create legal descriptions and new maps to be sent to the appraiser for their consideration. Elfelt also informed the Board that he is on the agenda for the Chisago Lakes Township Meeting on November 19, 2024 at 7:00 pm to discuss the channel project with them, and invited Board members to attend as well.

STAFF & ENGINEER REPORTS

LID Updates

Kinny shared with the Board that the Department of Natural Resources 2025 Invasive Aquatic Plant Management Grants application period would be opening on November 18th and closing on December 18th.

Chisago County Water Resources Updates

Wilson Witkowski updated the LID Board on the following:

eDNA samples were collected for 9 lakes within the county, including the LID lakes of North Center, Spider, Chisago/South Lindstrom, Kroon, and Green. Samples will be sent to the University of Minnesota Genomics lab and analyzed for the presence of zebra mussels.

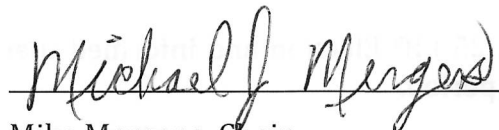
The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant application period for 2025 closes on November 8th. The Water Plan Policy Team will review applications at their meeting on November 18th and make recommendations to the County Board on December 4th. Agreements will be in place by the end of the year and grant money needs to be spent by the end of 2025.

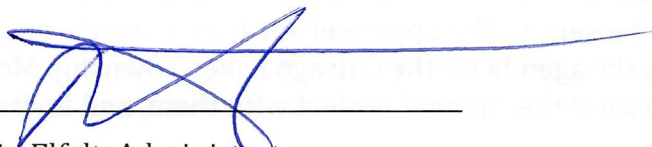
The One Watershed One Plan – Watershed Based Implementation Funding workplan for 2025 – 2027 has been approved by the policy committee for the next two years.

EOR Updates

Graske informed the Board that the fall channel and weir inspection will commence on Wednesday, November 6th and that the Lake Ellen Weir would be closed for the winter at that time.

Director McBride offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 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

Attest: 
Benjamin Elfelt, Administrator

Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District