

**APPROVED MINUTES
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, April 7, 2025**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) Board of Directors met for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 7th, 2025, via both an in-person and virtual meeting held at the Chisago County Government Center in Center City, MN with the following Directors present: Jill Behnke, Travis LaMotte, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, and Gary Schumacher ABSENT: Steve Paquay

*****Notice of Participation via Microsoft Teams*****

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02, one or more LID Board Directors remotely attended the LID Board meeting on Monday, April 7th, 2025, at 6:30 pm via Microsoft Teams. Directors were seen and heard via electronic means and participated from the following locations, which were open and accessible to the public:

- Gary Schumacher: 8840 98th Street, Road Unit C, Ocala, FL 34481

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, 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 amended. 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 Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Steve Paquay

Director Schumacher 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 March 3, 2025, b) the Financial Report, and c) Approval of Invoice Payments. Motion seconded by Director McBride 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 Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Steve Paquay

April 2025 LID Invoices Received		
Invoice Detail	LID Budget Category	Amount
Collins Engineers	Weir Design	1,757.50
EOR	Board Meeting Attendance	275.00
EOR	Water Levels	381.50
WSB	Lab to Lakes Carp Mgmt - Jan	1,593.50
WSB	Lab to Lakes Carp Mgmt - Feb	49,936.72
Monthly Expense Total		53,944.22

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.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT

Commissioner Dunne reported that the County Board is moving toward a 2-year budget model, that the process would be starting earlier, and would involve a special budget committee.

WORKGROUP & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elfelt shared what the Invasive Phragmites Planning Team has been working on and stated that an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Workgroup meeting would be scheduled soon.

Elfelt updated the Board on the easement purchase process within the North Center/North Lindstrom Channel. The pursuit of road easements on both the north and south side of the channel is being discussed to ensure the LID has access when needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Director LeVasseur made a motion to approve the purchase of new dock posts and hardware for use on the LID dock, not to exceed \$400.00, assuming other poles are not available. Motion seconded by Director McBride 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 Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Steve Paquay

Director Behnke made a motion to approve the creation of a LID YouTube page. 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 Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Steve Paquay

The Board discussed the possibility of a 2025 AIS Partnership Program. No motion was made.

Director McBride made a motion to approve spending \$40.00 to rent a booth at Lindstrom's Karl Oskar Days, July 11th-13th. 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 Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Steve Paquay

Elfelt shared information on lake mapping services offered by Bio Base, LLC in response to residents' request for wake boat best practice guidance for protecting shorelines and submerged vegetation. County GIS may be able to utilize this information by overlaying it onto maps for use in directing users to the safest areas of lakes for wake boat use. EOR is also working with Bio Base, LLC and may be able to offer this information as an extension to their clients.

OLD BUSINESS

Elfelt shared an example reimbursement request for LID staff time made to the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center's (MAISRC) Lab to Lakes Program.

STAFF & ENGINEER REPORTS

LID Updates

Elfelt shared highlights of the recent Channel & Weir inspection and stated that a formal report would be presented at the next meeting.

Kinny shared an update on the SOS – Save Our Shorelines Program's soft launch at the Chisago Lindstrom Lakes Association Meeting and multiple requests for site visits.

Elfelt stated that water level readings would resume soon, and gauges would be surveyed within the next few weeks.

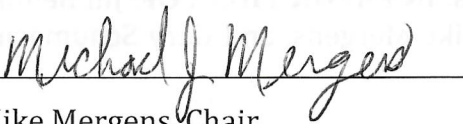
Chisago County Water Resources Updates

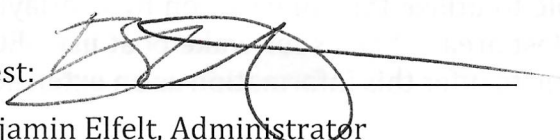
Wilson Witkowski updated the LID Board on the county-wide Lake Management Planning goals and encouraged LID Directors to respond with any additional comments.

Wilson Witkowski shared MAISRC's Invasive Phragmites Story Map which included mention of Director Schumacher's control efforts within the LID.

AIS activities within the County and LID are ramping up for the season and educational opportunities exist for those interested.

Director McBride offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 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, and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** None **ABSENT:** Steve Paquay


Mike Mergens, Chair

Attest: 
Benjamin Elfelt, Administrator
Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District