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Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District

P.O. Box #301 • Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190


www.whitewaterlake.org • www.gwlpoa.org



Message from the Chair

Rain, rain and more rain. What a start to the season. We are finally getting some nice weather and lake conditions are great. There was the usual early weed start, mostly on Rice Lake but both lakes now look good. Potato Bay had a DNR sponsored pilot of a new treatment and we look forward to seeing how this may improve what we have done before. Algae is down everywhere, perhaps from the high lake levels. Speaking of which, the GWLPOA and the Town of Whitewater are working together to better inform everyone when high water levels require cutting boat wakes. They have also asked us to insert the most current boating ordinances so you have a ready reference to the rules and regulations on the lakes. Thanks to the work of Dave and Fran Clevon, and their band of volunteers, in keeping goose droppings down again this year. The quality teams of Ganfield and the Stegmans are actively tracking phosphorous and water quality which keeps improving. The Potrykus Walleye spawning reef is showing promise as we see more and larger Walleye populating. Tom has also begun to repopulate Perch, but give them a chance to reproduce before you take them out of the lake. Come out to the Annual meeting August 24th and learn about our plans and costs. The meeting should be at least an hour shorter this year. Come add your voice to the debates and vote on the plans for action. Incumbent Chuck Chamberlain is the only candidate running for this year's opening and will be happy for your support. The Greater Whitewater Lake Property Owners Association (GWLPOA) will present their annual report. They put on some great social events, dinners, picnics and parties. Learn what they have in store for the coming year. Theresa Stegemann will have a table showing the Healthy Lake Initiative and will be able to discuss things you can do to improve your shoreline. Come early, have coffee and donuts while you meet and greet neighbors.

NOTE: We will again meet at the beautiful Lions Clubhouse on the lake.

Rich Charts – Chair 

Annual Meeting and Budget Review

Where: Lions Club ***Please note venue***
 N7470 Kettle Moraine Dr

When: Saturday, August 24, 2019

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| <p>Agenda: 9:00 Opening remarks – Rich Charts, Chairman
 Call to Order
 Approval of 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes</p> <p>9:15 Review by commissioners:
 Chemical – Terry Anderson
 Weed Harvesting - Larry Brady
 Bog Removal - Rich Charts
 Equipment - Chuck Chamberlain
 Financials – 2019 Actuals - Brad Corson
 Capital Plan – Chuck Chamberlain
 2020 Proposed Budget – Brad Corson
 Audit Report – Dominick Fashoda</p> <p>10:20 Introduction of candidates followed
 by voting - Chuck Chamberlain</p> | <p>10:25 Presentations on Lake Initiatives:
 Wildlife Management - Dave Clevon
 Watershed and Water Quality – Tom Ganfield
 Slow-No Wake – Chamberlain/Roy
 Safety Patrol/Ordinances - Shawn Blanton/
 Larry Brady
 Fish Management - Tom Potrykus</p> <p>11:05 GWLPOA Annual Meeting – Lillian Roy</p> <p>11:15 Input from Towns of Richmond and Whitewater</p> <p>11:25 Election results</p> <p>11:25 Open Discussion/Resident Input/Debate
 Continuations</p> <p>11:40 Adjournment – Next Meeting August 22, 2020</p> <p>11:40 Brief Lake District Board Meeting</p> |
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Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District

Chuck Chamberlain, Board Nominee

My wife, Kathy, and I reside in McHenry, Illinois and have been proud property owners on Krahn Drive for 47 years. In 1986, we supported the creation of the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District and continue to be a members of the Greater Whitewater Lakes Property Owners Association.

I am a graduate of Northern Illinois University with BS and MS degrees in Industrial Technology. I was a classroom instructor and Department Chair of the Applied Technology Department at Fremd High School in Palatine, Illinois for 34 years with extensive training and experience in electronics, power mechanics and the vocational and building trades. In June of 2014, I retired having served my last 8 years as the Director of Summer School, Evening Programs and Continuing Education with Township High School District 211 for a total of 42 years in education.

I was a school board member for 12 years and served as both Vice-President and President with Community Unit School District 300 in Carpentersville, IL. During this period, I was a member of the Construction Oversight Committee for all district building projects.

I have served 8 years on the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District Board as the Chairperson for Capital Equipment being first elected in 2011. During my tenure, we have replaced 4 major pieces of capital equipment and were able to receive financial assistance from the Wisconsin Waterways Commission through the writing and submission of multiple financial assistance grants. I have worked with many quality people and would be honored to continue to serve this great organization. I believe my background and experience will continue to be an asset as a commissioner to the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District.



Whitewater and Rice Lakes’ Sandy Beaches—A lot of us have grandfathered in sandy beaches along our lake frontage. With this year’s heavy downpours and higher water levels, much of that sand eroded away to the bottom of our lakes. Many of you will decide to remedy the situation by adding more sand, but please don’t be tempted. Because, for one, it is against shoreland zoning regulations to add sand to your shoreland without a permit, especially in the “no touch” buffer zone, the first 35 feet of shoreland; and two, because as sand is washed into the lake, our lakes’ aging processes are accelerated and we lose lake depth, gaining more areas where aquatic weeds can root and grow. So if you have a sandy beach, please do not add more sand. And consider either eliminating part or all of your sandy beach or add some native plants to your beach to hold the remaining sand in place.

Lake Tides—A Newsletter for People Interested in Wisconsin Lakes. – Following are takeaways from two separate articles in the latest issue of Lake Tides. Subscribe to Lake Tides online at UW Extension Lakes, College of Natural Resources--Stevens Point

“Lake Highs and Lows—How They Can Be Affecting the Clarity of Your Lake” by Katie Hein, Lake Monitoring Lead, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

It is conventional wisdom that when there is a significant rain event, soil erodes and nutrients are deposited into lakes contributing to algae blooms. And then during drier spells, less nutrient loading occurs, so lakes will be clearer. This may be true for lakes that are oligotrophic--low in nutrients and chlorophyll—such as Geneva Lake. But for lakes such as ours that are Eutrophic--rich in nutrients with excessive aquatic plant growth--our water quality suffers during times of less rainfall. Because, as water volume decreases and becomes warmer, and flushing rates are slowed, there is a greater concentration of nutrients in our lakes and conditions are more favorable for algae growth. So even though we have been enjoying better water clarity in recent years, we have to be cautious, because during years with less rainfall, we may experience an increased in algae growth. Individual property owners can help improve water quality by reducing erosion and nutrient runoff with natural, vegetated shorelines and by slowing and infiltrating stormwater into the ground up higher on the watershed.

“Lakes 101—Ten Great Things to Know About Your Favorite Lake” by Ted J. Rulseh, writer and lake advocate

And here is one of those great things—All lakes go through a long, slow process of getting older and filling in. Silt enters our lakes with runoff from rainfall. Aquatic plants grow and die and those decaying plants sink to the bottom of the lake and build up over time. Gradually the lake takes on more nutrients, and more plants grow and die. It’s called eutrophication. Individual landscaping choices can speed up the processes of lake aging. For example, lawns, bare earth and sandy beaches are much too fragile for the near shoreline area and are susceptible to erosion during times of high water and wave action and do not provide any sort of buffer to reduce runoff of nutrients and sediment. Lakeshore property owners can help slow the aging process of our lakes by keeping nutrients and sediment out of our lakes. We do this by foregoing the use of fertilizers on our lakefront lots, keeping our septic systems maintained and in good repair, and limiting runoff into our lakes by maintaining or planting a natural shoreline near the water’s edge.

Healthy Lakes is a DNR grant program for Individual lakefront property owners, which consist of five easy and inexpensive landscape projects, designed to improve water quality on our lakes. Visit healthylakeswi.com or contact Theresa Stegemann, Lakeshore Management Team, to learn more (262) 458-4226, theresa.stegemann@gmail.com.

Fish Committee

Fish stocking for 2019 is as follows:
 DNR = 6,250 walleye (6-7”) for Whitewater, 1,370 northern pike (4”) for Rice.
 Lake Mgmt = 3,000 perch (4”) for Whitewater, 49 northern pike (12”) for Rice.
 The perch are good eating and a source of food for the larger fish. The pike for Rice Lake are there to control the carp population.

Based on observation, fisherman comments and personal experience, fishing has been good these past months. 1-3 lb bass are being caught near shore on a variety of baits. Northern pike are being caught in 10 – 18 feet on deep divers. Near the shoreline, small panfish are abundant, with some bigger ones being caught ... usually in deeper water.

There is no news from the State regarding any new policy on carp netting. The recently installed Walleye spawning habitat was baseline surveyed this Spring using fish traps. Time will tell if it’s a success.

Tom Potrykus, Fish Stocking Captain 🐟

2020 WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES TAX ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Projected	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	2019 Projected vs 2019 Budget		2020 Budget vs 2019 Budget	
							Increase (Decrease)	% Change	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
OPERATIONS BUDGET TAX	\$ 258,200	\$ 240,053	\$ 195,827	\$ 216,415	\$ 216,415	\$ 242,918	\$ 0	0.0%	\$ 26,503	12.2%
Cost per tax parcel	\$366.76	\$340.98	\$278.16	\$307.41	\$307.41	\$345.05	\$ 0	0.0%	\$ 37.65	12.2%
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND TAX ASSESSMENT	\$30,000	\$56,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
Cost per tax parcel	\$42.61	\$79.55	\$71.02	\$71.02	\$71.02	\$71.02	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
TOTAL TAX ASSESSMENTS	\$288,200	\$296,053	\$245,827	\$266,415	\$266,415	\$292,918	\$ 0	0.0%	\$ 26,503	9.9%
Cost per tax parcel	\$409.38	\$420.53	\$349.19	\$378.43	\$378.43	\$416.08	\$0.00	0.0%	\$37.65	9.9%

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES PROPOSED 2020 OPERATING BUDGET

Summary Operations Budget	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Projected	2019 Budget	2020 Budget	2019 Projected vs 2019 Budget		2020 Budget vs 2019 Budget	
							Increase (Decrease)	% Change	Increase (Decrease)	% Change
Revenue - Tax Assessments	\$288,200	\$296,053	\$245,827	\$266,415	\$266,415	\$292,918	\$ 0	0.0%	\$ 26,503	9.9%
Interest Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DNR Grants	-	5,025	910	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contributions & Other	1,503	1,557	1,980	1,750	2,000	2,000	(250)	-	-	0.0%
Total District Revenue	\$289,703	\$302,635	\$248,717	\$268,165	\$268,415	\$294,918	\$(249)	-0.1%	\$ 26,503	9.9%
Operating Expenses										
Weed Harvesting	46,795	39,429	44,307	55,841	58,791	56,858	(2,950)	-5.0%	(1,933)	-3.3%
Chemical Treatment & Other	89,862	53,513	94,994	110,143	116,300	112,300	(6,157)	-5.3%	(4,000)	-3.4%
Bog Removal	54,221	28,880	44,722	56,851	58,191	59,509	(1,340)	-2.3%	1,318	2.3%
Repairs & Maintenance	32,312	40,867	33,096	29,676	35,411	30,566	(5,735)	-16.2%	(4,844)	-13.7%
General & Administrative	16,643	16,682	17,620	18,014	18,365	18,700	(351)	-1.9%	335	1.8%
Total Operating Expenses	239,834	179,370	234,739	270,524	287,057	277,933	(16,533)	-5.8%	(9,124)	-3.2%
Capital Reserve Fund	30,000	56,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Prior Year Surplus (Deficit) Carryover	34,262	54,131	121,397	85,375	68,643	33,015	16,732	24.4%	(35,628)	-51.9%
Net Surplus (Deficit) Carryover	54,131	121,397	85,375	33,015	(0)	0	33,015		0	

Assessed Valuation (000 omitted)	\$240,999	\$253,949	\$262,745	\$262,745	\$262,745
Change from Prior Yr	-4.1%	5.4%	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Mil Rate	0.84	0.86	1.07	0.99	0.90
Average Assmt (704 Parcels)	\$409.38	\$420.53	\$349.19	\$378.43	\$415.49

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES CAPITAL RESERVE FUND ACTIVITY

Capital Reserve Fund	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Projected	2020 Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	\$22,674	\$45,196	\$77,820	\$19,819	\$62,919
Additions:					
Transfer from Operations					
Budgeted capital assessments	33,000	59,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Interest income earned/transfd	51	129	152	100	100
DNR Grants			19,674	-	-
Total Additions	33,051	59,129	69,826	50,100	50,100
Expenditures					
Equipment Purchases	(10,529)	(26,505)	(127,826)	(7,000)	(27,200)
Ending Fund Balance	\$45,196	\$77,820	\$19,819	\$62,919	\$85,819

2019 Financial Update and 2020 Proposed Budget

At this point, only the Chemical Treatment operation has been finalized and came at \$110,143, or \$6,157 under budget. Of the remaining major budget lines, the weed harvesting and maintenance expenses are being well maintained and allowing for a full Bog Harvesting operation, we are projecting to come in under our total 2019 operating expense budget by \$16,533. Additionally, our budgeted carry over from 2018 of \$68,643 came in at \$85,375 providing additional surplus of \$16,732 for a total projected 2019 surplus of \$33,015. For 2020, we are proposing an operating budget of \$277,933 which is a 3.2% reduction from 2019. However, since we won’t have as large a surplus carry-over to 2020 as we did going into 2019, the tax assessment will increase to \$242,918, or 12.2%. With no major purchases in 2019, our current Capital Fund balance is projected to end the year at approximately \$63,000.

Brad Corson, Treasurer 🐟

Boating on the Lake

What to carry on board boat

- Registration
- Life Jacket for Each Person
- Paddle
- Throw Cushion
- Fire Extinguisher
- First Aid Kit

BOATING ORDINANCES: The signs posted at the boat launches are accurate.

In addition to adopting all state boating laws, the Town of Whitewater ordinance provides for:

“TRAFFIC LANES” and SLOW NO WAKE: A traffic lane is hereby established embracing the surface of Whitewater Lake in its entirety, excepting therefrom that portion of the waters thereof lying between the shoreline and a line parallel to and 150 feet distant from the shoreline. This exception is designated a slow-no-wake area. All channels shall be deemed a slow-no wake area and no boat shall anchor in any channel and no boat shall anchor for a distance of 100 feet in either direction from a line between the tip of the Moraine Heights peninsula and the point opposite.

No pier shall extend further into the lake from the shoreline than 50 feet, no raft shall be anchored or moored where it extends into a traffic lane, no private buoy shall be located in a traffic lane, and no boat shall be moored where it can drift into a traffic lane.

SPEED RESTRICTIONS: All boats shall operate at a slow-no-wake speed after 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earlier, on Fridays, Saturdays, holidays and the day preceding a holiday, to 9:00 a.m. the following day. All other days, water skiing and boat wakes will be permitted from 9:00 a.m. until sunset. The maximum speed outside the traffic lane shall be slow-no-wake at all times every day of the week.

WATER SKIING: No person shall operate a motor boat towing a person on water skis, aquaplane or similar device unless there is in the boat a competent person in addition to the operator in a position to observe the progress of the person being towed. An observer shall be considered competent if he can in fact observe the person being towed and can relay any signals to the operator.

- Persons operating a boat with skiers or any other water sport must operate in a counterclockwise pattern on both lakes and inlet and outlet in the traffic lane.
- No person shall operate a boat for the purpose of towing a water skier or engage in water skiing except between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earlier, Friday, Saturday, and holidays. Water skiing and boatwakes are permitted Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to sunset except if one of these days would be a legal holiday.
- No boat towing persons engaged in water skiing, aquaplaning or similar activity on any lake shall engage in such activity within 100 feet of any occupied anchored boat or marked swimming area or public boat landing

except where pickup and drop area are established and marked with regulatory markers.

- There shall be no more than 2 tow lines and only 2 persons using said tow lines as a means of water skiing or similar sport: the persons being towed must be equipped with a life jacket, life belt or similar lifesaving device. No tow line shall exceed 75 feet in length.

LIFTING INTO THE AIR FROM THE WATER BY BOAT:

No water skier behind any boat will be permitted to be lifted into the air by any means including parasailing, hang gliding or other means, whether the tow remains in place or not, after the skier is aloft.

SWIMMING: Swimming from boats is prohibited unless the boat is anchored and the swimmers stay within 25 feet of the boat. Anchored boats with swimmers must have U.S. Coast approved flotation devices. No person shall swim more than 150 feet from the shore nor shall any person do any distance swimming unless accompanied by a boat containing a ring buoy or an approved life jacket or similar flotation device and person trained in life saving techniques. Each person swimming must be accompanied by a person trained in life saving techniques and boat with U.S. Coast Guard approved flotation devices. No person shall swim in a traffic lane between sunset and sunrise.

ACCESSES: The general public may use the boat accesses for launching fishing boats, boating and recreational equipment to the lake. No parking on the boat accesses or the road by the accesses. No use of the lake access that is in violation of state, federal or county statutes shall be permitted.

SPECIAL USE OF BOAT ACCESSES: Permission from the Town of Whitewater Board is necessary for use of the boat accesses by research groups, weed harvesting and chemical treatment operators, sea wall construction operators and heavy equipment operators. The discussion will be on the second Wednesday of the month at the monthly Town Board meeting. Please call at least 3 business days in advance to get on the agenda.

BOAT OPERATOR AGE RESTRICTIONS: No one may operate a motorized boat under the age of 10.

- A person 10 or 11 years old may operate a motorboat only if accompanied by a parent, a guardian, or a person at least 18 years old who is designated by the parent or guardian.
- A person who is 12-15 years old may operate a motorized boat only if 1) they are accompanied by a parent, guardian or a person at least 18 years old who is designated by the parent or guardian or 2) they have completed a boating safety course that is accepted by the Wisconsin DNR.
- A person born on or after 1/1/1989 and over 16 years old may operate a motorboat only if he or she has completed a boating safety course that is accepted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

AIRCRAFT PROHIBITED: It is hereby prohibited for any aircraft to land upon the surface of the lakes. The surface shall include ice as well as water.

MOORING OF BOATS: No person, firm or corporation shall dock or moor any boat on the waters or along the shores of the lakes for the purpose of living, sleeping or camping over night.

PERMITS: No person or corporation shall organize or participate in any event or display upon the surface of the lakes without first obtaining a permit for such activity from the Whitewater Town Board at their regular monthly meeting the second Wednesday of the month. Please call at least 3 business days in advance to get on the agenda. During any event of display it is unlawful to anchor any boat within the designated area for the organized event or to in any way interfere with the event participants.

ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC RULES: Mooring lights are required. No person shall moor or anchor any boat, raft,

buoy or other floating object, or permit it to drift into a “traffic lane.” This applies between sunset and sunrise unless there is prominently displayed thereon a white light of sufficient size and brightness to be visible from any direction (360 degrees) for a distance of 1 mile on a dark night with clear atmosphere.

FISHING: State fishing laws and administrative codes are enforced by the Department of Natural Resources. Fishing licenses, both resident and non-resident and copies of the fishing regulations are available at nearby marinas, bait shops and sporting goods stores.

You can review Wisconsin boating regulations, register your boat, or sign up for a safety class at the Wisconsin DNR website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/boat/>

As of July 14, 2019

Safety Team Report

The Boater Safety Class saw 8 students – from the Whitewater & local areas. We will continue to offer the class in 2020 & beyond. Please sign up early (April 2020) so we have an idea of classroom needs.

Please remember, all boating operators born after January 1, 1989 must have a Boater’s Safety Certificate from any state that offers one. There are no exceptions. Additionally, children under 12 years of age may not operate a PWC or boat regardless if they have a certificate or not. The WiDNR continues to have the course available on line. Dnr.wi.gov

If you see unlawful or unsafe activity on the Lake, please get a description of the operator, boat/pwc & the registration number if possible. Please give this information to the Lake Patrol directly or call 911 if necessary. Do not inject yourself into the situation. Let’s all stay safe on the water.

Safety Patrol Report – Deputy Sean Blanton 

Weed Committee Report

A 2019 has been, so far, a light harvesting season. Certain areas of Rice Lake have experienced heavy growth, but overall this season has not been a huge challenge. Floaters have not been numerous & have been address as required.

Saturday pickup continues. Please have your weeds on the dock before 8 AM or they may not be picked up.

We continue to emphasis the navigation areas of the lake / Pier to “No Wake Buoys.” We cannot guarantee being able to clear areas in or around piers or swimming areas. This is due in part to DNR restrictions, equipment capability & equipment-operator safety concerns. If you experience site specific issues, feel free to contact me & I will determine if & how much we can assist you.

Thank you for your cooperation & support.

Larry Brady, Commissioner 

Equipment Report

At the writing of this report, all harvesting equipment has been launched and is available for aquatic weed harvesting. Our 7 foot harvester has been cutting on Rice Lake harvesting some early spring aquatic plants. Our 12 foot and 10 foot harvesters are operating on Whitewater Lake. The large transport barge has also been available performing Saturday weed pick-ups from the piers of residents.

This summer, we are currently refurbishing our equipment trailers which are used in the transportation and storing of the aquatic weed harvesters.

Please keep in mind that each year, both before and during the harvesting season, operating personnel changes take place. The new employees require time for proper training in the safe and efficient operation of the equipment. Please be patient with new employees learning the operating procedures of the equipment.

Chuck Chamberlain, Commissioner 