



WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 301
Whitewater, WI 53190



MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District was held at the Whitewater Town Hall on Thursday November 14, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING:

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present: Carol Ducommun, Chuck Chamberlain, Mike Lindenmuth, Dan Berg, Bob Szcinski, Jon Tanis and Jerry Grant,

Others Present: Donna Sherman, Steve Ducommun (pro bono counsel), Jeff Panek, Brian Rahmander, and Scott Center.

Carol asked for a motion to approve the agenda as published Jerry motioned to approve the agenda seconded by Chuck; the motion passed unanimously. Carol noted the agenda would be adjusted in order to accommodate the guest speaker Tim Hoyman via Zoom.

Carol asked for a motion to approve the September meeting minutes, Bob motioned to approve the September minutes seconded by Jon motion passed unanimously.

Public Input: N/A

Reports of commissioners:

Chair: Carol mentioned GWLPOA made a \$1,000 donation to the WWRL Management District for the purchase of property for a building for equipment storage. This is the second \$1000 the GWLPOA has made for the building this year.

Carol and Mike attended the October meeting of Walworth County Lake Association. Patrick Siwula, the Southeast Region AIS Specialist for the DNR, spoke about an aquatic invasive found in Lake Geneva last summer, the first confirmation in inland waters outside the Great Lakes.

Carol will work to finalize the Bylaw changes that were voted on and approved at our Annual Meeting.

This year's Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Conference will be held March 26-28, 2025, in Stevens Point. Carol encouraged District commissioners to attend since it provides great opportunities for education and connections on issues we confront.

Carol had a call with Heidi Bunk from the DNR. The DNR is planning a meeting in February about how lake districts can respond to blue green algae blooms like the ones experienced in Lake Geneva last summer. She will get back to us as to the exact date.

Tim Hoyman, the founder and lead aquatic ecologist of Onterra, LLC, joined our meeting via Zoom. He is familiar with Whitewater Lake since he received his BS in Biology and Chemistry from UW Whitewater and lived on Ridge Road for a time while he was there. He went on to earn an MS in Limnology from Iowa State t. (Limnology is the study of inland lakes and rivers.) Tim went to Iowa State to study applied lake science specializing in lake management. Tim's specialty at Onterra is water quality and modeling, although as the owner of the company he is involved in all projects and helps with aquatic plant management plans. If we work with Onterra, Tim might not direct our project, but he would be involved at some level.

Carol said our goal is to promote long-term health of our lakes and to maximize our investment in harvesting and reduce the amount of herbicides that we use. Onterra is not biased toward using herbicide or mechanical harvesting, but will respond to our priorities, and don't sell either herbicide or harvesting equipment. Their plans, which evolve as conditions change, are realistic and implementable.

If we were to work with Onterra, they would get to know the lakes, including the varieties and levels of AIS plants, as well as what's important to our lake management group. Next summer they could have a crew out to do late season AIS surveys to map the density within each lake. In the fall they would help write DNR grant applications for plant studies and an early season survey (spring 2026), including the point intercept surveys for both lakes. They would help conduct a district-wide survey to solicit comments and would meet with us at least twice after the studies to update and inform us what they learned about the lake and plants. We would then discuss an implementation plan containing goals and actions. Carol said the timeline he laid out would fit our needs to meet our DNR requirements for obtaining harvesting permits.

Carol asked for a motion to complete an RFP for a proposal from Onterra LLC as discussed. Mike made the motion and Bob seconded; all in favor, none opposed; motion passed.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence: No Report

Finance: Dan presented and asked for a motion to approve September expenses of \$23,653.62. Motioned by Bob seconded by Jon; all in favor, none opposed motion passed unanimously.

Dan presented and asked for a motion to approve the October expenses of \$34,585.37. Motioned by Jon seconded by Bob all in favor, none opposed motioned passed unanimously.

Dan reported \$170K in capital and \$8K in excess.

Transaction Date	Disbursements				Description	GL #	Notes / GL Reference Account	Invoice Number
	Vendor	Check #	Amount					
9/3/24	First Citizens	x EFT	\$42.00		Safety deposit box	6950	Office Expenses	
9/4/24	Casey's	x EFT	\$170.86		Gas for Trucks	7340	Weed fuel	
9/11/24	Casey's	x EFT	\$34.26		Gas for Trucks	7340	Weed fuel	
9/11/24	Casey's	x EFT	\$(6.55)		Rebate	7340	Weed fuel	
9/12/24	The Horton Group	x 3532	\$15,228.00		Insurance	6650	General insurance	
9/12/24	Frawley's	x 3533	\$246.60		Diesel fuel 8/13	7540	Bog Fuel	
9/12/24	D&D Products (Aquarius)	x 3534	\$95.75		Wire rope and ring, oil filter	6850	Maintenance--Aquatics	
	VOID		3535					
9/12/24	BITCO Insurance Companies	x 3536	\$615.00		Workers comp	6660	Insurance-workers comp	
9/12/24	WI State Laboratory of Hygiene	x 3537	\$297.00		Water testing	7455	Barley Straw Project	
9/12/24	Whitewater Self Storage	x 3538	\$638.00		Storage unit	6950	Office Expenses	
9/12/24	Ace Hardware	x 3539	\$11.98		brush and paint tray	6850	Maintenance--Aquatics	
9/12/24	Carquest Auto Parts	x 3540	\$274.23		various parts-need invoices	6860	Maintenance Trucks	
9/12/24	Southern Lakes	x 3541	\$32.85		July agenda	6010	Association and Notices	
9/12/24	Donna Sherman	x 3542	\$200.00		September Services	6020	Clerical Services	
9/13/24	Payroll Weed Harvesting	EFT	\$1,649.08		Payroll 8/24-9/6	7310	WH Payroll	
9/13/24	Payroll Maintenance	EFT	\$959.00		Payroll 8/24-9/7	6850	Maint Payroll	
9/13/24	Payroll service fee	EFT	\$16.00		Service fee	6200	Bank fees	
9/26/24	Casey's	ETF	\$228.69		Gas for Trucks	7540	Bog Fuel	
9/27/24	Payroll Bogs	ETF	\$2,556.37		Payroll 9/7-9/20	7510	Bog Payroll	
9/27/24	Payroll Maintenance	ETF	\$352.50		Payroll 9/7-9/20	6850	Maintenance Payroll	
9/27/24	Payroll service fee	ETF	\$12.00		Payroll 9/7-9/20	6200	Bank fees	
			\$23,653.62					
10/7/24	Casey's	ETF	\$140.64		Gas for trucks	7540	Bog Fuel	
10/8/24	Casey's	ETF	\$(7.50)		Rebate	7540	Bog Fuel	
10/8/24	Casey's	ETF	\$750.87		The Corral: 5 tires for the transport trailer	6850	Maintenance Aquatics	
10/8/24	Casey's	ETF	\$46.32		Name.Com, Inc	6950	Office	
10/8/24	Casey's	ETF	\$154.44		Fuel for trucks	7540	Bog Fuel	
10/15/24	Mike Lindenmuth	x 3543	\$220.87		Shipping samples for Barley project	7600	Barley Project	
10/15/24	Donna Sherman	x 3544	\$200.00		October Services	6020	Clerical Services	
10/15/24	WI State Laboratory of Hygiene	x 3545	\$297.00		Water testing	7455	Barley Straw Project	
10/15/24	Tom Potrykus	x 3546	\$250.00		Fish Stocking down payment	7700	Fish Stocking	
10/15/24	Keystone Hatcheries LLC	x 3547	\$2,250.00		Fish stocking final payment	7700	Fish Stocking	
10/15/24	Riese Aquatics	x 3548	\$22,000.00		Bog removal	7500	Bog contractor	
10/15/24	Burns Industrial Supply Co., Inc	x 3549	\$10.65		Parts: sprocket chain	6850	Maintenance Aquatics	
10/15/24	Triebold Implement Inc	x 3550	\$184.61		Parts: need invoice	6850	Maintenance Aquatics	
10/15/24	Carquest Auto Parts	x 3551	\$86.59		Fuel stabilizer, grease, shop towels	6850	Maintenance Aquatics	
10/15/24	USPS	x 3554	\$42.00		PO Box rent	6950	Office	
10/16/24	Payroll Bogs	EFT	\$5,741.27		Payroll 9-21-10-4	7510	Bog Payroll	
10/16/24	Payroll Maintenance	EFT	\$431.00		Payroll 9-21-10-4	6850	Maintenance Payroll	
10/16/24	Processing fees	EFT	\$16.00		Payroll 9-21-10-4	6200	Bank fees	
10/18/24	Casey's	EFT	\$159.90		Zoom subscription	6950	Office	
10/22/24	Frawley Oil Company	3552	\$624.19		Diesel Fuel	7540	Bog Fuel	
10/22/24	Casey's	EFT	\$14.73		Walmart	6850	Maintenance Aquatics	
10/30/24	Payroll Maintenance	EFT	\$959.79		Payroll 10-5 to 10-18	6850	Maintenance Payroll	
10/30/24	Processing fees	EFT	\$12.00		Payroll 10/5 to 10-18	6200	Bank fees	
			\$34,585.37					

Weed Harvesting:

Chemical/Herbicide: Mike no report

Bog Removal: Bob said the bogs are gone for now. Scott and Brandon had a plan to remove 8-15 loads per day. Brandon felt good about how the work was completed. Jon mentioned the Boat House seemed interested in bidding next year.

Equipment: Chuck reported good communication from Scott; all equipment was out and in storage timely. Chuck made a list of some minor repairs that will be addressed in the spring. Chuck mentioned the Aquarius conference for the crew to attend in the spring.

Reports of Standing Teams: Carol reported on Tom's behalf; on Oct 26, 2024, fish stocking took place. 1000 Yellow perch averaging 5 inches in length were stocked: 750 in Whitewater and 250 in Rice. Ernie Roy and members of the District were on hand to watch. The perch were good size and appeared healthy and anxious to explore their new home. We paid Keystone Hatchery and completed the DNR paperwork.

Carol mentioned 20 buoys were approved by Whitewater Township, with \$8K in funding split between the Town and a DNR grant, and then a \$2K donation by the GWLPOA.

Wakes and Shoreline Erosion: Jeff Panek presented the Enhanced Wake surfing survey results, which closed on October 31st. The overall response rate was 33%, 211 surveys from 641 homes. The response rate from riparian homes was 45%, while only 14% of non-riparian owners responded. Of the respondents, 76% favored additional boating regulations or restrictions and 48% felt that negative changes occurred from activities involving enhanced wakes since the Own your Wake Program. 37% of respondents observed damage to their property from wake boats (e.g. shoreline, pier, lifts.) Of the 211 survey respondents, 18 reported owning wake boats.

Jeff said they would like to get this information to the legislature for the January 2025 session. They would write the letter on behalf of the district to provide them with the results and attach comments. The team would also like to add the results on the district website. Carol agreed to post results to the website and will include them in the upcoming Spring newsletter.

Jeff and the team will complete an analysis of the survey.

Old Business: N/A

New Business: An agreement with Whitewater Township to use Cruse Lane for our equipment was approved by the District.

Closed Session: Carol asked for a motion to adjourn to closed session per WI 19.85(1) (e) to deliberate the purchase of public property @ 8:00 PM; Jon Tanis stayed to provide an update; motion made by Mike seconded by Dan motion passed with a roll call vote: Carol Ducommun, Dan Berg Chuck Chamberlain, Mike Lindenmuth, Bob Szcinski and Jerry Grant.

Carol said the closed session meeting was for an update and hence no action was needed.

Other Business: N/A

Next meeting Date: January 9, 2025. Note the December 12th, 2025, meeting would not be needed, meeting was cancelled.

Adjournment: Chuck made a motion to adjourn @ 8:25PM; Jerry seconded; all in favor motioned carried unanimously; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Donna Sherman, Clerk