

## **Big Swan Lake Improvement District (LID), Todd County, MN**

### **Annual Meeting – August 28, 2021 – Hub Supper Club**

The meeting was called to order at 9:09AM by Board Chairman Chuck Macy. Board members in attendance were Chuck Macy, Mike Wolters, Al Leinen, Mark Brauch, and Lee Daly. There were a total of 29 property owners present. Chuck Macy reviewed the agenda and the meeting proceeded.

Secretary's Report: Lee Daly presented the annual meeting minutes from August 29, 2020 for review and recap. The minutes were accepted as written with a motion from Mark Brauch, second by Jim Bieniek, motion passed. The minutes will be published on the Big Swan Lake Improvement District and Association website.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Wolters presented the financials from 8/27/2020 through 8/26/2021 detailing our starting balance of \$90,969.36, deposits, checks, and ending balance of \$97,136.99. The major expenses were \$6,000.00 for walleye stocking, \$3,125.00 for the erosion control rip rap at the Emerald Trail culvert with a 75% reimbursement from Todd County S&W cost share program, and \$1,542.10 for curly leaf treatment. A motion was made by Joan Ganley to approve the report, second by Steve Richter, motion passed.

#### Old Business:

- Denny Harder reported on the curly leaf treatment for 2021 and a plan for next year. In 2021 the Association applied for 60 acres although the DNR as in past years only allowed approximately 24 acres to be treated. Although the total cost was \$9,897 we had a credit of (\$3,406) bringing the net cost down to \$6,491 before the county grant money was applied. The final acreage is decided by the DNR based on the current status on how much we have present in the lake. A map was distributed showing the treatment areas. A discussion followed about the large amount of curly leaf landowners have noticed in the lake and especially around their lakeshore. Denny stated that landowners are responsible for their own treatment out to 150 feet from their shoreline and offered companies that they can contract with that will be published on our website. A motion was made by Denny Harder to approve our treatment plan for 2022 up to 60 acres if allowed by the DNR, second by Al Leinen, motion passed.
- Chuck Macy provided an update on our bog committee and removal/relocation permit. Any floating bog 8 foot by 8 foot or smaller in size can be removed by a LID member. Any larger size bogs must have DNR approval. We will continue to renew our permits each year.
- Al Leinen reported on the walleye stocking program. This program was started in 2018 with 400 pounds of fingerlings and we continued stocking 400 pounds each year through 2020. This year the DNR did not approve our stocking program since they will be providing fry in 2021 and every odd year going forward. We will continue our stocking program in 2022 and every even year thereafter. A discussion followed about the DNR netting surveys and if they remove fish from our lake for placement in other lakes. Al agreed that this happens but not in Big Swan from his knowledge. Landowners also asked if we could provide another stocking location rather than everything being done at the south public landing. We will try to get access next year to the North Resort Association so our stocking can be split between the south and north bays. A motion was made by Al Leinen to stock up to 400 pounds of fingerlings in 2022, second by Larry Alsleben, motion passed.

- TMDL Committee Update was provided by Lee Daly. Committee members also include Joan Ganley, Mark Brauch, & Al Leinen. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) was defined and the MNPCA report has shown that we are exceeding our phosphorus levels and are recommending a reduction plan. We have continued our stream inlet sampling this year with 3 tests conducted so far. The first 2 reports from RMB Labs show that Van Heel Creek has the most phosphorus present followed closely by Schwanke Creek. Final 2021 test results will be posted on our website this fall. In addition, the MNPCA TMDL report and the Lake Water Quality report (RMB Labs 2015) are also available for review on our website. The committee has looked at various options to reduce phosphorus including floating islands, aluminum sulfate (Alum), additional inlet buffers, and retention ponds. The floating islands may not be effective unless they can be placed directly in the streams which would require DNR approved dredging to create a pond with 4 foot minimum depth. The committee is recommending that we continue the stream inlet monitoring and add another site on Schwanke Creek at the lake entry point rather than on highway 287. In addition, the committee is recommending that the LID hire a certified lake consultant to conduct an in depth study of the TMDL report, RMB reports, & other available data to create a Lake Management Plan during the winter of 2021/2022 for a cost of up to \$10,000. The committee is also recommending that we have a nutrient flow/load study and bottom core sampling done on our lake in the spring/summer of 2022 for a cost of up to \$15,000. A discussion followed about who was on the committee and how we would select the consultant. We asked for additional help and Jim Bieniek volunteered to be on the committee and was accepted. A motion was made by Mark Brauch to allocate costs up to \$25,000 as outlined above, second by Ed Hennek, motion passed.

#### New Business & Open Discussion:

- Mike Wolters provided an update on the public landing and problems that have occurred this year due to the low water levels. The DNR placed new cement slabs at the landing and already installed them to extend the ramp. A discussion followed about the low lake levels and if anything could be done with stop locks at the north end outlet culvert. Chuck Macy and Mark Brauch explained the current situation that was approved by the DNR a few years ago and that not much more could be done at this point unless 100% of the landowners approve it.
- Chuck Macy presented the proposed 5 Year Budget (2022 – 2026) for the LID that needs to be presented to and approved by the Todd County Commissioners this fall. He outlined our costs and revenue being proposed each year with total costs over 5 years at \$152,950 and assessment revenue at \$78,375 leaving us a deficit spending amount of (\$74,575) and net ending cash balance of around \$25,000. However, if we are successful in obtaining county grants our costs could get reduced dramatically leaving a much larger cash balance. Proposed 5 Year Budget is attached. A discussion followed about possibly increasing the tax assessment from \$95 to \$125 per year to landowners. LID members talked about the fact that we have \$100K in the bank presently and the association has \$60K so it could be difficult to justify increasing the assessment. In addition, we don't really know what the costs will be yet to reduce the phosphorus and that state or county grants may be available for any large projects. Motion was made to add an amendment to the proposed 5 Year Budget by Mark Brauch to increase the annual tax assessment from \$95 to \$125, no second, motion failed. A motion was called by Joan Ganley to approve the 5 Year Proposed Budget with \$95 per year assessment as presented by Chuck Macy, second by Patty Herzberg, motion passed.

Election of Officers: Chuck Macy reported that the term of board members Mike Wolters and Lee Daly were expiring and asked if they wanted to be reelected for another two years. Both agreed and no other volunteers came forward. A motion to approve Mike Wolters and Lee Daly as board members was made by Mark Brauch, second by Steve Richter, motion passed.

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Chuck Macy at 10:36AM, second by all members, motion passed.

Submitted by Lee Daly.