



FALL

2010

THE TRUMPETER

NEWSLETTER DEVOTED TO
BIG SWAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

Big Swan Lake Improvement Association of Todd County

Aug. 28 meeting, Hub Supper Club

Following the Todd County Lake Improvement District (LID) annual meeting (see minutes on the second page), President Mark Brauch called the Association meeting to order with 30 members present.

Members approved minutes of the spring meeting on a motion by Chuck Krippner and a second by Pat Masloski. The treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Dennis Harder and seconded by Lee Algers.

Sue Krippner reported for the charitable gambling committee. She said that following a review by our compliance specialist, the committee was required to reaudit additional closed games from 2009. The 12 games we audited had incorrect unsold tickets reported. The committee continued to reaudit one month at a time until it found games that were correctly reported. After receiving further help from Minnesota Department of Revenue and the state Gambling Control Board, it was determined to be the Association's responsibility to reimburse the gambling

account with \$1,750 from the general account. A motion to reimburse the Association's gambling account with \$1,750 from the Association's general account was made, seconded and passed.

Krippner then made a motion to distribute \$1,312 in gambling funds to the City of Grey Eagle and \$3,061 to the Big Swan Lake Improvement District. The remainder of the 2010 charitable gambling profits, minus the annual year-end profit carryover, will be distributed before Dec. 31, 2010 in the following manner: City of Grey Eagle – 30%, Long Lake Improvement Association – 30%, and the Big Swan LID – 40%. Members approved the motion.

In new business, it was reported that the Purple Martins that had roosted on Big Swan Lake in preparation for their fall migration to South America the last two year had moved to Osakis Lake because natural predators had moved in to disperse them.

President Brauch discussed the formation of a nominating committee for officer positions. The idea was approved, but no one volunteered to join the committee. He asked anyone interested to contact him.

FEEDLOT INSPECTION UPDATE

The inspection of feedlots in the shore land district of the lake's west side creeks was completed in September. There are 18 feedlots in the shore land district. None was found to be a major contributor of nutrient load entering Big Swan Lake.

All feedlots with over 100 animal units are scheduled for an additional land application inspection this fall.

TCSWCD has applied for grant dollars to be used for improvements on the larger feedlots. Ed Uhlenkamp, the county feedlot officer, will keep us informed about the status of the grant request.

**Big Swan Lake Improvement District, Todd County
Annual Meeting, Aug. 28, 2010, Hub Supper Club**

The meeting was called to order @ 9 a.m. by the board chairman. Present were all board members and approximately 30 property owners. All present were invited to participate in a discussion about shore land improvement projects and available grant dollars at the end of this meeting.

The Aug. 29, 2009 meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion to accept as written was made by Mark Brauch second by Pat Brauch. Motion passed. The Treasurer's report was reviewed. A motion to accept as written was made by Sue Krippner, second by Sheila Milner. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Bogs -- There haven't been any large floating bogs thus far this year. DNR is encouraging staking versus removal of bogs. George Brezinka and Jim Macy have stakes and drivers available for bog staking.

Grants & Donations -- The LID received a donation of \$2,218 from the Big Swan Lake Improvement Association in 2009. The LID will continue to solicit grants and donations for various projects listed in our Establishment Order. Any funds will be used in addition to and not in place of assessed funds. A donation request for 2010 was submitted to the BSLA.

Water Monitoring -- When we learned that the TMDL we anticipated for 2011 was rescheduled for 2015, the inlet monitoring approved for 2010 was canceled.

New Business:

Curlyleaf Pondweed -- Dennis Harder gave an update on the CLP control program. A total of 46 acres were treated. DNR and Lake Management worked together to identify areas for treatment in the May survey. There was discussion concerning treatment of other non- native vegetation but DNR and Lake Management have not identified any other species. The DNR and Lake Management will continue the spring survey to determine areas of CLP and other non-natives. The homeowner is responsible for treatment from the shoreline extending out 150 feet from shore. The rest is considered the common area. A motion was made by Sue Krippner, second by Mark Brauch to approve the treatment of up to 60 acres if CLP is present. Motion passed. A suggestion was made to see if Lake Management would check and notify homeowners of what type of vegetation they may have in their 150 foot area. Dennis Harder will continue to coordinate this program.

Water Monitoring -- Highlights of inlet monitoring from 2008 & 2009 were provided by the Brainerd office of the MPCA. Each of the 4 inlets was monitored an average of 25 times in the 2 year period. The west inlets had the highest total phosphorous levels. Schwanke Creek 3 times and Van Heel 6 times higher than 20 in-lake samples from 2008. The south inlet levels were 1.6 times higher and the east side 2.5 times higher. The east inlet (from Long Lake) had DO levels below 5% in 50% of the samples. The reason for the elevated phosphorous levels is unknown. TCSWCD is in the process of completing an on-site review of all feedlots in the shore land district of both west side creeks. We have asked ELMR to include the shore land areas of all inlets in the review & inspection of lakeshore SSTs scheduled for 2011 - 2012. This is the first step in identifying or eliminating nutrient sources entering our lake.

Budget Review -- The current budget was reviewed and discussed. This review will result in a reduction in projected expenses for operating and insurance costs in our next budget. A 5 year budget was suggested. Three proposed budgets were reviewed with some changes in item amounts and assessments. The budget issue was presented to stimulate thinking for the 2011 budget discussion and approval.

Website -- Pat Masloski discussed the BSLA website. LID information (board members, meeting dates, agendas, meeting minutes, etc.) will be posted on this site. Pat Masloski will post the information.

Shore land Projects -- Ed Uhlenkamp and Amy Piekarski from TCSWCD and Jason Weinerman from MBSWR provided information about shore land improvement and a cost share program for approved projects. Approximately 20 property owners attended and participated in this discussion.

There was no other business. A motion was made by Mark Brauch, second by Sue Krippner to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned.

All agencies that require a report of our LID activities will receive a copy of our minutes and Treasurer's report.

cc Todd County Commissioners
Todd County SWCD
DNR Kent Lokkesmoe
MPCA

Submitted by Kathy Brezinka, Sec/Treas.

Update: As of 9/1/10, 16 property owners took the first step in applying for grant dollars to improve 1904 feet of shore land.

Copies of the Treasurer's report were available at the annual meeting. Property owners may request a copy by contacting the LID treasurer.

