

**APPROVED MINUTES  
CHISAGO LAKES LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
Monday, April 5, 2021**

The Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Board of Directors met for their monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 5, 2021 via a virtual Meeting with the following Board of Directors present: Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher. **ABSENT:** None

Each LID Board Director, and others present, attended the 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 virtual Meeting via their devices and to participate in discussion through microphones located in their devices.

Also present: Administrator Jerry Spetzman, Chisago County Water Resource Manager Susanna Wilson Witkowski, Chisago County Commissioners Chris DuBose and Marlys Dunne, Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc. staff Greg Graske and 4 citizens.

The Chair Mike Mergens called the business meeting to order at 6:35 pm and lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Paquay offered a motion to approve the agenda for the Lake Improvement District (LID) meeting, as amended. Motion seconded by Director Kinny and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** none

Director Behnke offered a motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2021 LID Board meeting. Motion seconded by Director McBride and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** none

Spetzman provided the Board with the March 2021 year-to-date budget summary and stated that the budget was on track.

Director McBride offered a motion to approve payment of the following invoices:

Chisago SWCD	Lake Water Quality Monitoring Report - Southern Lakes.	5,500.00
Chisago SWCD	Land Use Practices, Matching Funds, City of Lindstrom Enhanced Street Sweeping.	1,200.00
Chisago SWCD	Land Use Practices, Matching Funds Technical Assistance (Schultz, Reid, Raedeke, Weiss, Olmschenk).	1,722.50
Chisago SWCD	Shorelines, Lakeshore and Urban Restoration Technical Assistance (Lawns to Legumes Program).	1,690.00

EOR	Discussions regarding Chisago flood study data, spring flood level calculations, prep for Board meeting, communication with Jerry.	1,109.25
EOR	Attend Board meeting on February 1, 2021.	250.00
<b>Monthly Expense Total</b>		<b>11,471.75</b>

Motion seconded by Director Schumacher and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** none

The Chair opened the Citizen's Forum at 6:41 p.m. One citizen offered comments. The Chair closed the Citizen's Forum at 6:43 p.m.

## NEW BUSINESS

Spetzman reviewed with the Board the request for funding from LID reserves to treat populations of invasive phragmites located along public roadsides as determined during the surveys completed by the St. Croix River Association in 2019.

Director Schumacher offered a motion to recommend that the Chisago County Board of Commissioners approve the LID spending \$5,000 from reserves for the roadside treatment of invasive phragmites in 2021. Motion seconded by Director McBride and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** none

Spetzman reviewed with the Board the summary and comments from the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Subcommittee members regarding pesticide monitoring in the lakes in the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes Watershed.

Spetzman reviewed with the Board the results of the 2020 Chisago County and LID Water Quality Monitoring. Spetzman noted that both North and South Center Lakes are proposed to be delisted from the Minnesota Impaired Waters List for 2021.

Wilson Witkowski reviewed with the Board the option for direct deposit for expense reimbursements through the Chisago County Auditor's Department.

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) upcoming virtual Spring Series of floodplain and shoreland management trainings.

Wilson Witkowski reviewed the Board on the newly developed LID brochure for placement at City Halls and community festival booths and suggestions for input. Wilson Witkowski will make changes as suggested by the Board.

Wilson Witkowski reviewed with the Board on the request for providing the LID booth at the Lakes Appreciation night on July 7, 2021.

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the Minnesota DNR gage run to recalibrate the lake level gages in the LID and in Chisago County. Lake level gage readings by county staff started in April 2, 2021.

Wilson Witkowski reviewed with the Board the KARE 11 Cabin Cast opportunity for aquatic invasive species prevention.

Director Kinny offered a motion to allow the LID Board to approve funding \$250 for the KARE 11 Cabin Cast Opportunity. Motion seconded by Director Behnke and, upon a vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** none

Spetzman reviewed with the Board scheduling an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Subcommittee meeting to discuss a request regarding Pioneer Lake, treatment of AIS in the channels located in the LID and carp control options. Spetzman will schedule a Subcommittee meeting in the near future.

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the 2021 Chisago County Aquatic Invasive Species Program that includes watercraft inspections, Zebra Mussel Watch program, zebra mussel veliger and Spiny Waterflea sampling, Water Access Monitoring program, Starry Trek (August 2021) and AIS Detector Training in May and June 2021. Aquatic plant point-intercept surveys will be completed on East Rush Lake in the northern part of Chisago County in 2021.

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the upcoming St. Croix Youth Summit on April 22, 2021.

Wilson Witkowski updated the Board on the upcoming 2021 Earth Day Passport Event sponsored by the St. Croix Watershed Environmental Education Partnership (SWEEP).

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Spetzman updated the Board on the required maintenance for the channel located at Sportsman Drive in Chisago City, MN.

Spetzman updated the Board on the permit renewed by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to install the carp barrier located on the culverts underneath US Highway 8 between Little Green Lake and Lake Ellen. The barriers are installed with the lake water temperature is sixty degrees or higher to allow for the early spawning of northern fish. Installation of a carp barrier in the channel between Chisago and Kroon Lakes has the approval of the City of Lindström.

Wilson Witkowski reviewed with the Board the Lower St. Croix, One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) planning activities, including the recently approved Work Plan and Budget for 2021 and 2022 by the 1W1P Policy Committee.

## **STAFF & ENGINEERING REPORTS**

Emmons and Olivier Resources Inc. (EOR)

Greg Graske, Emmons and Olivier Resources Inc., reviewed the current water levels and opening of the Lake Ellen weir on March 25, 2021.

Spetzman updated the Board on the North Center and North Lindstrom channel maintenance and communication with the contractor for bog removal within the channel. The Board discussed concerns regarding low water levels and equipment access. Spetzman will contact the adjacent landowner to confirm access to the channel, with the contractor for timeframe for removal and with the Chisago Lakes Joint Wastewater Treatment compost site for disposal.

Director McBride offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Motion seconded by Director Schumacher and, upon a roll-call vote being taken thereon, the motion **carried** as follows: **IN FAVOR THEREOF:** Jill Behnke, Monica Kinny, Margaret LeVasseur, Todd McBride, Mike Mergens, Steve Paquay and Gary Schumacher. **OPPOSED:** none. **ABSENT:** none

*Michael J Mergens*

---

Mike Mergens, Chair

Attest:

*Susanna*  
Susanna Wilson Witkowski, Water Resource Manager

*Wilson Witkowski*