

HORSEHEAD LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT NO 1



May 1, 2018

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www.horseheadlake-wi.org

April 12th Meeting Notes

- Noted our next Commissioner's meeting - July 5,
- Noted our Annual Meeting will be Saturday, August 18th.
- Approved minutes for July 6, 2017 meeting.
- Noted cancellation of Oct. 28, 2017 commissioner's meeting due to scheduling conflicts.
- Treasurer's Report - balances as of 4/19/2018:

Checking: \$8,019.95

Money market:

\$20,391.82

Total Funds: \$28,411.77.

Our last levy amount is due from Oneida Co. for \$7,838.44.

- Noted new 2017-'19 weed cutting permit renewed and contract with Schmidt's Landscaping for cutting - signed for Week 2-3 in July, 2018.
- Anticipating our next commissioner election, the Treasurer position, will need to be filled. Dave & Kathy Averbek have been doing a good job as interim treasurers. Also noted acquisition of a WI Tax Exemption Certificate.
- Voted unanimously for a resolution to propose adoption of "People of the Lakes: A Guide to Wisconsin's Lake Management Law at our Annual Meeting.
- Voted to clarify our voting procedure to align with current state law.
- Noted the lake study is on schedule, but not complete. Two district meetings will be held this summer to update residents and finally to

create a management plan integrating survey results.

- Noted that our district will be receiving about \$5,400 back from the state when our lake study has been finally approved by DNR. This could take up to a year.

Invasive Species Update

There's no report on Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) this year because we opted to forgo the divers on the advice of Onterra Lake Management. The reason relates to the ongoing lake study and it was felt we should wait until our study is complete. As you may recall, divers found ONE EWM plant in 2016 after spending 14.32 hours searching the known coordinates. Divers are scheduled for August, 2018.

**WE NEED
YOUR
CURRENT**

EMAIL ADDRESS!

YOU CAN HELP US SAVE MONEY ON PAPER, PRINTING, POSTAGE, AND TIME TO PREPARE NEWSLETTERS, ETC. Please give us a hand with this. We now have 34. Stay informed of important developments by sending your email address to: dbatchelet@charter.net

Aerator Maintenance

Our aerator operated effectively throughout the winter. We plan to monitor the equipment and replace parts as necessary.



Weed Cutting

Maximum acreage allowed by our permit is approximately 60 of our 367 acres. Schmidt's Landscaping will be harvesting our weeds during the 2nd-3rd week in July, provided it's needed, and if weather allows staying on schedule. One-

hundred hours, as usual, has been budgeted for 2018.

Lake Water Testing

Hallie & Terry Moline and Joe Helmuth will be doing our DNR water testing this year. Thanks to them for taking responsibility for this important task.

Updated Website

Resident volunteer, Stuart Utley, completely revamped our website in 2017 and it's working well. Stuart will continue overseeing and updating it when necessary.

Check Your Boats and Trailers

Be sure your boat has NO plant material when you launch your boat in Horsehead Lake or take it out. Your boat and trailer should be washed thoroughly with soap and water before re-launching in our lake if it has been in another body of water. Leaving it out of the water for a full week will substitute for washing with soap.



From the Chair

By Dennis Batchelet

This time of the year we all look forward to getting back to the lake and enjoying our relaxing time with family and friends. Our lake is still in good shape and we continue to welcome new folks into our Horsehead community.

In 2005, when I was first elected, I made a list of goals I thought we should work on to improve the district. In that time we have set up an informative website, had our first lake study and written a lake management program, worked cooperatively with DNR including bass and bluegill stocking, improved the newsletters, and encouraged a more friendly atmosphere among our members. Many members have stepped up to help with this work and I am very pleased.

At our most recent commissioner's meeting, we unanimously voted to repeal our bylaws, what we use as our constitution, and replace it with the regularly-updated, online, People of

the Lakes: A Guide to Wisconsin's Lake Management Law,

[https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-/ap/UWEXLakes/Documents/organizations/Lake%20Districts/Lake Organization guide.pdf](https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-/ap/UWEXLakes/Documents/organizations/Lake%20Districts/Lake%20Organization%20guideline.pdf) (5.8MB)

While this may seem a bit drastic, the commissioners believe it is essential. Our attorney informed us of shortcomings in our bylaws when we were trying to straighten out our recent voting problem. He noted that our bylaws are out-of-date with current Chapter 33 state law. Since 1973, when the law authorizing the creation of Protection & Rehabilitation Districts was written, the law has been changed 13 times. Our district was formed in 1976, and we have not kept up. We feel we must have policies that agree with state law. So, at our Annual Meeting, we will bring forward a recommendation to formally vote to adopt the Guidelines and repeal our current bylaws.

It should be said that some districts choose to keep their original bylaws. But this requires a permanent committee to research any changes in state law and then propose modifications at each Annual Meeting. If we adopt the Guidelines, our bylaws will be automatically updated, online. And, they would be easily accessible to anyone, 24/7. Again, we must always have policies that are in line with state law.

In accordance with that, we also voted to bring our voting procedure in agreement with state law. Therefore, when you receive your announcement of our Annual Meeting, you will see what was unanimously voted on to clarify and streamline our voting procedure.

These changes are milestone events for our district and are aimed at improving the effectiveness and quality of our lake district.

In a final note, I urge you to stay informed about the protection of our Wisconsin environment, which has been compromised over the past several years.

Law on the Lake

If you see or suspect abuse of fishing limits, contact Warden Tim Ebert or report to 1-800-TIP-WDNR.

If there is an issue about bothersome fireworks, disorderly conduct, or excessive noise, please contact the Oneida Co. Sheriffs Dept. for assistance.

As a reminder, a yearly burn permit is required and a permit to launch on Lake Tomahawk, free, is available at the bait shop in town - no cost.

Ecology Notebook

What are PBT's?



PBT's are toxic trace chemicals that are present in the environment. They accumulate gradually in fish, wildlife, and humans. PBT stands for "Persistent Bioaccumulative Taxins" These are chemicals that have severe negative health effects:

- 1) nervous system
- 2) reproductive system
- 3) developmental probs.

- 4) immune suppression,
- 5) malignant cell growth
- 6) endocrine system

Lead, mercury, dioxin, and PCB's are common PBT's and can be controlled by the wise use of burn barrels. These materials, once they enter the environment, last a very long time, Please do not burn plastic grocery bags, painted or treated wood, aluminum foil, styrofoam, or plastic of any kind. Help keep our environment clean and healthy. Bottom-line - TRY TO BURN ONLY CLEAN WOOD & PAPER.

Did you know?

- 1) Wisconsin law requires every boat to carry a life-preserver cushion kept in a ready-to-throw location in case of emergency.
- 2) In 1912, a canal proposal failed that would have linked Lake Tomahawk with Horsehead Lake and the WI River.
- 3) Bald Eagles stand between 34"-43" and have a wingspan of 6 ½' to 7 ½'; females are larger. White feathers come after 5 yrs.

Our 2017-'18 Volunteers

Secchi testing/water sampling: ; Hallie & Terry

Moline & Joe Helmuth

Audit Committee:

Hans Delius

(need one more volunteer)

Clean Boats/Clean Waters:

Terry & Hallie Moline

Nominating Committee:

Linda Delius (need one more volunteer)

Let's be safe out there.

Sincerely,

Your Commissioners,

Dennis Batchelet

David & Kathy Averbeck

Debra Bursik

Larry Hoffman

Mitchell Ives