

HORSEHEAD LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION
DISTRICT NO. 1

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, AUGUST 05TH, 2006

The 2006 annual meeting of Horsehead Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District No. 1 was held 09 AM on Saturday, August 05th, 2006 at the Raymond F. Sloan Community Center, Lake Tomahawk, WI

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Dennis Batchelet at 9 a.m. introducing himself, welcoming everyone to the 32nd annual meeting and thanking all the volunteer's who helped in any way this past year. He also reminded everyone to sign in and of the picnic being held following the meeting at the American Legion Pavilion, Rainbow Flowage, corner of "D" and "E".

Dennis sent around a clipboard for volunteers to sign up for various jobs for the coming year, and stated we would follow Roberts Rules of order, and use our time as best we can, and to respect everyone and to move the meeting along, and to work out any differences we may have.

Lake district members introduced themselves, followed by the five commissioners.

AGENDA

The Chairman read the agenda that was sent to all Horsehead Lake property owners, and posted in all the proper places in Lake Tomahawk. Motion was made by Linda Delius, seconded by Patricia Donnick to approve the agenda as written. Jim Meek asked when on the agenda we could talk about the high water. Batchelet stated we decided at last years' meeting to leave the lake at its' current level. When asked, Meek asked it be placed on the agenda. It will be discussed after, new business, X-B, request for continuing membership in Oneida County Lakes & Rivers.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman asked the secretary if there was any correspondence, Houghton-Bowen stated there is none.

REPORTS:

CHAIRPERSON – DENNIS BATCHELET
HORSEHEAD LAKE WEB PAGE

Chairman Batchelet asked how many had visited our Horsehead Lake web page. Dennis stated we have had some 796 hits to the web page to date, and encouraged everyone to visit it from time to time to get any updates on the lake.

AERATION SYSTEM:

Batchelet reported the aeration system worked great last year, all eight pods. Hans Delius and some others did some work on it, and worked well after that. Batchelet reported that Jim Goheen of Aquatic Biologists said it would work much better if we had a second system installed.

SECCHI MONITORING/OXYGEN TESTING:

Batchelet reported that he and Kris Batchelet did the testing this year. Batchelet had a chart from the DNR, called Historical Lake Quality Data, 2005, and shows where we are, from year to year. Our lake is not perfect in any way, and our TSI readings are 40-50. and shows the water is moderately clear, but increasing chance of low dissolved oxygen in deep water during the summer. The chart showed the secchi, chlorophyll and total phosphorus. The tests are only done during July and August; was told at the convention this is the only months that you take the average. The most important is the TSI readings, and Batchelet discussed this to great lengths to lake members. He also stated the temperature has a lot to do with this, as well as if we get storms.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 20TH, 2005

Motion by Tom Rudolph to dispense with the reading of the August 20th, 2005 which are posted on the web site, seconded by Donald Niebler, motion carried.

MAP:

Dennis had a map from the northern part of our lake, that the DNR is harvesting wood on this part of the lake, and will continue to do this, some 117 acres. They are taking all the hardwood trees including the small trees, (oak, maple and even some pine trees). It was reported they are now going to cut the west shore, near the Kania property from August to February 15th, some 36 acres. They did promise not to cut near the Eagles nest. It was suggested that people should contact the DNR and express their concern. There was a lot of discussion and concern on the cutting.

Gary Sowatzka suggested we have someone from the DNR come in and talk to us about this. Motion by Carol Niebler, seconded by Linda Delius to have the chairman contact the DNR and find out what he can about this and post on Horsehead Lake web page, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Beverly J. Fagan, treasurer for Horsehead Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District No 1 had the annual financial statement from August 20, 2005 to August 5, 2006. Balance on August 20, 2005 was \$10,860.10, expenses \$18,768.79, revenues \$17,670.69, leaving a balance of \$9,762.00; Checking account \$233.81; Savings #1 \$105.51; Savings #2 \$105.90; Money Market \$6,719.72; CD \$2,597.06, total of \$9,762.00. Fagan announced all of our bills are paid to date. Fagan stated she transferred money out of the savings accounts and put in a money market to get more interest.

Motion by Mary Ellen Zickus, seconded by Jack Houghton to accept the treasurer's report, motion carried.

The weed harvesting for the year 2005, (\$4,200) and 2006, (\$9,000) both were paid this year. This weed harvest company only charged us for the time on the water. He works alone, and we did buy an extra 6 hours this year.

AUDIT:

Hans Delius reported that he, Linda Delius and Christy Nemcek did the audit and found everything in order.

ACTIVITY AT BOAT LANDING:

Joanne Erickson reported they made some 40 visits to the boat landing and collected \$116.59 this year. The lock box was at the landing from opening fishing in May to October.

OLD BUSINESS

WEED HARVESTING, 2006 –

Dennis Batchelet reported Cliff Schmidt did our harvesting this year and. 81 loads of weeds were removed from the lake and dumped in the Lake Tomahawk leaf brush dump. Dennis had a picture of the harvester, and as we see, it was large; 104' long by 40 ' wide and stands 5 to 7 feet high. He started out going down the middle, and kept moving over, and the breeze was working with him, pushing the weeds in the harvester. He also did six passes near Duck Road. Diann Lane stated he did not do any passes on the north side by their place. It was suggested a map be made, and give to him for next year on where we want him to cut. Jim Meek said they never came over on their side the last two years.

Kris Batchelet reported the DNR was very reluctant to give us a permit this year due to the fact we do not have a lake management study. When it was agreed upon, they said we had to cut where the weeds were last year. Kris said there were no weeds there this year, so Mr. Schmidt cut where the weeds were. The DNR wanted us to do grid cutting.

We can only get a permit for three years to do weed harvesting. Don Niebler stated there was some discussion that the DNR told us years ago that we need to lower the lake each year so help kill out the weeds. Everyone in attendance thought Mr. Schmidt did a great job with the weed harvesting this year.

DNR LAKE GRANT UPDATE:

Kris Batchelet reported that last year at the annual meeting everyone voted on getting a lake management study, which would answer a lot of questions. We hired Tim Hoyman, of Onterra Inc. to write our grant. Kris and Dennis met with Kevin Gauthier and Nicole Nicklaus at the DNR to review our Lake Grant application and work out all the details of our planned weed harvesting. Onterra Inc. comes highly recommended, and in all the grants they wrote, ours was the first to not be granted. Kris reported part of not getting the grant was because of not having a fish study. Kris went on to say the line was drawn at ours, and when she attended the convention, she found out that no lakes in our area received a grant. Tim said we were so close last time, we should get it the next time, and we will know what to do about lake level and weed harvesting and get funding for some of these things. There was a lot of discussion on this study and past studies, etc.

SPEAKER – JEAN HANSEN, CONSERVATION SPECIALIST WITH ONEIDA COUNTY LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT –

Jean stated she changed the power point with a different approach and talk. She stated she wanted to discuss the Clean Boats, Clean Waters and discuss some of the weeds that are in our lake, and surrounding lakes. We have Curly Leaf Pondweed, which is our enemy. We all need to watch for weeds that we do not recognize and if you see any, please take to the DNR.

Jean brought a lot of materials on the Clean Boats, Clean Waters and had many samples of the different weeds from a lot of area lakes. She thanked those who are monitoring the lake. Jean reported the other day at Lake George a boat was found with Zebra Mussels, which came from Illinois. The weed was taken to the DNR to make sure what it was.

Things To Look For:

Study the weeds

Obtain Information

Learn to Identify the weeds

Look at Pictures

Take plants and critters to DNR for proper ID

Learn to ID the native species.

Jean gave the chairman a book on identifying the weeds.

Jean also said we could set up committees such as the following:

Boat Launch

Education

Grants

Fund Raising

Future Plans

Plants

Lake Inventory

Lake Quality

Jean reported she brought a lot of different material for those interested and asked them to come and pick up what they want. Chairman Batchelet declared a five minute break to stretch and pick up your literature.

Jean was thanked for her great presentation.

NEW BUSINESS:

WALD 2004-2005 DUES

Motion by Don Niebler, seconded by Diann Lane to join the Wisconsin Assoc. of Lakes, 2006-2007, in the amount of \$141.00, (past was \$100.00) motion carried.

Motion by Linda Kay Houghton-Bowen, seconded by Bernie Farbiak we continue our membership in the Oneida County Lakes and Rivers Association, motion carried. Beverly reported they are not charging a fee this year, as they have enough money at this time.

HIGH WATER ISSUE:

Jim Meek stated he has been on this lake some 19 years, and during this time, we have worked closely with the DNR; put in the dam with the boards, and many years ago were advised to lower the lake. He reported we did this for many years, and this year we have many weeds growing, due to not lowering the lake, he says. With all the rain we had, the water level was much higher than it should be; (6 inches). Other members also reported the water is way higher than should be. Bernie Farbiak reported he went down to the dam and found the beavers had been very busy building, and the water could not go over the dam. He removed what they had built, hopefully will be better now.

Motion was made by Mary Ellen Zickus; seconded by James Meek we lower the lake this fall. Secretary was asked to count the votes: 10 to lower, 16 not to lower the lake, motion failed.

**COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSION/ACTION
WEED HARVESTING 2007:**

A motion was made by Jack Houghton, and seconded by Linda Delius to give the commissioners the authorization for weed harvesting in 2007, motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION FOR AERATION MAINTENANCE:

Motion was made by Bernie Farbiak to authorize the blowing out the pods and to have the inspection of the system, seconded by Linda Kay Houghton-Bowen, motion carried.

CONTINGENCY FUND - \$500.00:

Batchelet explained there are times we need a few dollars to spend that are not a part of the budget, and asked for a motion to start a contingency fund this year. Motion by Don Neibler, seconded by Hans Delius to add a contingency fund to our budget, motion carried.

**CONSTITUTION/BYLAWS:
GENDER SPECIFIC LANGUAGE:**

Dennis Batchelet stated in reading over the bylaws of the Horsehead Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District No. 1 there are many "chairmans" and "his" throughout the current bylaws and also various things misspelled. He stated this was brought up at the June 28, 2006 commissioners meeting, and it was decided it be brought up at the annual meeting to discuss the "gender specific" language. The current bylaws have not been updated since 1982. Motion by Mary Ellen Zickus, seconded by Andrew J. Bowen that pronouns in the district bylaws from 1982 remain, but to include a key on page one indicating "chairman" means "chairperson, regardless of gender. Also, any pronouns, such as "he" or "his", refer to the chairperson, regardless of gender; motion carried.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS:

Batchelet also reported that in our current bylaws, article II, section 5, under State Statute, chapter 33, section 30, subsection 2b, neither nominations or absentee voting is

allowed for voting on commissioners. Motion by Don Niebler, seconded by Jack Houghton to remove this from our bylaws, motion carried.

INSTITUTING “SLOT LIMITS” FOR NORTHERNS:

Batchelet reported that some people within our district are concerned about the “slot limits”. Do we want to limit the number and size of fish taken from our lake? He stated according to Mike Vogelsang, DNR fish biologist, limits would thin out the smaller fish, and allow for more large fish, and help ensure a continuing supply. Some members of our district are concerned that too many Northerns are being caught, especially during the ice-fishing season, which may be depleting our fish population.

There was discussion on this, stating the pros and cons, including the fact that instituting slot limits must be approved by the WI legislature and can take two years. It was noted that we do not have near the fishermen on the lake as in past years. This is something to think about and discuss at another meeting.

ELECTION OF (1) COMMISSIONER FOR A 3 YEAR TERM

Dennis Batchelet reported that Beverly Fagan is finishing her three-year term as a commissioner and treasurer. The nominating committee of Linda Kay Houghton-Bowen and Carol Niebler made their recommendations. Houghton-Bowen announced that Fagan would like to run again for another three-year term. Carol Niebler reported she asked Pat Donnick to run as a commissioner, and she said she would, but this past week withdrew her name. Motion by Andrew J. Bowen, seconded by Mary Ellen Zickus to close nominations and vote on Beverly J. Fagan to serve another three year term, motion carried.

MEMBER UPDATE LIST

Secretary Linda Kay Houghton-Bowen reported a new membership list would be made up after this annual meeting. She will be getting the 2006 Horsehead Lake District tax list from the Oneida County Court House in Rhinelander and make the necessary changes. If you are interested in receiving this list, please let Linda know and she will mail you a copy or e-mail you a copy. If you are selling or purchasing property in our lake district, please give Linda the necessary changes so you will receive our quarterly newsletter, etc.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2006 2007 YEAR

Beverly J. Fagan presented the budget for the 2006-2007 year and stated we have a small amount coming from last years budget of \$22,500 from the County. Beverly went over the items that were raised and lowered. The proposed budget, which was sent in the mail for this year is \$7,000, however, the chairman and treasurer conferred that the proposed budget expenses and income we discussed at our June 28 meeting did not coincide. Dennis then developed a short explanation for the annual meeting of what our announced budget would mean going into the coming year, and developed a chart with options for the members to consider. We discussed that we want to have Mr. Schmidt do 80 hours of weed harvesting, and with the increase of the budget we still have our \$6,000 for our grant, with a little cushion. Following discussion, the new proposed budget for 2006-007

year is \$13,500, instead of \$7,000. Motion by Don Niebler, seconded by Linda Delius to make the budget for 2006-2007 year \$13,500, motion was carried.

ANNUAL MEETING FOR 2007

The annual meeting date for 2007 is Saturday, August 18th, 2007 at the Sloan Center in Lake Tomahawk at 9 a.m.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR YEAR OF 2007

Batchelet reported no one signed up for the nominating committee. Mr. Batchelet contacted Linda Delius and Christy Nemcek, and both agreed to be on the 2007 nominating committee.

COUNTY BOARD REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

Tom Rudolph stated he hoped everyone enjoyed Jean Hansen program today from the Land and Water Conservation Committee, and has been a part of this for the last 1-1/2 years, previous on the Planning and Zoning, and is a very down to earth person.

Tom also stated the Oneida County and Lands Committee is making some progress and join and re-join their organization, and attend some of their meetings, and all work together to accomplish more. Tom reported there are four lake districts in Oneida County now, but Horsehead Lake District is by far more active then the others.

Tom said he has been the county representative for five years now, and is enjoying working with this district, and when he told others last year that we raised our level a 1000 percent, people just could not believe this. In actuality, Horsehead Lake District raised the tax levy 375%, from \$6,000 to \$22,500 for 2006.

TOWN BOARD REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS:

Gary Sowatzka stated he has enjoyed being the town board representative the past two years and working with the commissioners as well as lake property owners of the district.

OTHER BUSINESS:

VOLUNTEERS FOR 2007 YEAR:

Clean Boats, Clean Waters Committee: Kris Batchelet, Joanne Erickson, Pat Donnack, Candace Zahn-Cain.

Grant Proposal Investigator:

Kris Batchelet and Darrell Redmond

Aeration conduit burying detail:

Winter Roping and Staking of aeration system:

Bernie Farbiak, Hans Delius and Dick Wuestenhagen

Audit Committee: Diann and Dave Lane

Picnic Committee: Dick Wuestenhagen & Diann Lane

Secchi Monitoring – Kris & Dennis Batchelet

Oxygen Testing – Kris and Dennis Batchelet

Lock Box at Public Landing – Joanne Erickson and Pat Donnick

WAL Convention delegates – Dennis and Kris Batchelet

Spring clean up of ropes & Stakes –

Motion at 12:20 p.m. by Bernie Farbiak, seconded by Mary Ellen Zickus to adjourn, motion carried.

Picnic followed annual meeting at American Legion Pavilion

COMMISSIONER’S MEETING OF AUGUST 5, 2006

The commissioners held a meeting following the annual August 5th, 2006 meeting. Motion by Dennis Batchelet, seconded by Tom Rudolph to nominate Beverly Fagan as treasurer, motion carried.

Motion by Beverly J. Fagan, seconded by Dennis Batchelet to nominate Linda Kay Houghton-Bowen as secretary, motion carried.

Motion by Beverly J. Fagan, seconded by Tom Rudolph to nominate Dennis Batchelet as chairman, motion carried.

Batchelet suggested setting the three commissioners meetings for the 2006-2007 year. Tom Rudolph and Linda Kay Houghton-Bowen suggested we set the November meeting, and at that meeting, set up the next meeting.

Dennis Batchelet asked to have the November meeting on November 8th. Linda Kay Houghton-Bowen stated that date was her birthday, and would not be able to attend the meeting. Date of November 6th, 2006, 6 p.m. at the Sloan Community Center was set.

Motion at 12:28 p.m. by Tom Rudolph, seconded by Beverly Fagan to adjourn, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Kay Houghton-Bowen, Secretary
Horsehead Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District No. 1

