

Lake Improvement District Wright County (MLIDWC)
Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting
Saturday August 7th, 2021

Mike Raiche, President, called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM.

Statutory Meeting Notices were published in the Howard Lake Harold Journal July 30th, 2021 and in the Maple Lake Messenger July 28th, 2021. The meeting notice with attachments was mailed to property owners of record per the Wright County Tax Files on July 7th, 2021.

The meeting was attended by 31 property owners at the V Restaurant in Maple Lake, including Board Members Mike Raiche - Chairperson, Tony Heying - Vice Chair, Bob Porter - Treasurer, Tom Valenta - Secretary, and Bob Johnson - Director.

Documents provided at the meeting:

- 1) Annual Meeting Agenda for Maple Lake Improvement District Wright County
- 2) Approved Assessments vs. Expenditures for 2019, 2020 and 2021
- 3) Proposed assessment amount for 2022

All documents are available on the Maple Lake – Lake Property Owner’s Association, Inc. Website.

A. Secretary Report from 2020- Overview - Tom Valenta, Secretary

- The 2020 Annual Meeting was held on Sept 17, 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions a virtual meeting was held but attendance was permitted. The LID annual meeting is required by statute
- The Treasurer’s report was presented by Bob Porter and approved.
- The Creek/Culvert height project was introduced to the membership and discussed. A \$14,000.00 budget from the MLPOA to be spent for an engineering company to assess the most beneficial lake height, along with a study on its impact, was approved. Estimated cost of a permanent structure was \$25,000.00 - \$35,000.
- The budget for 2021 devotes 50% of funds to weed control, 45% to other projects, and 5% for administrative charges/insurance.
- A general discussion on optimal lake level was left for later meeting.
- A motion was made for the 2021 tax assessment to remain at \$150.00.
- Bob and Tony accepted the nominations for their terms, and were elected unanimously for another three year term.
- M/M Tony Graham. M/2nd to approve the minutes as read, motion passed unanimously.

B. Treasurer’s Report. - Bob Porter, Treasurer

- The Treasurer’s Report was displayed overhead, showing a current bank balance of \$47,850.81.
- 14 deposits were made during the year – 12 from monthly bank debits for interest earned on the account balance, and deposits from the county of the semiannual assessment proceeds.
- Five checks were written during the year – three related to annual meeting expenses totaling \$220.21 (postage, envelopes, meeting supplies), an \$1800 payment to Wenck Engineering for work on the culvert study, and reimbursement of \$150 to a property owner assessed twice in error.
- The life to date amount spent on weed control is \$57,329. Approved but unspent amount is \$38,408. A \$43,864 invoice for weed control from PLM was received this week.
- Under the LID’s payment terms with PLM, payment can be deferred until the proceeds from the second half assessment are received in November.
- The President noted that once an annual budget has been approved, the funds must be spent as appropriated by project. Unused funds can be reallocated to another project in future years by a vote of the membership.

- A \$1,600 grant was received from the DNR last year, this amount, plus interest received from the bank and county, added \$2,351.25 of non-assessment money to the LID account.
- A motion was made by John Weber and seconded by Bob Johnson to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Water Quality- Tom Valenta, Secretary

- Eurasian Water Milfoil - 2021 PLM treated 46 acres
 - 39 Acres - \$52,169.00
 - 7.7 Acres – (\$8,305.00) Credit on Warranty work.
- In 2020, there was very little milfoil on Maple Lake, (23 acres) and there was optimism it would remain controlled through 2021. Currently, weeds are knocked down and appear to have been highly affected by the current treatment. The DNR granted permits to treat all the areas identified by PLM. Because of the light snow this winter there may have been an impact on weed growth.
- The weed control coverage maps that were provided by PLM, including an overview of the past 3 years and the specific areas for warranty spraying, were discussed.
- The maps indicate the weed treatment program is keeping ahead of the problem but it is important to not let it get out of hand.
- The 2020 map (in overhead slide) shows what was sprayed last year - 23 acres for \$28,500 - and the results were good. The warranty coverage was used this year in some of this area where the weeds reappeared, based on the 3-year guarantee program PLM offers for treated areas of 10 acres or more. These would be the blue shaded areas on the map.
- The lake is also being monitored for Starry Stonewort and were working on a plan to treat Flowering Rush.

D. Culver Project -Tom Valenta, Secretary

Tom Valenta presented slides about the WEIR project based on data from the engineering firm Wenck and Associates, now called Stantec, and made the following observations:

- The LID board has been working to determine the optimal lake height, and a solution to install a WEIR. It is basically a dam that would not be adjustable. The objective is to reduce the negative impact of high-water months. With a weir, water is going to flow out in a more controlled manner. In a low dry summer, it will help keep water in the lake, providing a more consistent and reliable water level. The goal is to determine the most satisfactory lake level. The DNR limits historic data to the last 20 years when making this determination. All this data come from the WENCK data report. When looking at the data it is interesting to note there are some high years and some low years. The orange line is the average at 1000.71. As you break up the data by month it is interesting. Everyone thinks it is high in the spring and low in the fall. On average June to Nov., it is about a 7-inch drop. This is an average and a very consistent trend. Another interesting number -the 20 year average for the month of July -1000. 73.
- With this WEIR project, where do you set the height? We have all of this data and evaporation dates over 20 yr. average. The majority of the Board decided to settle on the 1000.9. It takes away the high side and low side. Based on the data when they did this project if we put the WEIR 1000.9 the average height early in the summer will be about 1 inch above the WEIR. With that WEIR the water will run off and by July it will fall below the WEIR Height. In a normal year it will fall right in the 1000.73 right where the average is for the last 20 yrs.
- Today the lake level is at 1000.29, which is pretty low. With this WEIR we would be holding back some water, so we don't have that big drop. Because of this information we are trying to maintain an average over the last 20 yrs. As a board we did approve the height at 1000.9. So, the target average is 1000.73. To maintain it we need to 1000.9 to maintain this down here. This is 7.4 inches higher water level.

After Tom's presentation, the floor was opened for discussion, and several points were raised and questions asked/answered regarding the accuracy of the data presented, current lake height, what approvals and

methodology is needed to get the weir height approved, current status of temporary structure now in place, and other general information.

Two discussion points were made. 1- Members had not heard of this height being set before and they wanted a better understanding of how it was determined and input on the final number. 2- They expressed concern such a small amount of people determined the final number. More detail follows the minutes.

E. 2022 Assessment – Mike Raiche, President

The LID Board recommended leaving the assessment at current level of \$150 per year

There was some carryover amounts from last year for weed control that will be spent this year.

The DNR wants something put in the creek. The LID board feels it is their responsibility, to assure funds, as well as an obligation to LID members, to follow through with this project until resolved.

Tom Neuman (Maple Lake Township representative) stated they feel a weir puts an unwanted burden on the township, in that if there is flooding and resulting damage from the weir they are put at risk for homeowner lawsuits. This is according to their attorney. Further discussion with The Maple Lake Township is needed prior to them taking any ownership of the weir.

Ted Pribyl, Maple Lake property owner, asked if the township is responsible for the culvert today. If so, can we sue the township now with the culvert?

Tom Neuman -The Township is bonded and protected and it's how much do you want to pay to get a lawyer.

Bob Johnson made a motion to approve \$150 as the 2022 annual LID Assessment.

The motion was seconded by Mary Pribyl.

A question from the floor arose when any further discussion was requested, and a member from the floor asked if the taxing methodology can be changed.

Mike Raiche responded it is possible but it is a complicated process:

- For property owners with 2 PID's in the same name – there is one assessment.
- A different name on each PID results in two separate tax assessments.
- Assessments can be changed to be based on lake shore footage or property assessed values but this requires a movement like the initial MLID initiative. This is time consuming and somewhat expensive.

After the discussion, the motion was put to the floor for a vote and passed unanimously.

F. New Business – Mike Raiche, President

There was no new business, but weed control related questions/topics were raised by members from the floor:

Question: When you showed the lake map and where the weeds are is it being sprayed further out or is that just the print.

PLM has never sprayed these areas in the times Mike Raiche has been on the board. The funding was never available to spray it. It's a low population area and there were limited funds until 2020

Last year we went in to spray it. PLM sprayed it this year because it was on the warranty list. We are going to spray it again. They are required to stay out 150 ft from the shoreline.

The current plan is to spray flowering rush weeds to take care of this specie. It has been let go for 3 yrs.

Bill Ruddle - Commenting on the weed control, it is one heck of a lot of work. The Board has done a beautiful job on the lakes for weeds.

Still watching and checking for Stary Stonewort

Not much you can do with Zebra mussels.

G. Elections 2020 – Tony Graham, parliamentarian

- a. A motion was requested from the floor, made and approved to accept Tom Valenta’s resignation as Secretary of the LID.
- b. A motion was requested from the floor, made and approved to accept the resignation of Mike Raiche from his position as President of the Maple Lake Improvement District Wright County.
- c. On a request for nominations from the floor, Bob Johnson nominated Tom Valenta for the position of Chairman. Tom accepted the nomination.
- d. Kay Fuller nominated Ryan Hebel for Chairman. Tom accepted the nomination.
- e. After a brief presentation from each candidate, a vote was taken with a show of hands, with Tom Valenta receiving 15, and Ryan receiving 10.
- f. A motion was made and approved making Tom Valenta President of the LID.
- g. On request for nominations from the floor Dan Lagermeier was nominated by Scott Carriveau for the open Secretary position. A motion was made, approved and passed unanimously making Dan Lagermeier the LID Secretary.
- h. A motion was made, seconded and approved reelecting Bob Johnson as Director for three year term.

New Board As of 8-7-21

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Years Remaining</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Tom Valenta	Chairperson	3	2024
Tony Heying	Vice Chair	3	2023
Dan Lagermeier	Secretary	3	2022
Bob Porter	Treasurer	3	2023
Bob Johnson	Director	3	2024

A motion was made to adjourn by Tony Graham, seconded by Bob Porter and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:57AM Central DST.

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Additional notes to Item D

H. Continued - Culvert Project -Tom Valenta, Secretary

Question- Ryan - what was the process that the board took? I have not heard anything about the specific height, and I am here understand why we all don't have an input.

Tony- President

The board has been working on this for the last 14 months and it was recommended by the DNR to hire someone to do the survey and provide needed data. The board contracted Wenck.

There are 12 members on our lake board, and agreed on the height.

Mike said not all the board agreed.

The engineering study made a recommendation on height 1000.7 and outlined based on this how much variation would occur. We just received that in the past 10 days. They used the past 20 years of rain and the DNR's MN monthly evaporation rate.

The design isn't complete yet, but they estimate about 2-4 days to drop the lake 1 inch.

Tony - DNR won't tell us what number to set the weir at.

We also have to go to the township for approval to help manage this structure.

DNR and Township will help make the final decision

No information or survey was sent out to the lake members at this time.

Question Floor -Did they raise or lower the culvert bottom when they put that culver in in 1940.

Answer -Height is 999.8 and pretty much the same, prior to the Hwy re-do

John Jennings -I know the beaver dams and things have been going on for 12 yrs. We are taking the 20 yr. average and the obstruction of that outlet has been skewed because of the obstructions. Your data isn't correct because of this interference.

Floor person, man - thinks its high.

Bill -What is the dam now – Answer -1000.95- on the damn now

Is it legal?

Tony -The Dam is asked to be left alone (by the DNR) until we get this project figured out.

Man -Was there an obstruction before it was the current rocks, and who put it in.

Mike Raiche- yes – not sure

Purpose of the WEIR is to control variation, and avoid the leaks as we currently have.

When we started with WEINK, we had objectives

- Navigation through the channel

- Control erosion as best we can.

- Establish a method to manage the creek / obstructions

Question floor -Lady -how much higher that today would it be,

Mike - 1000.9 it would be about 8 inches higher than today 1000.29

1 inch higher water can dissipate in 2to 3 days.

Bill Ruddle -I live in the middle bay. I have seen over the years the natural water going out of the lake and abnormal water going out. The water is going up with normal obstruction. The new culver they put in is a shade slower. I am aware of the natural flow of the lake. According with the DNR you can't change and mess with the natural flow of the lake. You do not have the authority to change the level of the lake.

Mike -We don't have the final answer... We have worked on the engineering report and are taking the next steps as we go along.

Tony -The approval question- when we get to that point DNR will look for the approval from every owner will look for the vote. Everyone in here will get to approve the vote. Majority will rule.

Mary -Are there other dams?

Mike Raiche- It has taken a yr. to get to this point. I have only run across 2 other lakes with Weirs

Briggs lake- less variation on the lake

Mink Lake -Front end, which is protecting water going into the lake.

Question from floor -What happens in spring flooding situations

Answer -It will drain off in a quick manner and it will be controlled. The runoff of heavy spring and summer and it will be controlled in a set time frame. It will be better than what we have now.

Mike -The location of the WEIR -It might cost more if we put it further up than where the dam is. The farther upstream makes more costly, but easier to control problems. Undecided at this time. With the Weir we will have the ability to go in and manage the problem better. In 2019 we cleaned out an excessive amount and it was not flooding out at Ramsey, but everything south of Hwy 55 was full. The weir won't open / flow that fast.

Question floor -There better be a no wake zone in middle maple if the water is 8 inches higher. 1000.9

Tom -For the sake of time. Here is what a WEIR looks like. This isn't the exact one that will go in here but a look of one.

The cost has gone up since last year. Maple Lake Township must be the governing body of it. It can't be a lake association.

MLPOA will have the responsibility to open it when it is plugged up.