

## June 21, 2013 Quarterly DPL Meeting Minutes

Chairman Jim Michels called the quarterly meeting of the District of Powers Lake Commissioners to order at 5:00 p.m. Chairman Michels led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **Roll call:** Mary Adams, Judy Jooss, Brooke Jensen, Nancy Michael, and Jim Michels were present. Mike Halvorsen was on vacation and Neal Kuhn was attending a funeral.
2. **Approval of minutes:** Judy Jooss made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 5, 2013 meeting. Mary Adams seconded. Motion carried.
3. **Citizen and/or Commissioner Comments:** Jim Michels noted that Doc Kozié had passed away. He was a great friend of the lake and great historian of Powers Lake. Dr. Jeff Thornton of SEWRPC has retired after 20 years of service.
4. **Treasurer's report:** The treasurer reported \$29,893.47 in the general cash fund, wetland cash fund of \$24,067.48 and the wetland CD fund of \$40,925.66 Nancy Michael made a motion to approve. Neal Kuhn seconded. Motion carried.
5. **DNR and/or other grants:** The remaining reimbursement has still not arrived. Neal requested that a reminder from our Chairman may move this along.
6. **Jefferson Island Channel. Phase 2: Discussion, consideration, action, if any:** Jim Michels gave a brief recap of issue so far including 2 additional meetings. Water levels and flow in the channel has been restored. DNR applications and permitting would be required for any further action. Aspects of ecological benefit to channel and lake as a whole and navigability were discussed and photos and measurements shown. Approximately \$7,000 has been spent by the DPL. We have had studies performed and retained consultants. These resulted in the conclusion that the channel has no direct impact on the health of the whole lake. There could be unintended consequences for Jefferson Bay. Impetus for this issue was a weather related phenomenon, the drought. In addition to other actions, we have physically monitored the channel with photos and dated measurements. Wildlife has more than recovered with numerous turtles seen. Jim's personal opinion is that the will of the people would determine financial participation and he feels the DPL could pay 50% of the cost of dredging. Cost would include \$125,000 at a minimum to dredge to the low point of the culvert, \$50/cubic yard plus the major expense of disposal. Cost benefit analysis was discussed. This would not be an easy dredge project. Countless hours have been spent on this issue by the board. We also paid for the beaver cleanup of the channel. Whether this could set a precedent was also discussed. These discussions included board members and residents attending. Nancy Michael made a motion that the DPL cease any further action and expense related to the JIC at this time. Judy Jooss seconded. Motion passed. The DPL will continue to monitor the channel.
7. **Aquatic plant management:** Post treatment 2012 survey showed 6 acres of EWM and less than 1 acre of CLP which were treated in May. We should be having an aquatic plant survey coming up in the next year or so which could be done by SEWRPC or a private contractor. Our last survey was done in 2009. Jim believes it was recommended to be done every 5 or 6 years.
8. **SEWRPC Lake Protection Plan:** Jim feels we should consider adopting the plan. Judy said that grants are based on adoption of a plan which has updated information rather than an outdated

plan. If there are objections to parts of the plan we need to address those specifics. Adoption does not mandate action. Plan contains information to guide us in making informed decisions. Mary Adams indicated that in her conversation w/ Kenosha County, they said the plan may compel us to do something. There is no rush to do this so will take up again in the future.

9. **Watershed Management:** 2 staff gauges have been installed at the outlet to measure normal and low water levels.
10. **Wetland Management:** Tom Powell mentioned we should be open to communication with the Kozie family if they do want to pursue a sale of the wetland properties they own. Colleen Keating had contacted all the wetland property owners regarding this. We also had speakers from the Conservation Trust address this issue at our meeting. Jim also mentioned he had re-established contact w/ Dr. Stewart regarding records of our Ice On/Ice Off dates.
11. **Wisconsin Lakes Convention:** Convention will be held next year in Stevens Point, WI. Dates will be known soon.
12. **Town of Randall/Kenosha Co. Issues:** Kenosha County has applied for a water resources grant and will know by August if it has been approved.
13. **Village of Bloomfield/Walworth Co. Issues:** Even though proponents of a village stressed before the Village was established that a benefit to village was the fact they had no general debt and stated such on website, now there is discussion of using current impact fees which would necessitate spending more than fees and therefore requiring a tax increase and incurred debt. They would like to have a large police station and jail facility.
14. **Newsletter:** Nancy Michael proposed a streamlining of the mailing procedure involving sending newsletter in envelopes rather than current folded/sealed manner. This would cost an additional \$336.00 per year for envelopes and stuffing by printer. Then tasks of stamps/labels could be done ahead of time and only sealing envelopes after printing/stuffing completed. Also would make easier to hand off to another person with half the task completed. Jim Michels made a motion to implement new procedure and incurred costs. Judy Jooss seconded. Motion carried.
15. **DPL Website:**
16. **Preparation for Annual Meeting:** There was a review of the 2014 Budget Planning sheets. The 2014 Operating Budget would have a proposed tax levy of \$20,000. Nancy Michael made a motion to accept the 2014 Operating Budget proposed in Draft Version 2 as discussed and modified in this meeting for a total budget of \$51,000 and a proposed tax levy of \$20,000.
17. **Citizen and/or Commissioner Comments:**
18. **Other:**
19. **Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.