

Peppermill Lake District News

8/8/2009

Summer/Fall Issue

Highlights:

- Meeting Overview
- Your right to vote
- 2010 Budget summary
- Proposed agenda

Your Board of Directors

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2009 Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing

Once again, it is time to consider a new budget. In the face of the continuous barrage of bad news in the media, the Board is in the position of submitting some good news—namely the prospect of lower taxes, at least for our district.

A second harsh winter coupled with an amazingly mild summer (so far) has once again reigned in our aquatic plant population to the point that we have only needed one harvesting and no chemical treatment at all, leaving us with a substantial budget surplus.

As recently as 2007 we were spending upwards of \$17,000 on plant management. In 2008 and 2009 we are struggling to even spend \$5000.

But just as it was impossible in 2007 to predict what would come in 2008 and 2009, we still cannot second guess what 2010 will bring us.

With that in mind the Board is recommending that the

total budget remain approximately the same. The two changes the Board proposes involve an increase in the Contingency Fund to \$5000 and adding an additional line item for Fish Stocking at \$2000 (only for 2010).

We are anticipating a surplus ranging between \$25,000-\$30,000 by year's end depending upon the need for any late summer harvesting or chemical treatment. So offsetting this surplus against the total proposed budget leaves us with an amount ranging between \$7,000-\$12,000 to be raised through taxes.

The Board therefore recommends that the Special Levy, now at \$125, be reduced to \$75 per riparian owner, with the remaining balance to be covered by the mil levy.

We won't know the total assessed value of the District by the time of the meeting so we cannot predict what the

levy will be. But our expectation is that it will be much lower.

We cannot stress enough that these are merely proposals recommended by the Board. It has to be approved by those who attend the meeting, namely you.

At the Budget Hearing the Board will explain its rationale. At the Annual Meeting you will make the final call.

The Board has worked hard to find a balance between assuring that we have the flexibility needed to keep the Lake healthy, against the realities of our economy, today.

Some have expressed concern over diminished pan fish populations. And some have expressed concern regarding the advancement of chara throughout our lake. Others have noted that our lake is getting shallower as more sediment accumulates.

We hope you will come

Your Right to Vote

Your chance to Vote on:

- 1) The Budget
- 2) The manner in which the budget is funded
- 3) One open board position
- 4) Any proposal a member wishes to submit to the membership.

Our website is now up to date with this newsletter, previous newsletters, budget detail, agenda, and more.

Go to
www.peppermilllake.com

Come to the 8th Annual
Labor Day Picnic!

Saturday, September 5—
4PM

At Scott & Jody's

3225 W. 3rd Court

Bring your Favorite Dish!

Who can vote

First and foremost, under all circumstances below, **you must be present to vote.** Act 275 of 2004 specifically states that proxies and absentee ballots are not permissible.

A single property owner whose name appears on the tax rolls as of 12/22/2008 gets one vote.

If the property is in the name of two or more people, then the names listed on the tax rolls are entitled to one vote each. For example, if the tax rolls show that a property is in the name of Paul and Jane Bowles, then both Paul and Jane get one vote each. If the tax rolls state Thomas Pynchon, et al, then Thomas Pynchon and all the names flagged by "et al", get one vote each.

If the property is in the name of a living trust, only one vote is possible. For example, if the tax rolls state that your property is in the name of Marilynne Robinson Living Trust, only Marilynne Robinson can vote.

If the property is in the

name of a Corporation, only one vote is permitted. The resident agent stated in the Articles of Incorporation, may cast the vote.

Full time residents may vote, also. For example, if there were an apartment complex on this lake, the owner would be entitled to vote as would all full time residents of the complex. Another example includes a full time live-in relative. Proof of fulltime residence must be offered at the meeting, in order to vote. Examples of proof include current driver's license or utility bill showing an address within the district.

Voting procedure

There is one open board position. Each is a three-year term.

Elections for commissioners shall be conducted by secret ballot. Other votes are not conducted in secret.

Act 275 of 2004 now permits electors and property owners at the annual meeting to consider and vote on

amendments to the annual budget.

Act 275 of 2004 clarifies that proxies and absentee ballots are prohibited.

Vote by a majority a tax on upon all taxable property within the District. Is also specified.

Act 275 specifies that special charges (assessments made in addition to the tax levy) may not exceed \$2.50 per \$1000 of assessed value.

Nominations can be made from the floor.

More recent changes

Act 275 of 2004 now permits electors and property owners at the annual meeting to consider and vote on amendments to the annual budget.

Notice of Annual Meeting must be given 14 days in advance instead of the previous requirement of 10 days.

Proposed 2010 Budget

Summer/Fall Issue

	2009	2010 Proposed
Expenses	Budget	Budget
Communications		
Newsletters Costs, mailings, postage	\$700.00	\$700.00
Meeting Notices	\$80.00	\$50.00
Website	\$50.00	\$50.00
Meetings	\$50.00	\$50.00
Total	\$880.00	\$850.00
Aquatic Plant Management		
Harvesting Permits	\$300.00	\$200.00
EWMF Chemical Treatment Permits	\$200.00	\$200.00
Harvesting	\$13,700.00	\$13,700.00
EWMF Treatment	\$9,030.00	\$9,030.00
Barley Straw	\$700.00	\$800.00
Grant Applications	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscell. Projects	\$200.00	\$200.00
Total	\$24,130.00	\$24,130.00
Aeration		
Electric	\$2,360.00	\$2,250.00
Aerator Repair	\$425.00	\$425.00
Pump replacement	\$700.00	\$725.00
Total	\$3,485.00	\$3,400.00
Insurance	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

Proposed Sources of Income		
Tax Levy	\$14,989.00	\$6,379.00
Special Charges	\$9,375.00	\$5,625.00
Total Taxes	\$24,364.00	\$12,004.00
Interest Income	\$50.00	\$50.00
Total Income	\$24,414.00	\$12,054.00
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Projected Prior Year Ending Balance	\$17,085.00	\$25,826.00

Lake Monitoring Services & Supplies			Total Income and Other Funds		
				\$41,499.00	\$37,880.00
Signs, No-wake and other	\$500.00		\$500.00		
Fish Survey, Water Chemistry, Water Clarity, Plant Survey, EWMF ID Materials, DO monitoring expenses	\$300.00		\$300.00		
Disolved O2 Meter Purchase	\$0.00				
Total	\$800.00		\$800.00		
Miscellaneous					
WAL Membership Dues	\$165.00		\$200.00		
Fish Stocking			\$2,000.00		
Contingency Fund	\$2,500.00		\$5,000.00		
Total Expense Budget	\$33,460.00		\$37,880.00		

Peppermill Lake District
P.O. Box 406, Oxford, WI 53952



Peppermill Lake District

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Under the paving-stones,
the beach!

VISIT US AT

WWW.PEPPERMILLLAKE.CO

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Agenda – 2009 Budget Hearing & Annual Meeting 9 AM, September 5 , 2009, Boondocks – 3514 County HWY G

1. Budget Hearing

2. Annual Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

Certification of proper meeting notice

Consider and approve agenda

Consider and approve minutes

Treasurer's report

Committees: Audit Committee, Lake Advisory Group, AIS Grant, Pier

Old Business

Updated Lake Management Plan

Nominations for one Board position (pre-nominated and/or from the floor)

Paper ballot election of one (1) board position

Discuss & vote on 2010 Budget

Discuss & vote on 2010 Special Charges/Mil rate

New Business

Chara

West Shed

Other new business

Adjourn