

Peppermill Lake District News

Your Board

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Summer 2010

Annual Meeting Issue

2011 Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting

It has been awhile since we have issued a formal newsletter, primarily because it has taken us awhile to size up this year.

For the most part the news is all good. Plant management costs are still way down, water quality is still high, and the fish population is good (more on that later). Our aeration system is humming along and the landing has benefited from the two P's; the pier and a porta-pottie (to which we owe the Town of Jackson a round of thanks.)

Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM), the invasive species that has been the focus of our attention for so many years, hasn't had the same toehold on our lake since the winter of 2008. And barring something dramatic, this is shaping up to be the third year in a row where chemical treatment should not be necessary.

Despite the very warm summer only one harvesting has been necessary to date and we suspect the very

rainy summer has helped to keep the chara mounds in check. So cross your fingers: things are looking good.

Consequently, the District is running at a surplus once again, and the Board is, therefore, proposing a budget that maintains current service levels but with a reduced mill rate and no special charge for riparian owners. Since most of the projected surplus will offset the 2011 budget, only about \$6700 will need to be covered by the mill rate, tops.

Having said that, this may also be an opportunity to consider some long-range issues. Two different residents during the last two annual meetings have articulated concerns about the lake filling in. Our lake was a marsh before it was dammed and as more sediment accumulates and more plants decay, the lake will eventually get shallower.

Dredging is very expensive: do we want to establish a dredging fund for the future?

Our Lake Management Plan only projects out 1-2 years. Where do we want to be 20 years from now?

At this annual meeting you will also have the opportunity to vote for two new Board members. Bill Pegler and Jody Pobjecky are not running for another term. Representation from the North side of the lake and from folks living off the lake is always sought after. Make sure your voices are heard.

The Annual meeting is ultimately run by you and the outcomes are decided by you. If past is present, then it is likely the turn-out will be low again this year, largely predicated on expectations of lowered taxes. Lake Districts are the one form of government where your tax dollars are 100% controlled by you and are not siphoned off into a "general" fund. The Board hopes you can find the time to choose a Board that continues to maintain a healthy lake and act as good stewards of your tax dollars.

Your Right To Vote

Your chance to vote on:

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

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 12/22/2009 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 John Burdett, et al, then John Burdett 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 Thomas Pynchon Living Trust, only Thomas Pynchon 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 are two open board positions. Each are three-

year terms.

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.

Fish Report

On June 1st a fishi shocking was conducted to evaluate our population given the fish kill we experienced two years ago. The water temperature was 82 degrees, therefore, sampling results were incomplete making it necessary to repeat the shocking later this fall. Here are the preliminary findings by Justine Hasz, DNR Fisheries Biologist..

"The size range (inches) on the

fish we did catch on June 1st were as follows:

Northern pike: 18.8 - 32.0

Largemouth bass: 5.2 - 13.2

Bluegill: 2.2 - 7.3

Yellow perch: 4.2 - 7.1

The size ranges on these fish would lead me to believe that there are multiple year classes of these fish in the lake and that some fish did survive the kill a couple of years ago."

"We did catch 7 different species, these were Northern pike, Largemouth bass, Bluegill, Yellow perch, Black crappie, Pumpkinseed and Rock bass. We did not get large numbers of any of these fish but we feel that this was due to the very high water temperature that we had of 82 degrees F along with the abundant vegetation. "

Proposed Budget—2011

Annual Meeting Issue

	2010	2011 Proposed
Expenses	Budget	Budget
Communications		
Newsletters Costs, mailings, postage	\$700.00	\$800.00
Meeting Notices	\$50.00	\$50.00
Website	\$50.00	\$50.00
Meetings	\$50.00	\$50.00
Total	\$850.00	\$950.00
Aquatic Plant Management		
Harvesting Permits	\$200.00	\$300.00
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	\$800.00	\$800.00
Grant Applications	\$0.00	
Miscell. Projects	\$200.00	\$200.00
Total	\$24,130.00	\$24,230.00
Aeration		
Electric	\$2,250.00	\$2,000.00
Aerator Repair	\$425.00	\$600.00
Pump replacement	\$725.00	\$0.00
Total	\$3,400.00	\$2,600.00
Insurance	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

Proposed Sources of Income	2010	2011
Tax Levy	\$10,129.00	\$6,683.00
Special Charges	\$1,875.00	
Total Taxes	\$12,004.00	\$6,683.00
Grants	\$0.00	
Interest Income	\$50.00	\$100.00
Total Income	\$12,054.00	\$6,783.00
Projected Prior Year Ending Balance	\$31,421.00	\$29,947.00
Total Income and Other Funds	\$43,475.00	\$36,730.00

Lake Monitoring Services & Supplies		
Signs, No-wake and other	\$500.00	\$250.00
Fish Survey, Water Chemistry, Water Clarity, Plant Survey, EWMF ID Materials, DO monitoring expenses	\$300.00	
Disolved O2 Meter Purchase	\$0.00	
Total	\$800.00	\$250.00
Miscellaneous		
WAL Membership Dues	\$200.00	\$200.00
Fish Stocking	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Contingency Fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Total Expense Budget	\$37,880.00	\$36,730.00

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Peppermill Lake District

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Information: any difference
that makes a difference.—
Bateson

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT
WWW.PEPPERMILLLAKE.COM

Understanding our Lake Level

You can check the level of our Lake at any time or even track the changes over time by going to: <http://www.co.adams.wi.gov/Departments/LandWaterConservation/AdamsCountyDams/CountyMonitoredLakeLevels/tabid/361/Default.aspx>

Levels are updated throughout the day by the monitor at the dam. Measurements are in feet above mean sea level (MSL). Currently the minimum level is 910.31 MSL and the maximum level is 911.31 MSL.

Agenda – 2011 Budget Hearing & Annual Meeting 9 AM, Sept 4, 2010, 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, Chara, Fish Stocking, Aeration

Old Business

Bouys for North Shore

Updated Lake Management Plan

Nominations for two board positions (pre-nominated and/or from the floor)

Paper ballot election of two (2) board positions

Discuss & vote on 2011 Budget

Discuss & vote on 2011 Special Charges/Mil rate

New Business

Adjourn