



April 4, 2022

Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District (LSLID) Members,

We hope that this letter to our LID property owners finds you all healthy and looking forward to warming spring weather at the lake. The Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District Board of Directors has continued to work extensively on the High-Water Outlet project and other LID tasks. We would like to provide an update on LID activities and have some news on progress of the project. We also want to announce a new Lake Improvement District website (<https://lakeshamineaulid.org>).

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Lake Improvement District was held through an online conference tool on August 28, 2021. The minutes and documentation of the presentations from the Annual Meeting can be found on the LID Website. Following are the items that were overwhelmingly approved by the LID members through online and mail-in voting that ended on August 30, 2021:

1. The 2022 Non-Project Operations budget of \$38,000; approved with 68% voting in favor.
2. The 2022 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Project budget of \$30,000; approved with 89% voting in favor.
3. The 2022 High-Water Outlet Project budget for Pre-Construction and Operations of \$257,000; approved with 62% voting in favor.
4. Bob Koll and Bob Ingle were elected to the Board of Directors for two-year terms.

The LID Board has held virtual Board meetings on September 27, 2021, November 11, 2021, and on January 17, 2022. A calendar of regularly scheduled board meetings and minutes from meetings can be found on the LID website.

2022 LID Budget Approved

The LSLID Board of Directors attended the Morrison County Board meeting on September 28, 2021 to provide an update for the Lake Shamineau LID including: the 2021 LID Activities, the 2022 Work Plan, and an overview of the High-Water West Outlet project. A letter to Morrison County providing the update is available on the website. During the meeting, the County Board voted to approve the 2022 budget items.

High-Water Outlet Project Update

The High-Water Outlet Project Plan includes construction of a lake outlet structure and pumping station adjacent to the shoreline at the west end of the lake. From the pumping station the water will proceed westerly along the Aztec Road and continue along Highway 10 to the south side of County Road 203. Flowage will then continue through a recently cleaned drainage ditch that passes through US Highway 10 before flowing west into Todd County and eventually reaching Fish Trap Creek, which becomes part of Todd County Ditch 41 at the properties adjacent to the railroad bridge and continues to the Long Prairie River. This route was chosen to accommodate Todd County landowners. A map of the pumping site and water flowage route has been posted to the website.

Following are several project features:

- The project will include a maximum pumping rate of 10 cubic feet per second (cfs).
- The project will include pumping approximately 9 months per year.
- The project will lower the lake level down to the Ordinary High-Water Level (OHWL).
- The project includes a mechanical filter to prevent infiltration of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) per MN-DNR guidelines and approval.
- With the above pumping rate and time periods, pumping will primarily occur for 2 to 3 years.
- Future pumping, after the initial period, would only be needed if the lake level increases.

Following are recent project updates and milestones:

- A wetland delineation of the route was completed by Houston Engineering, and it has been accepted by the DNR and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) of both Morrison County and Todd County.
- Houston Engineering completed groundwater monitoring near the lake with the drilling of several wells.
- Houston Engineering has completed many technical tasks including soil borings, surveys, electrical design, completing route and design details for landowners, and providing right of way descriptions.
- An operating and maintenance plan has been developed which includes guidelines to balance the need to lower the lake while minimizing the impact on downstream property owners.
- The petition to utilize Todd County Ditch 41 was approved by the Todd County Board of Commissioners on October 13, 2021.
- An Environmental Assessment Worksheet was completed and approved by the LID Board of Directors on January 17, 2022.
- Approval has been received from Fawn Lake and Scandia Valley Townships for use of the road right of way.
- We have continued to work with landowners and have signed letters of agreement from landowners west of Highway 10 to provide easements. In addition, we have received letters of support from landowners east of Highway 10.
- Bi-monthly meetings with the local DNR have been held to keep them informed of the project and to provide detailed project information, to seek input and to inquire on technical issues.
- Houston Engineering has held discussions with agencies, completing route and design details for landowners, and providing right of way descriptions. They have continued work on the construction design and have had meetings and conversations with the appropriate agencies. Preliminary planning has been completed with over 60% of the design documents for construction.

The next project tasks include:

- Seeking approval and permits from key agencies such as the DNR, Soil and Water agencies, Corp of Engineers, Morrison County, MN DOT, etc. The DNR permit has been submitted and is in process.
- Other tasks include continued outreach with landowners, agencies and public, and conducting a 429 Hearing to begin the bonding and financing process.
- Upon completion of all the above tasks, the project will be ready for the completion of the final detailed design plans, developing bid and contract documents, issuing bids, and selecting the contractor for construction.
- It is estimated that these tasks will be completed during the Spring/Summer 2022 with the contractor selection in the Summer of 2022 and construction beginning in the Fall of 2022.
- The final timeline for construction will depend on the timing of the completion of agency permitting.
- The LID will continue to work with the DNR, legislators, and other agencies to determine if grant funding or other financing opportunities are available for the project.

We have received very positive comments in discussions with legislators and DNR staff regarding State funding for the High-Water Project. We remain very hopeful that funding will be received if there is agreement on a State bonding legislation during the legislative session.

INTRODUCING NEW LID WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce that a new website has been developed for the Lake Improvement District. For many years, Conservation Minnesota has hosted the Lake Shamaineau Lake Improvement District website. Several months ago, we received notice that Conservation Minnesota would no longer be hosting sites as of March 31, 2022. We have worked to develop a new website using the same tool that we use for the LID newsletters, and we were able to launch the new site in February. Since we were able to utilize this existing tool there is no additional cost for hosting the new website.

The new website can be found at: LakeShamaineauLID.org. You may want to keep the website in your favorites and visit it periodically for up-to-date LID information.

The new website includes information and documents in the following major categories:

- News and Updates
- Projects
- Meeting and Events
- Finance
- Governance
- Contact Information

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

The LID recently received notice that Lake Shamineau will be receiving an AIS grant from Morrison County for 2022 in the amounts of: \$3,500 for Vegetation Surveys, \$200 for Signage Updates at the lake access points, and \$10,000 for the Ambassador program, for a total of \$13,700. We have also received notice that the 2022 AIS Control Grant application submitted to the State of MN on behalf of Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District for treatment of aquatic invasive plants has been selected for a traditional control grant award in the amount of \$7,500.

With the grant and 2022 budget funding, the Ambassador program is planned to continue with 4 ambassadors this year. There will be ambassadors at both the East and West landings on the weekends and holidays. The AIS surveys and treatments plans will be conducted as in previous years. In addition, sign repair will be made at each landing.

LID is looking to hire Ambassadors: The Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District is looking for responsible adults to serve as educators of boat launching users about Cleaning, Draining and Disposing of used bait. The program runs from May 14th (Opening Fishing) through September 5th (Labor Day), typically 4-6 hour shifts on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays.

Requirements: Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and must attend a paid (3) hour AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) training, in person or online with a DNR Regional Watercraft Inspection Supervisor. Interested applicants may contact Bob Koll at 218-296-2933.

LID Schedule

Following is a schedule of LID meetings and other communication activities for the following next several months:

- In June, a letter will be mailed to all property owners to provide an update on LID activities.
- An informational meeting or public hearing on the high-water project will be held in spring or early summer.
- At the end of July or early August, a letter will be mailed to property owners advising them of the Annual Meeting.
- The Annual Meeting will be held on August 27, 2022. It has not yet been determined if the meeting will be held virtually or in-person.

Be sure to visit the LSLID website for updates on meetings, treasurer reports, project status reports and other documents and information. Let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you for your support.

Rick Rosar, Bob Koll, Fred Comb, Tim Rice, and Bob Ingle

Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District Board of Directors

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