

## **Crescent Lake District**

### **Regular Commissioners Meeting – 04/11/23**

A Regular Meeting for the Crescent Lake District (CLD) Commissioners was called to order at 6:01 p.m. on Zoom. The meeting notices were posted as required. Attendance included Commissioners Tim Kilgore, Jim Ketterson, Dave Schwanz, Bob Thome, and Maria Rudesill. Members of the public included Terry Goldbach, CLD AIS Response Team Coordinator, Jim Gehrke, Donna Stone, CLA President, and Connie Anderson.

Tim re-arranged the agenda to deal with #11 and #12 after the Treasurer's Report.

Dave motioned to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2023 Regular Meeting. Bob seconded the motion. Motion PASSED.

No public comments were made.

As Chairperson, Tim expressed his thanks for the volunteers on the Board and around the lake who are getting the work of the District done. He is looking forward to the spring and to see how the results from the 2022 EWM treatment will hold. He reminded us that the fight is not over, but we are in a much better spot that could have been thought a year ago. He hopes that the positive news will continue so that we can share it at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

In the Treasurer's Report, Jim K shared that we have a balance of \$87,197.37. Two major checks from the State / County were deposited: \$28,152.32 and \$41,351.20. The DNR reimbursement (\$9,635.61) also came through to cover payments made in 2022. An additional \$1,000.00 was received for the Clean Boats / Clean Waters (CB/CW) program through the DNR. We had three expenses: a payment to Whitewater Associates, a DNR Permit fee, and a reimbursement to Terry Goldbach for printer cartridges. The audit was completed, covering the formation of the CLD to YE 2022. No concerns were found. The audit results have been stored online.

The Response Team reported that a permit request was tentatively approved for the north end of the lake, near Highway 8. This area will be a repeat of the 2019 treatment, but using all of the knowledge and tools learned over the last few years. There will be a Meandering Study done in late May which could reduce areas that need treatment. The Response Team is hoping that the whole area gets approved for treatment after the survey. It is possible that the DNR will ask for further plant surveys in the Fall. The current survey plan is within budget. Terry feels that the normal activity on the lake will also allow the CLD to get a feel for the continued success of the 2022 Treatment. The Response Team has the CLD's blessing to continue working with the DNR, setting dates for treatment, etc.

The initial treatment letter for 2023 is in rough draft form. Bob suggested some edits. Terry and Maria will work together to email, mail and publish the letter on the website shortly.

The DASH Boat has a potential buyer in Minocqua. A motion was made by Maria to pursue a contract with Aquatic Plant Management LLC to exchange the DASH Boat for \$5,000.00 credit towards DASH Boat dive services, to be used to check areas treated in 2022 before the 2023 Annual Meeting. If the CLD is

unable to use the credit in 2023, the credit will be carried to 2024. The final invoice needs to show that the services were paid for by the DASH Boat credit. Motion was seconded by Bob. Motion PASSED.

Motion was made by Tim to hire Jim Gehrke as the CB/CW Coordinator for 2023 at the \$2,500.00 stipend allowed through the DNR grant. Dave seconded the motion. Motion PASSED. Jim will take responsibility for coordinating volunteers and entering the data in the DNR SWIMS system. He will work with Jim to figure out how to handle paid inspectors. Jim and Dave talked about needing a solid plan to access the DNR grants that the CB/CW program opens up to us as a Lake District. This plan could include hiring someone to write the grants on behalf of the CLD.

Bob emailed his County Report to the CLD, but emphasized the information about the Pelican Forest easements, discussed the proposed changes to the Shoreline Protection ordinances at the county level, and updated us on the Tourist Rooming House issue. He also stressed that the Food Share program is going to go back to pre-pandemic levels, impacting many of our county residents, but also programs like the Food Pantry and Social Services. This impact will start in April.

The Common Plants images are on the website for lake owners to view.

The OCLRA email referenced issues that our local lakes are facing. Tim wanted the Commissioners to be aware of this issues in case the owners requested the CLD to address the OCLRA concerns.

Connie Anderson encouraged us to take the effort to be properly informed about the Pelican Forest situation as there is a lot of misinformation out there. For example, it will not raise taxes for the people outside of those that already pay taxes on that land.

Maria read into record a letter from Todd Timm asking about walleye stocking. This issue will be added to the next meeting's agenda for discussion and response.

The next meeting is in-person at the Town Hall on July 6, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dave, Tim seconded. Motion PASSED. Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 a.m.

There was no discussion on the County Report. Commissioners were instructed to contact Bob directly if they had any questions.

The Crescent Lake District subcommittee, the AIS/EWM Response Team made a recommendation that the CLD sell the DASH Boat, due to lack of volunteers, available divers, and the reduced amount of EWM making the DASH Boat less necessary. Maria moved to authorize Terry and the Response Team to sell the DASH Boat. Jim seconded the motion. Motioned PASSED. Dave and Tim both offered a trailer to help haul the DASH Boat to its new location, if needed. It was suggested to contact Squash Lake first and then

place the information out on the Lake District network. The Response Team is taking the lead on researching the value and finding a buyer.

The Response Team also presented the results of our Fall Plant Survey. It shows none to very small amounts of EWM in the treatment areas. This is a great success! The report also showed that the vast majority of the native plants were not affected OR moved into areas where the EWM was destroyed, increasing their numbers. The full report will be available on the CLD website shortly.

A recommendation for the 2023 Treatment plan was also made by the Response Team. They recommended treating the shoreline area by the Boat Landing, as this had the largest (yet still small in comparison to previous years) amount of EWM shown in the Fall survey. The permit request will be made in 4-5 sections, about 20 acres total, allowing the DNR flexibility in what they approve, as they have indicated they may not be comfortable with treating the whole area. The final treatment area map will be created with help from Aquatic Biologists to ensure depth, acreage and confirmed GPS points. Jim confirmed that the estimated amount of funding for this plan fell within the budget. Tim motioned to submit the permit request as described, with sections A-E, with fine tuning as needed. Jim seconded the motion. Motion PASSED.

Terry reminded the Commissioners that we could see a resurgence, even though the last two treatment years provided significant reduction of EWM. It would be wise to put aside funds so that we can respond in a strong way to any future threat. He also shared that the necessary public announcement for the permit has been placed in the paper.

Maria reminded the Commissioners to submit paperwork and reports to her or to the Google Drive to ensure record retention and reference goals are met. Dave reminded the group that the CB/CW paperwork needs to be retained for 6 years.

The Clean Boats / Clean Waters grant application was submitted for 2023. The DNR Established Grant application will be considered for September 2023.

To further educate lake residents, it was decided to put the list of Top 10 plants found in Crescent Lake on the website and a link to the online UWSP identification guide to help with plant identification. Maria offered to send this material to the webmaster.

Discussion on the long-term, large lake survey and treatment opportunity was tabled.

The CLD will meet on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 via ZOOM for their next regular meeting. A Regular Meeting on July 6, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m. will be in-person at the Town Hall. The Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 19, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by Maria Rudesill, CLD Secretary (01/13/23)

Approved by CLD Commissioners (4/11/23)