

# **Lake Keesus Management District**

## **Commissioner's Meeting Minutes**

**December 13, 2016**

### **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Lake Keesus Management District was called to order at 6:01 p.m. on December 13, 2016 at the Merton Town Hall by LKMD Chairman Craig Musbach.

### **Confirmation of Postings**

Secretary Carter confirmed that the Notice of Meeting had been posted with the Town of Merton, at the Town Hall, North Lake Public Library and Lake Keesus boat launch as of November 29, 2016, that notice was also published in the Lake Country Reporter on December 6, 2016, as well as posted to the LKMD website as of December 4, 2016 and a reminder email was sent out on November 28th to LKMD residents who share their email addresses with the LKMD.

### **Present**

Craig Musbach, Chair; Larry Kancius, Treasurer; Lloyd Carter, Secretary

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Kancius reported that in the checking account there is a balance of \$2,143.54 as of November 30, 2016. In the Money Market account there is a balance of \$19,910.69. In the Certificate account there is \$150,086.30. On November 10, 2016, \$150,000 was transferred from the Money Market account, earning .35% per annum, to a 13 month Certificate account, earning 1.0% per annum. A motion to approve was made by Chairman Musbach, seconded by Secretary Carter and approved by unanimous vote.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meetings (July 28, 2016 and August 30, 2016) were addressed for approval. Motion to approve as submitted was made by Chairman Musbach and seconded by Secretary Carter. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

### **Agenda Business Items**

1. Agenda item #6: Grant application for plant study, update:  
Chairman Musbach advised of the need to update the plant study for 2017 and that a grant application has been completed and submitted, with the assistance of Heidi Bunk from the DNR. The total cost of the study is \$6,350.00 to Lake and Pond Solutions and the grant amount, if received is \$4,254.50. The full amount of

the study provided for in the 2017 budget. Chairman Musbach outlined the contents and purpose of the study in response to a question from the floor and noted that the study is a requirement of the weed harvesting permit, every 5 years.

2. Agenda item #7: Decision on pilot for Eco Waterway System weed removal service: A presentation on the process was made at the annual meeting with a pilot program being considered for 2017. Chairman Musbach raised the question as to whether the District would want to proceed with the service on a limited basis, noting that the cost is significant (noting a general proposal for a 3-day treatment at a cost of approximately \$4,960.), or wait for the plant study and its recommendations. A discussion ensued and a decision was made to table the issue pending the outcome of the ongoing plant study and any recommendations contained therein with further consideration of the issue for 2018.
3. Agenda item # 8: Chemical weed treatment for 2017: It was noted that there was no chemical weed treatment done in calendar year 2016. Chemical weed treatment has been included in the 2017 budget. Chairman Musbach raised the issue of whether the District is committed to moving forward with chemical weed treatment in 2017. The intention of the Board to move forward on this process for 2017 was confirmed.
4. Agenda item #9: Repairs to the boat launch facilities: Connie Carter reported that a bid was received to rebuild the structure as it now exists at the lake for \$1,700. It was noted that the structure is in a very bad state of repair and a representative of the DNR had commented on this recently. The quote included making repairs to the shed at the top of the launch drive and painting of the new structure in spring for an additional \$300. A motion was made to approve the bid and proposed repairs as presented to approve the work at a cost of \$2,000. The motion was seconded and a vote resulted in unanimous approval.
5. Agenda item #3: Weed harvester offloading site committee update: Bob Lechtenburg presented an update of the weed harvester offload site committee activities. Short term and long term options were identified. A proposal to continue parking the weed harvester at the location used in the most recent past was made by the property owner of this site at a cost to the LKMD of \$5,000. For 2017 only, as the last season at this location. A lengthy discussion took place related to various options that were identified, including the present location, the boat launch site, on the property of Camp Whitcomb Mason and at various other locations on the lake. The committee's conclusion was that the District is running out of options for the short term plan to identify an appropriate offload site. Jeff Peterson noted that he had received

input from Summerset Marine for a cost estimate to improve the current offload location site at an approximate cost of \$6,250., plus the cost of permits. It was further confirmed that the current site is not really a realistic long term option. Rick Schlidt noted a potential location in Rice's Bay where new construction is being contemplated. Chairman Musbach indicated his intention to re-contact the camp point person after the first of the year to continue discussions on the possibility of a site at the camp on a long term basis. The commissioners also requested that the committee make formal inquiry of the property owner in Rice's Bay to follow-up on that potential short term option.

6. Agenda item #4 and #5: Slow-No-Wake (SNW) buoy committee update and Navigation buoy update: Karl Holt provided an update on the status of the respective committee's activities and concerns of riparians that have been identified and the plan to formulate recommendations to the Board separately on the two issues. Chairman Musbach raised the question as to whether the LKMD is obligated/ required to place either the SNW or Navigation buoys when the ice goes off the lake in 2017? It was confirmed that there is now a Permit issued by the DNR in 2016 regarding the SNW buoys, while the DNR permit buoys has been in existence since approximately 1987. Merton Town Ordinance 20.08 (2)(b) was read into the record regarding the SNW buoys. Section 20.08 (6)(a) regarding Navigational markers was also read into the record. An opinion was expressed that the placement of the Navigation buoys is solely at the discretion of the LKMD, while the placement of the SNW buoys is required by Town of Merton Ordinance. It was also stated that the DNR (Warden Kyle Drake) contacted by a resident (Judy Reinders) recommended that the navigational markers be placed but stated that the DNR could not require it. Secretary Carter pointed out that the language of the ordinance would seem to indicate that if the Lake Safety Patrol directs the LKMD to place the navigational aids, then the District is required to place and maintain them. A question was also raised as to the purpose of the committee that was formed to study the buoy issues and as to whether there are conflicting stated purposes, given the advisory vote taken at the 2016 Annual Meeting. It was clarified that the committee is addressing two separate issues with the intent to make two separate recommendations. Further discussion took place to clarify the purpose and expectations of the committee. Chairman Musbach made a further statement regarding the SNW buoy issue and some historical perspective on the issue as it developed in 2016. He confirmed that he had learned via email communications that the buoys were in a serious state of disrepair and that the District did not have anyone to place them. It was also initially unknown that the District did not have a DNR

issued permit to place the SNW buoys. Chairman Musbach made it clear that he did not have a personal position on the issue, rather that the goal is to attempt to learn the intent of the majority of lake residents which is the subject of continued study by the committee. Secretary Carter inquired of the co-chairs as to whether the minutes of the committee were complete, to date and could be appended to the minutes of this Commissioners meeting, which was confirmed, with that then being the intent of the Secretary. Jeff Petersen, who along with one of his sons, voluntarily removed the buoys in the Fall, 2016, confirmed that they are in a very bad state of repair.

**Other business:**

Karl Holt noted that recently at the lake outlet at the West end of the lake there appeared to be something missing from the structure (a block that may have been used to control lake levels). A brief discussion ensued regarding the lake level this past year.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Larry Kancius and seconded by Lloyd Carter, which was carried by unanimous vote. Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m. by Craig Musbach. The next Commissioner's meeting will be scheduled for the Spring, tentatively in April, with a specific date to be determined.

Minutes submitted by: Lloyd Carter, LKMD Secretary

Approved by: [Name]