



REVISED 3-15-2021
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
March 16, 2021 4:00pm Zoom



AGENDA/Minutes

Roll call *Meredith Freeby, Emily Short, Norma Somers, Bob Wallace, Joe Pater, Paul Sak, Patrick Gleason, Larry Protasiewicz, Ryan Holem, Bryan Duffield, Mary Spessard, James Fulton, Joe Stepich, Stu Kogge, Stan K (last name unknown), Tom O'Donnell, Michelle Moffett, Bill Fahey, Tim Jacob, Andy Tomaszewski, iPhone (name unknown), chris (last name unknown), Chris (last name unknown)*

Public comment time will be at the end of the meeting, please limit to 3 minutes, response from the committee may be today or at a later date. Guests may record the meeting. Guests will be on mute during the meeting

Approve minutes of last meeting *November meeting minutes approved.*

Reports

Financial Year to date expenditures

Current projects

Spicer

PLM

Any questions, comments? None.

Old Business

Appoint board member to chair committee *Nomination for Norma Somers, passed*

Educational program

- *Educational movie trailer has been produced, minute and a half approximately.*
- *The video is promotional for educational material regarding Paw Paw Lake (environmental stewardship, aquatic plant identification, water quality, among other topics).*
- *The link to the video will be shared via Facebook and webpage.*

PLM contract *Contract approved.*

Fish stocking – Bryan

- *Coordination with DNR is ongoing.*

- *DNR is approving the stocking of ~3700 walleye every other year in Paw Paw Lake. DNR would provide half (~1850 8" walleye fingerlings), committee would recommend providing half (~1850 8" walleye fingerlings). Has been approved at Township level.*
- *Matt Diana from DNR is coordinating with fishing outreach group.*
- *Aquatic Vegetation SONAR treatment and concerns brought up by DNR*
 - o *SONAR Treatments on Paw Paw Lake:*
 - *SONAR treatment for Paw Paw Lake has been recommended for the 2021 season. Treatment would utilize Fluoridone at low concentrations.*
 - *SONAR treatments were carried out on Paw Paw Lake in 2012, 2017.*
 - o *General information about SONAR:*
 - *The treatment is selective and targets milfoil.*
 - *Native plants tend not grow as rigorously during SONAR years compared to non-SONAR years, but the native species do not die. 30 years of Aquatic Vegetation Survey (AVS) data to back this up.*
 - o *SONAR and the DNR*
 - *In general, DNR does support whole lake SONAR treatments, however, these treatments have been in effect on inland lakes for decades.*
 - *DNR tends to be in favor of spot treatments.*
 - *"Evaluation treatments" were discussed.*
 - *General rules from the State assume a hypothetical 10 foot thermocline. However, the thermocline changes with the season and the lake, so it is best to use real time data. Real time data is used on Paw Paw Lake.*
 - *After 14 days, concentration of treatment in the lake is tested again to determine amount of bump treatment needed*
 - *SONAR process on Paw Paw Lake is tailored to its needs, thermocline, and how the lake responds to the treatment.*

New Business

Spicer--water quality proposal for lake

- *Sampling has been pared down – removed TSS from sampling protocol, went from 12 monitoring sites to 8. Want to make sure that the sampling protocol is as efficient as possible without causing gaps in data that can lead to confusion.*
- *Three sample events for the year.*
- *Submitting to two Township boards as written for review and approval.*

-water quality proposal for drain

- *Essentially same sampling protocol as in years past but allows for flexibility in where the samplers are installed.*
- *Will be sent to two Township boards as written for review and approval.*

-drain project

- *General description of project:*
 - o *Reconnection of the lower Branch & Derby Intercounty Drain to its floodplain.*
 - o *Drain was straightened years ago.*
 - o *With the reconnection to the floodplain, water may slow down, sediment can be deposited on the floodplain, and not go into the channel by the condos or into Paw Paw Lake.*
- *Condos have historical documentation of dredging records that should be obtained to compare amount dredged post-project implementation.*
- *A cost estimate has been presented – construction costs will depend on bids.*
- *Timeline: Potential summer construction*
- *Work to be completed*
 - o *A meeting with the Intercounty Drain Board*
 - o *Meeting with the property owner who owns the floodplain area*

- *General Process to be followed:*
 - o *Meet with Intercounty Drain Board*
 - o *Meet with landowner*
 - o *Get agreements finalized*
 - o *Send agreements to Townships for review and approval*
 - o *Set up bid documents*
 - o *Send project out for bid*
 - o *Construction*

Proposed Recommendations

Three proposals from Spicer *See above*

Public comments-- please limit to three minutes per person *Questions/comments from public are in blue font, responses are in pink.*

- *For any fieldwork, please feel free to invite Michelle for fieldwork for photos, videos to help with education program.*
- *EGLE Permit for Intercounty Drain project? Exempt for drain cleanout work. Is there any third-party oversight on project? For example, for environmental reasons, how do we know if it is going on uplands or lowlands if there is no permit to ensure there is no damage done to ecosystem? Can restore the drain to original contours without a permit. The governmental agency with ultimate jurisdiction is the Intercounty Drain Board.*
- *Have any grants been sought out? If grants are sought out to cover some of the improvement costs, will the assessment be lowered? There have been multiple requests to pursue grants, however no effort has been put into writing or obtaining them. Yes – grants have been sought out. It is up to the discretion of the Townships to either pursue or not pursue the grants.*
- *Who does the attorney represent, and why are SAD assessment fees paying for the attorney? The attorney ultimately represents the two townships. SAD assessment fees cover attorney fees, due to the organizational structure of the SAD.*

- *Is there a way to opt out of SAD? No, every 4 years townships vote on whether or not to maintain the SAD, and this was voted on and approved last year (2020).*

Next meeting date 3rd Tuesday of each month??

- *Approval to continue 4:00 pm meetings in the year 2021? Yes.*
- *Next meeting is April 20 at 4:00 pm*

Adjournment