

**MINUTES OF THE  
INLAND LAKE PROTECTION AND  
REHABILITATION DISTRICT  
AUGUST 15, 2016**

The annual meeting of the City of Antigo Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District was held on the above date at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers, Antigo, Wisconsin, Chairperson Timothy Kassis, presiding.

Commissioners in attendance were: Darling, Kassis, T. Bauknecht, Feller Gottard, Turney, and Balcerzak. Absent: Kapusta, D. Bauknecht and Bugni.

Riparian owners and other voting members in attendance were: Mark Desotell, Kaye Matucheski, Sarah Repp, Sam Hardin, and Patrick Frey.

Others in attendance were Jeanne Jensen, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Scott Martin, MSA Professional Services and John Pruess, Lumberjack Invasive Aquatic Species.

Commissioner Kassis reviewed the guidelines for voting eligibility.

Election of officers ensued: (Present officers being Timothy Kassis, Chairperson; Tom Bauknecht, Secretary; and Jim Darling, Treasurer)

Commissioner Balcerzak moved, Commissioner T. Bauknecht seconded to nominate current slate of officers. Kaye Matucheski moved, Commissioner Balcerzak seconded, to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for current slate of officers. Carried.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

Chairperson Kassis went through agenda items individually.

**1. Budget/Capital Improvement Plan and Expenditures**

**a) Spring Clean Up Expense**

On Monday, May 2, 2016 the City of Antigo sponsored the annual clean-up along Springbrook and the walking trail. We had approximately 42 volunteers. We scheduled the clean-up on a "no school" day, so we had assistance from a number of service organizations and youth groups.

Springbrook Clean-Up is scheduled again for 2017. We would like to continue the tradition of offering brats, hamburgers, chips, and beverages for the participants.

In addition, approval to purchase trash pickers, trash bags, gloves, and other miscellaneous items used for the clean-up is being requested. Advertising for the event and disposal fees are also included in the cost.

The Clean-up will also include the Springbrook Walking Trail and Biking Path.

Fund Balance appropriation **\$300**

**b) Improvement of Water Quality Flow (Milfoil, Run-off Fertilizer Pollution) Grant Award**

Onterra conducted an Early Season Aquatic Invasive Species survey for curly-leaf pondweed (CLP) on June 27th, 2016 which consisted of a whole-lake, point-intercept survey. The field crew discovered that the CLP to be at essentially the same levels as identified in the 2015 survey (maps enclosed as part of this agenda packet). It is likely that CLP treatment will not be needed for the 2017 season.

However, that decision will not be able to be determined until the completion of the 2016 late summer survey/report and an Early Season Aquatic Invasive Species survey by Onterra in June of 2017.

We are projecting the need of \$5,000 in consulting fees with Onterra for continued monitoring and lake planning efforts in 2017.

In December of 2017 we can apply for Phase II of our planning and prevention efforts under the (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Aquatic Invasive Species Grant Program if conditions regarding CLP are warranted.

Levy \$1,200/Fund Balance Applied \$12,000 **Lake Treatment**  
Levy \$5,000 **Lake Planning & Monitoring**

Mark Desotell advised that Onterra will continued to monitor. They will be completing two more surveys to see if additional treatment is needed.

**c) Hydraulic Study**

Updates to the existing hydraulic data base might be required in conjunction with future projects such as detention ponds, building construction, retaining wall replacement, bridge removals or stream rehabilitation. No specific projects are identified at this time for the 2017 calendar year.

Fund Balance Appropriation \$0 Hydraulic Study Reserve \$8,800

Mr. Desotell noted there are no changes in recommendations for the 2017 period.

**d) Springbrook Boardwalk and Trail**

Although not completely funded through AILPRD, the continued development of parks and green space along the Springbrook Trail has had many positive impacts for our community with the highlights listed below.

In 2016, Peaceful Valley Park and Festival grounds has hosted, or will host, the following events that have generated awareness of our facilities, community and businesses.

1. Winter Fun and Family Wellness Day
2. Antigo Headstart Stand for Children Day
3. Outdoor Movies
4. Annual Water Carnival and Day of Play
5. Badgerland Classic
6. CoVantage Loan Rally
7. Numerous family gatherings, birthday parties, and celebrations

The 9-Hole Disc Golf course is a popular recreational pursuit and there are very few times that the course is not in use. In June of 2015, the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery met on-site with users of the course and authorized the expansion of an additional 9 holes. The local Rotary Club will be funding the expansion with work expected to begin in late summer or early fall.

The trail is also used for a number of local walks and runs:

1. Healthy Ways Walk
2. American Federation for Suicide Prevention Out of Darkness Walk
3. Fall Healthy Ways Walk
4. Boys & Girls Club Color Run ( second annual)

We were very fortunate to receive a second donation from the Antigo Rotary Club, which funded materials for a second bridge that spans Springbrook north east of the woodchip trail. This bridge is one of two that will allow for continued trail expansion and year-round use of the trail system (the bridge connects one of the segments of the x-country ski trail). The second Rotary sponsored bridge was completed during the winter of 2015 and was used during the ensuing cross country ski season. Additionally, this bridge will be a well utilized connection for the 9-hole disc golf expansion.

The local Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) office worked with the City of Antigo to enhance the Springbrook Creek streambed at the first Rotary Bridge location. We are grateful for their efforts and look forward to the positive impacts of their work.

The City Wide Bike Route will utilize the existing Springbrook Trail, follow signed street routes, and continue with expansion efforts. Trail signing has been installed and the process to inventory their placement is ongoing.

In 2008 we agreed to fund a 10 year loan for \$200,000 as part of the matching funds for the grant at \$20,000 per year plus interest. This would be year nine of the loan repayment.

Levy for Boardwalk **\$27,840.00**

Commissioner Kassis advised that the loan is being paid on this item.

Kaye Matucheski indicated that the loan will be paid in full in 2018.

Mark Desotell advised that this City has looked at a Wisconsin Department of Transportation TAP Grant for expansion of the trail. He wanted to clarify that this grant has nothing to do with Inland Lake funds. He wanted everyone to be aware in case they were asked.

Commissioner Balcerzak commented that there is a lot of usage of the disc golf course. Ms. Repp indicated that there is a league that meets weekly. The group will assist the Rotary Club in September to expand the course.

**e) Restoration of Native Species**

We plan to continue the Springbrook Banks and Woodland Park restoration program as administered by the Parks Department to eradicate non-native plants and to restore wild native plant species. The program will focus on the removal of buckthorn, garlic mustard, other non-native species, and cattails. Removal of invasive plants and replacement with native species will promote wildlife while helping to enhance the waters of Antigo Lake and Springbrook.

During the winter months of 2015/16 efforts to minimize fire susceptibility along the elevated boardwalk north of Second Avenue were completed by our Fire Department staff utilizing our "tracked" UTV (Gator) to compact an eight-foot wide path of the cattails along each edge of the boardwalk.

The removal/maintenance of cattails at the viewing stations (located in Basin #'s 1 thru 3) as identified in the Antigo Lake Comprehensive Management Plan was addressed in July of 2016 from the shoreline. This effort represents year two of a three year plan coordinated with WDNR staff in order to address cattail maintenance without the use of chemical treatment. The cattails were cut 1' foot below the water surface with a gas-powered weed trimmer fitted with a dual-action circular cutting head. The cattails were then removed from the basins and taken to the landfill for disposal. The work was accomplished as a joint-effort between our Streets and PRC staff.

We will monitor the success of the cattail harvesting through the spring of 2017 and recommend that we explore the opening of additional viewing or access areas via a 2017 Harvesting Permit with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources depending on the success of the experimental cut along the originally permitted viewing areas.

The remainder of the 2016 funding remains available to be allocated for the removal of buckthorn, garlic mustard and other non-native species along the corridor.

The overall success of our cattail harvesting and invasive species removal will be continually monitored for consideration of native species plantings in areas responding well to the eradication efforts.

The funding requested in this category will be for any combination of cattail harvesting, invasive species removal and native species plantings.

Fund Balance appropriation \$24,000

For 2016, no funds have been expended as of yet but any funds expended before the end of the year will be deducted from the fund balance appropriation for 2017 (estimated to be \$1,000).

Mark Desotell noted that the City has been working in cattail eradication along the viewing areas. This is the second year that the City has been cutting them when the seed heads. The City has been working with the Department of Natural Resources and the amount of cutting has decreased. This is in preference to herbicides.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Balcerzak, Mr. Desotell indicated that residents wishing to eradicate cattails will need to work with the Department of Natural Resources.

Commissioner Kassis commented about the private side of the lake and the ability of cattail removal. Residents often have questions regarding this.

John Pruess advised that under water cutting or hand pulling is allowed on the private side up to thirty feet from a viewing area otherwise a permit is needed from the Department of Natural Resources. A permit is needed for chemical use.

Mr. Desotell further indicated that there is a percentage of frontage as well for eradication.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Kassis, Mr. Pruess advised that he will get information to Mr. Desotell that residents can have.

Patrick Frey, 536 Fifth Avenue, commented that the cattails are an eyesore and are affecting the whole area.

Sarah Repp advised that there are wild parsnips that are along the trail that will also have to be dealt with. There are a number of invasive species that are discovered periodically. Some we will never get control of and it is to be decided what is a priority. The wild parsnips will cause burns if the sap comes in contact with skin and sunlight. There needs to be an education and awareness campaign. Staying on the trail helps to stop the spread of invasive species as well.

Mr. Desotell noted that the idea is to see if this is successful with removal of cattails. There are other concerns with removal of the cattails such as geese and erosion. When attempting eradication of any invasive species we have to look at planting other native species for restoration.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Balcerzak, Ms. Repp explained dealing with Buckthorn and it is a lifelong process.

#### **f) Basin Dredging Program**

Staff completed their efforts comparing the basin elevations (post-dredging in 1989/90) with grade shots taken in 2010 and have prepared a cross-sectional

drawing indicating the amount of change over the time period. This information can be evaluated to project the overall rate of sedimentation (plant decay + soil deposits) to determine if other efforts designed to slow down the sedimentation rate (i.e. storm sewer detention, site-specific erosion control measures and others are warranted in addition to the dredging reserve.

An estimated 45,000 cubic yards of a combination of sedimentation caused by plant decay, stream erosion, bank erosion, storm sewer run-off along with other potential causes has occurred over a 20-year period or at an average rate of 2,250 cubic yards per year. Based on the surface area of the 3 basins this amounts to an approximate 1.2 feet of total sediment equaling  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches per year. While the grade shots taken in 2010 do not represent the level of accuracy of a full bathymetric survey of the lake bottom it is a good indicator of the 20-year impact. Although we have calculated average sediment over the 3 basins, we know that the west basin likely has the most sedimentation impact over the last 20-years.

The WDNR has indicated that dredging is something they would approve in the future especially if it is part of the management plan. It was noted during the 2009 meeting that the original dredging project was \$750,000. We continue to recommend to levy and set aside \$15,000 bringing the reserve balance for dredging to \$70,000 at the end of 2017.

We have estimated the costs associated for the completion of a consultant based Sedimentation Control Study that would identify specific locations of opportunity to minimize sedimentation within the lake basins. An Urban Sediment Loading Analysis would provide a water quality assessment of areas within the City draining into Antigo Lake. It would provide an estimate of total suspended solids entering the lake by way of computer modeling. Conceptual designs identifying locations for Best Management Practices (BMP's) along storm sewer systems out-letting to the basins would be developed along with estimates for construction of sediment control structures. The study would also help to identify grant funding sources for implementation of the proposed BMP's. It is estimated that such a study would be at a cost of \$35,000 with the funds being derived from the dredging reserve balance in 2016.

Staff is looking into the possibility of renting a combination sonar/GIS piece of equipment in order to conduct a more accurate survey of the bottom elevations of the three basins with anticipation of doing so during the spring of 2017 while the aquatic plants are diminished and less likely to impact the results. Once such a survey is completed then a Lake Bathymetric Survey could also be scheduled to coincide with the Sedimentation Control Study. City staff would provide a contour map of the basins based on the sonar data. A consultant study would then be completed comparing the new data against the 1990 dredging data to more accurately determine an annual sedimentation accumulation rate for the basins. The data will then be placed into a computer modeling program to verify the validity of any BMP practices being proposed. This effort is estimated to require an estimated \$10,000 in funds for rental of the equipment, City labor and consultant fees.

The Onterra provided Lake Management plan currently addresses soft sedimentation being produced in the basins through the growth and decay of invasive species such as Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and minimizes the impacts through lake-herbicide treatments as warranted. The hard sedimentation studies will identify several BMP's to supplement these efforts in hopes of minimizing the frequency of actual dredging that may be needed.

Chapter 33 "Public Inland Waters" Subchapter III Section 33.16 of Wisconsin State Statutes identifies potential financial assistance from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) via competitive applications for feasibility studies. We will explore such opportunities in an effort to minimize the overall funds eventually required from the AILPRD.

Fund Balance Applied From:

Dredging Reserve \$35,000 Urban Sediment Loading Analysis  
Dredging Reserve \$10,000 Lake Bathymetric Survey

Proposed to Levy \$15,000      Dredging Reserve Balance  
\$70,000 as of 12-31-17

Mr. Desotell advised that money has been put aside for dredging reserve balance. He has been talking about getting a survey done for basins. Staff has worked on this and the sedimentation does not seem to be as big of a problem as once thought. In the spring of 2017 a sonar system with GIS mapping will be used and a good sounding can be done to compare to the 1990 findings. We will know better what direction to take.

Scott Martin, MSA Professional Services, provided a Scope of Work. The study will help identify sources of sediment and best practices. The study is not to remove sediment but to help make recommendations. This process is required if you are a municipality of over 10,000. MSA will also look at different funding sources and help prioritizing based on available funding.

Mr. Desotell would like to change the levy amount from \$15,000 for a \$70,000 balance to \$10,000 for a \$65,000 reserve balance and move the remaining \$5,000 to item G- Restoration of Springbrook Flowage from Faust Dam to Seventh Avenue.

**g) Restoration of Springbrook Flowage from Faust Dam to Seventh Avenue**

It is recommended to advance this fund at a rate of an additional \$2,500 a year. We will continue to grow this fund until the balance will allow for the completion of the design study.

Levy \$2,500      Restoration Reserve Balance  
\$5,000 as of 12-31-17

Mr. Martin advised that the Inland Lake District would like to clean up the area from Fourth Avenue to Seventh Avenue. The work would be between the walls (not including the walls). The area would be cleaned up so that during the low flow times during the summer, the area

would be a stream with pools for fish to be held and boulders for water movement and aeration. Native and appropriate plants will be planted.

Ms. Matucheski questioned if the Lake District is responsible for anything other than the basins.

Mr. Martin noted that this is just for a study for future planning with recommendations and possible funding sources to help offset costs.

Commissioner Balcerzak questioned the reserve balance. Ms. Matucheski noted that there would be no reserve balance as the funds would be expended in 2017.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Kassis, Mr. Martin noted that doing smaller areas at a time may be a better way to levy grant dollars.

#### **h) Trail Maintenance / Improvements and Future Expansion**

##### **SPRINGBROOK TRAIL & OUR COMMUNITY:**

The Springbrook Trail is an incredible asset for our community. Recreational pursuits can be enjoyed on paved or rough trail; creating inclusive and accessible recreational opportunities for our entire community and visitors to the area. Economic opportunities for our local businesses exist through tourism dollars. Additionally, it is a sought after amenity for those considering relocation for a business or family. This project was constructed through the use of Grant, Lake District and TIF dollars; maintenance and expansion efforts of the Springbrook Trail will continue to benefit our community.

##### **MAINTENANCE:**

The current trail system is relatively new, but still requires annual maintenance (woodchips, crack sealing, boardwalk board replacement, blacktop replacement, sealing and etc.); the use of inland lake funds in combination with general operating funds allows our community to maintain a recreational trail, which enhances the opportunities for public enjoyment along our 3 Lake Basins and watershed area. Areas that show signs of needed repair are noted and addressed during the construction season.

##### **2016 Maintenance:**

While the following have not yet been addressed in 2016 it remains a priority to address them with any funds expended before the end of the year to be deducted from the fund balance appropriation for 2017.

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1. We plan on bidding sealing of the trail or portions of the trail to extend the life of the blacktop.
2. We plan on making necessary repairs during the construction season that may have occurred over the winter months such as cracking and heaving.
3. We plan on continuing the trenching along the trail to prevent root damage.

##### **EXPANSION:**

We would like to maintain the current trail system at the highest level possible while also expanding. Expansion provides the opportunity for, as stated in Wisconsin State Statutes Section 33.22:

*(4m) "A district may undertake projects to enhance the recreational uses of a lake within its jurisdiction, including recreational boating facilities as defined under s. 30.92 (1) (c).*

*(4r) "If authorized by an annual meeting of a district, the district may appropriate money for the conservation of natural resources or for payment to a bona fide nonprofit organization for the conservation of natural resources within the district or beneficial to the district."*

The proposed dollars levied through Inland Lakes will be used to maintain and expand the areas along Antigo Lake and the Springbrook Waterway, which allows the public to recreate and enjoy the natural resources along the lake basins and waterway.

**2016 Expansion:** Boardwalk expansion off the second bridge will continue with any available funds after sealing and repairs. Expansion funds would not be used beyond the Langlade County Fairground property boundary.

We are requesting \$10,000.00 to be used to maintain the current trail system and expand in approved areas. We anticipate continued requests annually.

Proposed to Levy **\$10,000**

Ms. Repp explained they are continuing with repairs this year and trenching around the trail to prevent root damage. She is looking in the future to seal the trail to extend its life.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Kassis, Ms. Repp advised that the trail will expand but not by utilizing Inland Lake funds.

Upon inquiry by Ms. Matucheski, Ms. Repp noted that expand in approved areas means the northern natural area where the water goes over the wet area that will need to be elevated or a boardwalk.

i) Any Other Budgetary Items Arising from Discussion (No action may be taken on these items.)

2. Adopt Budget and Tax Levy

Darling moved, T. Bauknecht seconded, to approve the budget as amended at the meeting and approve a rate of 17.14062 cents. Ayes 10, Nays 0. Carried.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO BE CONSIDERED**

There was no other business to be considered.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Kaye Matucheski moved, Mark Desotell seconded, to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. Carried.

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Thomas Bauknecht, Secretary