

Montello Lake Inland Protection and Rehabilitation District Budget Meeting  
Minutes- Quarterly Meeting 4/29/2023 Montello City Hall 9:00am  
Draft Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order by Mimi Pierson
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call- Present: Ken Borzick, county representative, Venise Muglar, town representative; and all 2 board commissioners: Sandee Muchka, Treasurer & Mimi Pierson, Secretary. Dan Easter absent due to resignation by email effective immediately 4-05-2023
4. Agenda – was read and approved by all members of the board
5. Minutes from Annual meeting 8-13-2022- read and approved by all members
6. Treasurer Report- Sandee present both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter budget report.
  - Ken inquired about the Maintenance cost in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.
  - Mimi reported that major repair was completed at the end of the season as parts had to be taken off of the Harvester and repaired by Inland Lake Harvesters. Chris Pierson affirmed this as he was present at that time in the fall of 2022
  - Sandee confirmed after looking at her records that the amount was paid to Inland.
  - Board then approved the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter report
7. Old Business:
  - Montello Lake Depth Project-
    - Dredging committee – Bill Penzel, Rich Sonnenberg and Mimi Pierson meet. Lane Loveland is the DNR Water Management Specialist for our county. He was provided the Pre-Dredging Sediment Study. His reply was to have a Pre-Dredging Application, which requires very specific details regarding the project. Currently, we are not able to provide the details so it was determined to bring the recommendation to obtain bids. This would allow not only the DNR but most importantly MLIPRD board members, electors, and property owner an informed proposal that would include projected cost to the district
    - Mimi made a motion to open non-binding bids for the dredging committee utilizing the proposed area and estimated amount provided by Ayers Engineering. Sandee seconded the motion and it was approved by the board
  - Dam Water Levels- Still a problem.
    - Dan was to head a meeting between Dwight Shanak, Modern Hydro owner and current hydroelectric leasee on Montello Dam, and Hanna Johnson, the DNR Dam Safety and Engineering as well as Water Management Engineer. This was not completed. Mimi states she will take over that responsibility and contact Hanna in hopes to facilitate a meeting.
    - Venise is reporting no communication between the City of Montello and the current hydroelectric operator, Dwight Shanak, has occurred. Moreover, Venise reports that several attempts have been made with no

reply from Dwight. Mike Niedermair provided a number of the hydroelectrician that put in the automated gates for a possible contact.

- Keith Klubunde requesting Venise bring up the importance of obtaining the current lease during the next City Council meeting. History provided by Venise stating that the city has no way to change who and how the lease is currently being enforced. Venise stated she would bring this up at the next meeting that would be this Monday 5/1 at 7pm.

## 8. New Business

- 2023 seasonal needs
  - Equipment- Report given by Chris Pierson stating that maintenance on the harvester has already started and is almost complete. Hydrolytic fluid has been replaced, which needs to be done every 4 yrs. They were able to save the district a significant amount of money by Art and Chris doing the service and purchasing fluid through a lower cost vendor. d
    - Bolts were replaced on the harvester and the elevator that takes the weeds from the harvester to the dump truck
    - Truck was power washed as well as the harvester at end of session
    - Sandee to get porta potty for boat landing and turn on pump
  - Staffing- Art is our Lake Manager, Chris Pierson is assisting but we still need more operators for the harvester. Ads will be placed this week.
  - Dump site – will stay the same and is willing to not only take our weeds but if the dredging project goes through will take the sediment as well
  - Herbicide Treatment- Wisconsin Lake and Pond is once again treating for AIS weeds for us.
    - Mimi contacted Jim Scharl from Wis Lake and Pond regarding possibility of a 2<sup>nd</sup> application this year. Jim stated that you can treat more often with the same permit. Having a second treatment is feasible but cost is not know depending on amount of chemical needed although will be less that the first application
      - Motion to pay for 2<sup>nd</sup> treatment
      - Motion passed with approval
    - Mimi also asked about having property owners' shoreline/piers treated as Buffalo Lake. This was possible and treatment area of 30 x 30 ft is allowed by the DNR. Cost will be determined by the numbers interested. Need at least 20 properties interested to reduce cost and sign up sheet on table
- Resignation of Dan Easter
  - Board commented on Dan's legacy and how he will be missed but he is willing to be a source of advice
  - Board appointed Mimi as new chairperson
  - Mimi appointed Don Gibson as new commissioner

- Don introduced himself to the board and has been a paramedic, professor with degrees in Environmental Science and a Physician Assistant.
- Board approved Don Gibson as new commissioner

9. Wisconsin Lake and River Conference

- Mimi and Chris attended
- Information on the table regarding shoreline needs to enhance fisheries and reduce runoff
- Shared information learned

10. Public comment-

Mike Niedermair wondering about who to contact if he wants to conduct shoreline changes. Pat Kilby from the Land and Water Agent for Marquette County,

Suggestion for the City of Montello to obtain a second lawyer opinion on the never ending lease arrangement with hydroelectric operators.

John asking if there is a draw down, can a restriction on ice fishing? That is uncertain and will be determined by the DNR.

Paula Klubunde asking about having a second spraying for property owners? Will ask Jim about that possibility.

11. Meeting adjourned at 10:15