

Montello Lake Inland Protection and Rehabilitation District
Minutes – Commissioners Meeting 6/10/2023 Montello City Hall 10:00 am
Draft Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order by Mimi Pierson
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call – Present: Ken Borzick, county representative; Vanise Muglar, town representative; Don Gibson, Board Secretary; via telephone Sandee Muchka, Board Treasurer; and Board Chairperson, Mimi Pierson
4. Agenda – read and approved by all board members
5. Minutes from Quarterly Meeting (4/29/2023) read and approved by all board members
6. Treasurerers report – Sandee presented Third Quarter Report
 - a. Question was asked about possible Co-op for fuel for Harvester. There would be a minimum of 300 gallon drop and our storage tank could only accommodate 100 gallons
 - b. It was noted by Sandee that the bulk of our expenses are during the summer months
 - c. Board approved the Third Quarter Report
7. Old Business
 - a. Montello Lake Depth Project
 - i. As previously noted, the owner of the dam, Dwight Shanak, Modern Hydro, needs to repair hydraulics on the dam prior to the dam being repaired and a drawdown in order to dredge can occur. This will not happen this winter but next 2-3
 - b. Montello Lake Water Levels
 - i. Mimi has had recent communication with Hannah Johnson, DNR Water Management Engineer. There is a DNR regulated minimum and maximum water level height for the lake. Dam owner’s records show the lake has met the minimum level. Mimi had a discussion with Hannah Johnson regarding raising the maximum height vs raising the minimum height. Due to increased land impact if the maximum height should be raised would lead to many more studies required before the change could be made. If a request to raise the minimum, but still under the current maximum height would b requested, the amount of studies required would be far fewer. A vote passed to proceed with request for amended water levels through a formal request
 - c. Venise reports the Town Attorney stated that he has done what is possible and if the District would like representation that a private attorney could be hired by the Lake District
8. New Business
 - a. Don Gibson was welcomed as a new commissioner
 - b. Harvester
 - i. Minor mechanical problems on first day of cutting, but quickly repaired
 - ii. Several attending stated they appreciated the cutting and could see a difference after the cutting occurred
 - iii. Harvester Crew is still working on hiring additional driver, if anyone is interested

- iv. Discussion regarding fuel for Harvester. Currently getting fuel from Holliday. A question regarding taxes paid on fuel was presented. Research will be made as to if taxes are being paid on fuel and if so is the tax later deducted from State taxes at end of year
- v. Herbicide Treatment – Tentatively scheduled for June 12 or 13, 2023. A second treatment is available which would consist of a 30 sqft area around a dock. Information was previously provided and payment was due.
- vi. The Lake District's insurance policy will be dropped by the insurance company at the end of July. The company has decided to no longer insure any Lake Districts. The policy is for Worker's Compensation, vehicles and liability. Dan Easter has agreed to assist with seeking new coverage.

9. Public Comments

- a. Sandee Muchka, after many years as a Lake District Commissioner will be retiring from the Board. A new Commissioner will be required. If you are interested in the position, please contact Mimi Pierson.
- b. Two volunteers are needed to preform an audit on the 2022-2023 budget. This must be completed prior to the Annual Meeting and after July 1. Members present stated they had assisted with the audit in the past and found it to be an easy task. Please contact Mimi Pierson or Sandee Muchka with questions or to volunteer
- c. A question was raised concerning possible charging a boat fee to get on the lake, like other local lakes do. It was discussed that the city owns the landing and other lakes that charge a fee has county owned landings.
- d. Discussion regarding requesting a permit to drawn down the lake this winter for weed control, as has been done in the past, was presented. This would not be for a dredging project but as a weed control measure. If there would be a draw down the city could have time to repair the area of the dam under their control. After discussion a vote to discuss a drawdown at the Annual Meeting was approved.

10. Next Meeting – July 8, 2023 at Montello City Hall at 10:00