

Montello Lake Inland Protection & Rehabilitation District  
Annual Meeting at Montello City Hall  
August 24, 2024, at 10:00 am  
Minutes

1. Meeting called to order by Mimi Pierson at 1019
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll call – Present: Vanise Mugler, City Representative; Ken Borzick, County Representative; Don Gibson, Secretary; Sue Fichtel, Treasurer; Mimi Pierson, Board Chairperson
4. Agenda was approved
5. Minutes from June 1, 2024, were discussed and approved
6. Old Business
  - a. Herbicide Treatment was applied on June 11, 2024, to ~~73~~70 properties whose homeowners chose to have their personal pier or shoreline treated at owners' expense
  - b. Application to navigational lanes of 5 acres was completed on August 8, 2024. 9.9 acres were budgeted to be sprayed but Wisconsin Lake and Pond, the company contracted to apply herbicide determined that only 5 acres needed treated.
  - c. Fish survey was completed in June, at no expense to the MLIPRD. Contact at the DNR stated that the information is obtained in the Spring and then analysis of the data takes place during the winter months. There is no report at this time
  - d. Dam Repair/Dredging project
    - i. Dredging – currently on hold. Two types of dredging; mechanical, which uses a bucket or scoop to remove sediment and hydraulic which utilizes high-pressure water jets to loosen sediment before pumping it out of the lake. Hydraulic dredging is often used for larger lakes with deeper sediment build-up. Combinations of the two methods are often used. Mechanical dredging is less costly. A survey in 2007 showed the dam needs repair – not emergency repair. To repair the dam a major drawdown, approximately 8 feet would need to be completed. It would make sense to

mechanically dredge when the drawdown for the dam repair is completed. We are currently waiting for the City of Montello and the dam operator, Dwight Shanak to make plan for the dam repairs. The City is budgeting \$10,000 annually for repairs. Hydraulic dredging is being considered but is more expensive.

## 7. New Business

### a. Treasurers Report

- i. Audit was completed by Lisa Dunaway. The MLIPRD would like to thank Lisa for her assistance
- ii. The 2023-2024 Budget was discussed and the 2024-2025 Budget was presented.
  1. Capital Expense Fund – the 2024-2025 Budget has increased to \$20,000 (up to) with covers any expense over \$10,000 (such as shed, Harvester, or dump truck repair or replacement).
  2. There was discussion that there may be more items under Operating Expenses to be more descriptive of the account

- b. Aquatic Plant Management Plan survey has been performed but we are currently waiting for the completed report. The Aquatic Report must be completed every 5 years to keep permits to harvest and have other weed control. Preliminary report shows that 96.5% of areas tested had plant growth. Twenty-four different species were found. Two non-native species were found. Diversity is high and plant density is decreased from past years. The study was completed by Wisconsin Lake and Pond. They stated that due to the North end of the lake being so shallow, wild rice growth, and dense plant growth they could not test that area

## 8. Annual Meeting Voting

- a. Commissioner stipend of \$125 per meeting was not changed
- b. Treasurer stipend of \$1500 annually was not changed
- c. 2024-2025 MLIPRD annual assessment was not changed
- d. The 2024-2025 MLIPRD Budget was passed by ballot

- e. Commissioner Election – Mimi Pierson’s position was up for re-election. Mimi was un-opposed. Ballot vote re-elected Mimi Pierson for an additional 3 years.

9. Public Comments

- a. Question: Has there been consideration to harvest later in fall? The weeds die off in the fall and there is nothing to cut.
- b. Can we skim later to leave less material to decay? The Harvester is not able to cut in all areas due to several reasons. However, it can skim the floating weeds in more areas. Unclear if skimming could continue later in the fall. It was noted that the homeowners spraying has helped significantly with weed load. It has given the Harvester more time to skim and less need to cut.
- c. How long does the sediment study last? To dredge, a sediment study was required, one has been completed. The Board will investigate how long the study remains valid.
- d. Can we increase our spray area to greater than 9.9 acres? Currently the MLIPRD has acquired a permit from the DNR to be able to apply herbicide up to 9.9 acres. If we would like to increase it to over 10 acres a new, and much more difficult permit would have to be obtained (Buffalo Lake has been trying to obtain such a permit and has not been able to acquire one). Less than 9.9 acres have been treated over the past 2 years.
- e. Every Monday at 7:00 pm there is a City Meeting. Consider going to the meeting and speak-up for the Lake District regarding how much money is budgeted for dam repairs and what is the current progress on dam repairs.

10. Adjourn at 1124