

White River Flowage Lake Management District

Budget Hearing/Annual Meeting Minutes

August 31, 2024, Dakota Town Hall

Budget Hearing:

- Chair Lynn Bockenbauer called the Budget Hearing to order at 9:00 a.m. All District Board Members were in attendance except Robert Wedell. Lynn stated that each District member should have received a copy of the proposed 2025 budget with their meeting notice and asked if there were any questions or comments. Steve Dahlke noted that although \$4,000 was budgeted in 2024 for a new remote control for the harvester trailer, they decided to just continue using the old one for now. Therefore, it would add an additional \$4,000 to the 2025 starting balance. There were no questions or comments.

Annual Meeting:

- Chair Bockenbauer called the Annual Meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by those in attendance.
- **Agenda** – Dean Bockenbauer motioned to accept the agenda as written, Brian Soldner seconded, and the agenda was approved.
- **Spring Meeting Minutes** – Jon Wilcox motioned to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2024, meeting as written, Jack Marcoe seconded, and the motion carried.
- **Board Minutes** – Bill Van Dongen stated that when the Board of Commissioners met after the Spring Meeting, they reviewed and approved the 2025 budget.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Secretary/Treasurer Fran Geier reported on the income/expense activities of the District since the April 20 2024, meeting. Highlights include: Current balance of \$45,051.24; Expenses of \$1303.93 for harvester expenses; \$506.48 for insurance; and Deposits of \$295.50. Fran noted that some small payments were not included in the 2024 budget that was sent out to the members because of the time constraint.
- **Proposed Budget for 2025** – Brian Soldner motioned to accept the 2025 budget as proposed, Jack Marcoe seconded, and the proposed budget was approved unanimously.
- **Aquatic Plants** - Lynn Bockenbauer explained that a P.I. (point intercept) survey by Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource has not been completed yet, but she expects it to be done in the next week or so. Dean Bockenbauer asked if Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource would also be doing the chemical treatments and suggested having a different applicator do the chemical treatments. Bill Van Dongen commented that the P.I survey should have been done in June since some of the aquatic plants are dying now. Lynn noted that there is still a lot of Curlyleaf Pond Weed (CLP) present. Also, there was some Flowering Rush (FR) by Ralph Slabosheski's bay, but nothing major. She mentioned that wild rice is now crossing the channel and asked members to pull any strays found. Patty Kleinmann asked how much bigger the wild rise beds are compared to 10 years ago and Steve Dahlke estimated that they have doubled. Lynn noted that the harvester will keep the channel open. She will post on Facebook and the District's website when the P.I. survey is done
- **Harvester Operation** – Lynn commented that the District has a good group of volunteers. However, high water and personal issues with some volunteers this summer led to fewer loads being removed. Jon Wilcox stated that removed weeds could be dumped on his land if the current location doesn't work out in the future. His land is quite a bit closer than where the weeds are currently being dumped. Lynn mentioned that she talked to Ron Schultz of Northstar Waterway Management who recommended Onterra LLC which is similar to Golden Sands RC&D. They also conduct surveys, advise treatment plans, do chemical treatments, etc. Steve Dahlke reported that the harvester is working great now that they changed out the diesel tanks. They discovered that the old tanks were full of water and sludge which caused the harvester to constantly stall. He also thanked Dean Bockenbauer to his invaluable help with the maintenance. Steve stated that he plans to change all the hydraulic fluid next spring. Brian Zenker noted that offroad diesel is available at the Mobil station in town and is \$.60/gallon cheaper. Gordy Loehr recommended getting two more diesel tanks. The harvester and tow vehicle will be going into storage in late September.
- **Board Member Elections** – Lynn Bockenbauer announced that Fran Geier will be stepping down from the Board after 19 years, but Steve Dahlke indicated that he was willing to serve another term. Lynn nominated Ruth Weinberger to fill Fran's vacancy and to renew Steve's 3-year term. No other members indicated an interest in being on the Board. Brian Zenker seconded the motion, Jon Wilcox motioned to close the nominations, and

both were elected unanimously. Fran agreed to mentor Ruth for a year on the duties of the District Secretary/Treasurer.

- **Comments** – 1) Mike Braun inquired about posting signs indicating that the Flowage is a “No Wake” body of water. He said that one of his shoreline trees is close to coming down due to the waves. He was thinking of sending letters to the campground residents reminding them of this. Bill Van Dongen said this is an issue for the Sheriff’s Department or DNR to enforce. Lynn Bockenbauer said she was willing to make some “No Wake, Slow Down” signs. Fran Geier suggested including a reminder in the Spring Meeting notices so everyone in the District is aware of the penalties. 2) Steve Dahlke noted that he brought in an old Resorter and photos of the 1993 dam drawdown. 3) Jack Marcoe asked about the drone flying over the Flowage and Lynn explained that the County Land Conservation Dept. uses drones to film shoreline erosion, down trees, beaver activities, etc. 4) Jim Kleinmann stated that weeds in the rock incline are becoming a problem at the Pine View Drive landing. Gary Grenier said he will bring it up to the Town of Dakota Board that is responsible for the landing.
- **Adjournment** – Jack Marcoe motioned to adjourn at 10:15 am, Dean Bockenbauer, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

The White River Flowage Association (WRFA) held a brief meeting at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

The Board of Commissioners met immediately after the WRFA meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fran Geier, Secretary/Treasurer