

**WALLED LAKE
LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023**

The meeting of the Lake Improvement Board for Walled Lake was held at the Novi Civic Center Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order by Tina Miller, Chair, at 2:05 PM.

Present:

Tina Miller, Riparian Owner Representative (Chair)
Ajay Raman, Oakland County Board of Commissioners' Representative
Karen Warren, Oakland County Water Resource Commissioner's Representative
Dennis O'Rourke, City of Walled Lake Representative
Megan Mikus, City of Novi Representative (Secretary-Treasurer)

Also Present:

Mark Roberts, Attorney, Secrest Wardle
Matt Novotny, Savin Lake Services, Operations Manager
Ross Simpson, Earth Food Biochair
Paul Hausler, 1811 4 Mile, Grand Rapids, MI
Jerry Anderson, 127 S Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, MI
Angela Maynard, City of Novi, DPW

Public Comment:

Jerry Anderson, 127 S Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, MI, and President of Lake Area Homeowners Association (LAHA), thanked the Lake Board and Savin. It seems like the quality of the water has improved and he feels like it has never been better. Spring algae is still a concern. The LAHA applauds the Lake Board's efforts.

Public comment ended.

Approval of September 21, 2022 Minutes:

Moved by O'Rourke, Supported by Mikus.

CARRIED 5-0: To approve the minutes of the September 21, 2022 meeting.

Treasurer's Reports

Treasurer/ Member Mikus presented the Annual Financial Report with the balance on hand at years end, 12/31/22, being \$125,172.38. She then presented the Treasurer's Report through September 1, 2023. The balance on hand as of September 1 was \$175,488.63.

Moved by Mikus, Supported by Warren.

CARRIED 5-0: To approve the 2023 Treasurer's Report and 2022 Annual Financial Report.

Approval to reimburse the Chair to attend educational trainings

The Chair is seeking reimbursement for attending the Michigan Lake Stewardship Association Conference from May 5 to 6, 2023 and for participating in the Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps) Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. Member Raman questioned the milage total. Member Mikus confirmed that there was an error and that the decimal point for the milage total should be moved over one. This changed the grand total for reimbursement to \$1035.51.

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Moved by Mikus; Supported by O'Rourke.

CARRIED 5-0: To reimburse Chair Miller \$1035.51 for educational trainings she attended.

Certification of Delinquent Assessment Reports from Walled Lake and Novi

Treasurer/ Member Mikus reported the City of Walled Lake does not have any assessment delinquencies since the City of Walled Lake paid the full assessment amount on March 22, 2023, in the amount of \$37,402.77. The City of Novi reports a total of \$2,781.65 is delinquent from 27 parcels for the City of Novi. The interest accrued through September 1 for Novi delinquent payments is \$83.47.

A motion from the Lake Board is necessary to certify the delinquent amounts plus interest for the City Assessing official for each City.

Moved by Raman, Supported by Warren

CARRIED 5-0: To certify the delinquent assessments received from the City of Novi and to submit them to the City Assessor.

Presentation by Ross Simpson, Earth Food BioChar

Ross Simpson, with Earth Food BioChar presented the Board with information in regard to his product that binds excess phosphorus and nutrients from the water. This has been brought to Michigan within the last two years, most notably Silver Lake. Biochar comes from a process that derives from Colorado pine needles. The Biochar product comes in two-foot-long filter socks, which are installed into the lake by the homeowners at the end of their docks each year. Water movement is relied on for product to work in areas where there are no docks. One third of the socks are replaced every year; therefore, it requires a three-year cycle. They would propose a 5-year program initially. The Biochar is a natural product, which is used in lieu of other treatments. It would not remove or undo anything that Savin has put in the lake to treat it. There are no cost estimates as of now.

The Board felt that it is necessary to get residential feedback to gauge interest. Possibly send out information to the residents. Attorney Roberts confirmed that the Board had the ability to pay for information to be sent out. Chairperson Miller asked that the program be tabled until residential opinion is received.

Moved by Raman, Supported by O'Rourke.

CARRIED 5-0: To approve to table Earth Food BioChar until residential opinion and feedback is received.

Discussion of 2023 Treatment Review by Savin Lake Services

Matt Novotny, from Savin Lake Services presented the Lake Board with information on the 2023 treatment of the lake. They believe that because of the ProccellaCOR treatment in 2022, the total acreage of Eurasian Watermilfoil was greatly reduced, however, these areas now contained curly leaf pondweed instead.

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Discussion of 2024 Treatment Recommendations by Savin Lake Services

Savin would like to plan for the chance that Eurasian Watermilfoil would reestablish itself in other areas not observed in 2023 and thus increase the total acreage needed to be treated. The other treatments in 2024 should follow what was seen in prior years. Starry Stonewort and other nuisance vegetation will be treated as necessary in July and August.

Consideration of renewal with Savin Lake Services for 2024 lake treatment services

Moved by Miller, Supported by O'Rourke

CARRIED 5-0: To approve the lake treatment services contract renewal with Savin Lake Services for the year 2024.

Consideration of insurance coverage for the Board

At the last Board meeting on September 21, 2022, it was advised by the Board's attorney to get a quote for insurance for the Lake Board to cover any future liabilities. This coverage would be in addition to the insurance the Board requires of the lake management company to hold.

Member Mikus contacted the WRC and other Oakland County Lake Boards. In her correspondence over the past year, only one Lake Board was able to provide her with a comparable quote for Directors and Officers insurance only. The feedback from that entity is only one insurance company provided a quote despite reaching out to several.

The City of Novi's insurance broker, Kapnick, provided the attached proposal from Atain Insurance Company. The annual premium and associated taxes and fees total \$6,926.98. The Board requested the Secretary and Attorney evaluate the necessary insurance coverage and to obtain coverage for the Board.

Moved by O'Rourke, Supported by Mikus.

CARRIED 5-0: To approve obtaining insurance coverage for the board, with a maximum annual premium of \$7,000.00.

Consideration of a Budget Amendment to cover insurance coverage premium

Moved by Mikus; Supported by Raman.

CARRIED 5-0: To approve increasing the administrative and legal line item's budget an additional \$7,000 for insurance for the Board.

Public comment

No members of the public commented.

Public Comment ended.

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Other Business:

No further business was noted

ADJOURNMENT: There being was no further business to come before the Lake Improvement Board; Chairperson Miller made a motion to adjourn, all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Megan K. Mikus

Megan Mikus
Secretary/Treasurer