

**Lake Puckaway Protection and Rehabilitation District (LPPRD)
Commissioners Quarterly Meeting**

**Saturday, August 20, 2022 – 10AM
Mecan Town Hall
Montello, WI**

LPPRD Commissioners Present	
Dustin Esselman, Chair	Jason Schlimgen, Secretary
Jaimes Johnson, Treasure	Willy Stalker, Commissioner
Bob Schweder, Green Lake County Appointee	Maddy Wergin, Town of Mecan Appointee
Greg Navulis, Commissioner	
Guests	
Kristine Schlimgen, Clerk	

Agenda Item	LPPRD Committee Meeting	Responsible Party
Call to Order	Dustin Esselman called the August 20, 2022, LPPRD Commissioners quarterly meeting to order at 10:00 AM.	
Minutes	Motion by Willy Stalker and seconded by Jaimes Johnson to approve the May 2022 Commissioners Quarterly meeting minutes. Motion carried	
Treasures Report	Jaimes Johnson reported he will be getting information from Dave Fergeson regarding the restricted checking. There are no large commitments remaining this year.	
Approval of Agenda	Dustin Esselman asked for a motion to approve the agenda as distributed. Motion made by Greg Navulis and seconded by Willy Stalker	
Old Business	a. Tern rafts – Jason Schlimgen reported Jeff Kimber would donate plywood to build a third raft. Daryl Christenson tells us when we can bring the tern rafts in, which is usually before Labor Day. Randy Schmidt reported 102 banded off, and there was a pontoon donated to build a new tern raft, but the pontoon needs to be stripped. It was suggested that when we have all the volunteers there doing the hatchery the buoys and tern rafts at same time.	

	<p>b. Fish hatchery – Jason Schlimgen reported there is a maintenance issue with getting it mowed and needs to be winterized. Randy Schmidt, Paul Gettleman, and Larry and Gina Laeffler continue to work on the hatchery. It is not a DNR fish hatchery, they help with boats and nets, but we put the nets on. It is on state property which the district got a 99-year lease. Could keep a push mower. Greg Navulis stated he has a push mower. Randy Schmidt, Paul, Larry and Gina, Jason have a set of keys.</p> <p>c. Buoy – Jason Schlimgen reported he received lights but won't put them on till next year. He couldn't get to clean them off this year because of schedules, Randy Schmidt said they weren't that because of lower water. Dave Fergie reported the restricted fund is to help with purchasing buoys. Jason Schlimgen reported volunteers are needed to help with cleaning off the weeds of buoys, it is a lot of work and only him and his father-in-law do them now.</p> <p>d. Dredge bank – Dustin reported because of lower water they couldn't get barges out. Greg said they can't get in because of spawning but are going to apply to get in earlier.</p> <p>e. Princeton dam Gate – met with DNR officials, none of them agreed internally. Closed all through the winter, May 15 so people who used the lake for recreations board put on and then October take boards off, to help lower water to help with shoreline erosions and shock absorber. Dave reported there was a group that helped with creating the MOU. Dustin said their concern was the ice heaves, north side is usually having the ice heaves. Feel important to have the fall draw down, level is down. Dustin reported the DNR said they are going to bring a proposal to us, and we must decide, with gates open it only changes the water level a few inches and DNR has concerns with them being open as far as current and then. Ted doesn't want them closed on May 15 because of fish spawning, but others didn't care if they were left closed and let mother nature do its course. If you go into spring with a little less water, it helps shock absorber. Dustin said Buffalo is wanting to hold back more water next year, but not sure about Grand River Marsh other than Berlin wildlife division is one who runs it, but that person has sense retired. Dave reported it is controlled for wildlife and migration. 1.8 was good, but at 1.65 it's dry. Held to the same standards of the MOU, could use more verbiage instead of using specific dates. Find correlation with board and heights to the gates to simulate what the flow</p>	
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of water. Dustin will be put update on Facebook with outcome. Transparency of any draw down on when and why, Dustin stated we can't really do a draw down with all the, Willy said it's this year and next year and then 2 years not which was to help get more emergent aquatic plants to help erosion which is not needed right now.

- f. Nuisance aquatic plant treatment update – Jason Schlimgen reported we worked with Onterra regarding getting herbicide and mechanically for navigational lanes. The mechanical harvester contractor said a lot of what is out there is Coontail which creates large mats, so that is more of what we saw. We are waiting for Onterra to give us a pre and post treatment survey and then give us further treatment options. The total cost for both was \$22,000. There is a phase 2 which uses phase 1 information to help get good and bad plants identified along with the location which total is \$25,000. We had to do phase 1 to work with DNR herbicide and mechanical harvest. Onterra doesn't like to use a lot of herbicides, had a hard time with harvester because couldn't get off on the Northshore because of access. Dustin stated he would like to be able to work with the township on the north shore landing dredged, Bob said he will talk to some people in Green Lake County. It was asked if the company thinks the harvesting worked. Jason reported he did think it worked but there was so much of it because of the mats of Milfoil & Coontail he couldn't do all we were hoping. Jason stated LPPRD doesn't have an aquatic lake management plan, we only have a lake management plan which is what Onterra is helping with. Dustin stated he has been in talks with Onterra and Wisconsin Lakes and Ponds, we must do an EWM mapping for any widespread herbicide application for 2023 and has been in talks with Ted Johnson from the DNR and they are open to trying ProcellaCore on the 500 acers of Eurasian Milfoil we have out there which could cost up to \$500,000. Jason asked if the DNR is okay with Wisconsin Lakes and Ponds doing the survey and the herbicide treatment as that is a conflict of interest. Jaimes asked if the DNR is okay with treating 500 acres, Dustin stated Ted Johnson from the DNR would support us with data backing everything. Jaimes stated the tax levy collects \$34,000 and the max we can levy is \$2.50, Little Green maxes at \$2.50 and they still have weed problems. Jaimes continued and said the LPPRD would have to hold another large meeting to be

Bob will talk to Green Lake County about being able to dredge by landings.

	<p>able to change the levy, this would be a special meeting and would be an amendment to the budget.</p>	
<p>New Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Talked during nuisance aquatic plant treatment update. Dustin reported we are too late for grants as they are all due by September 15th, so anything we do next year will be all funded by us. b. Discussed during nuisance aquatic plant treatment update. c. Update from Puckaway Community Cares – Monica Gunderson reported the community members she has talked to would like a special meeting to give them options to vote on raising the tax levy. The meeting was held on July 3 which had over 50 people and has over 92 people on the mailing list. Jason Schlimgen asked if the people who are making these suggestions if they are lake district members, Monica Gunderson stated these are people just in the area. Monica feels the Lake Management Plan is not consistent, read through minutes and there are ways to have community members be able treat around their shorelines which is 30 feet wide and end of the pier. She feels there is a clear sense of people willing to help but it needs to be clearly communicated. She also stated looking through the prior minutes there was mention of \$150,000 towards the dredge bank, but no motion to approve. Kristine Schlimgen stated the Dredge Bank has been in the works for over 10 years, so the motion is probably in the minutes when it originally began. d. Community discussion – Done throughout the meeting; however, there were a few additional questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would like a newsletter again, didn't have one this year. 2. Communication is a big thing and would like to see a Lake District Facebook page created as Puckaway People is not managed by the LPPRD. 3. Would like a new slow no wake sign put up 4. Monica Gunderson asked in regards to operations of the fish hatchery and the lack of keeping up with the maintenance. As captured in pervious minutes, the fish hatchery has not been maintained and comments were made about how much work it is. Monica had asked does it make sense to continue the fish hatchery if it is a burden. Discussion following assuring the room that it is important to continue to operate and with that we went into the discussion of how to work with volunteers. Jaimes Johnson stated it is a good front of LPPRD, helps the mission, and does not cost a lot to fund. 	<p>Dustin Esselman said he will reach out to a pier company and will see if they can donate the pipes and work.</p>

	<p>e. Dustin asked for a motion to hold a special meeting on September 24 at 10:00 AM for a possible mil tax levy. Motion made by Willy stalker and seconded by Bob Schweiger. Motion carried.</p> <p>Dustin asked for a motion to approve Wisconsin Lakes and Ponds to do an EWM survey at the cost of \$7,950. Motion made by Willy Stalker and seconded by Greg Navalus. Motion carried.</p> <p>1. Boat Launches – Dustin reported some townships have asked for help with boat launches. Dave Ferguson stated there were 3 items for the restricted funds: boat launches, buoys, and fish hatchery.</p>	
Adjourn	<p>There being no further business, Dustin Esselman asked for a motion to adjourn the August 20, 2022, LPPRD quarterly commissioners meeting at 12:16 PM. Motion was made by Jaimes Johnson and seconded by Dustin Esselman. Motion carried.</p>	

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