Wixom Lake Improvement Board (WLIB)
Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2022

Meeting called to order at Billings Township Hall by Chairman Joe Sova at 6:00 pm

Pledge of allegiance recited to start the meeting.

Roll call of board members. All board members present: Carol Ayers, Joe Sova, Ray Drumright, Robert Kelley, Jeanette Snyder, Don Zakett, Terry Walters, Larry Woodard and Karen Moore
Board Members Absent: None
Others in Attendance: Norma Stuart from Midland County Drain Commission, Lucy Zeestraten from Gladwin County Drain Commission, Paul Hausler from Progressive AE, Tory Meyers from Progressive AE, Casey Shoaff from PLM Lake & Land Management Corp., and approximately 30 members of the public

Agenda was presented and there were no proposed additions. Larry Woodard made a motion to accept the agenda and the motion was seconded by Terry Walters. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no correspondence for the board to review.

Board members reviewed minutes from the July 25th, 2022 WLIB meeting.
A motion to accept and file the minutes was made by Terry Walters and seconded by Carol Ayers. Voice vote. Motion carried with Karen Moore abstaining due to her absence from the July 25th meeting.

In the agenda categories of correspondence and new business, there was nothing to review or discuss.

In the category of old business, Paul Hausler introduced Tory Meyers as a Progressive AE drone pilot and then showed images taken by him of the lake bottom and canals of Wixom lake. Images were taken from a height of approximately 350 ft. and show good detail of vegetation. Within the next week Paul will carefully assess images and identify areas to perform test applications of herbicide. Areas with different stages of growth, different types of vegetation, and different topography on both the lake bed and in canals will be identified as test plots to evaluate logistics of application and effectiveness of different treatment levels. Paul estimates that there will be 3-4 test plots on lake bed which will be treated via helicopter and 2 test plots in canals which will be manually treated with 2 person crews on a 4 wheeler. Areas that have been recently mowed will not be selected as test plots. Paul also instructed property owners not to mow the test areas after application as that would interfere with the experiment. Woody plants will be treated with Triclopyr. Herbaceous plants in canals will be spot treated with glyphosate. Wide spread use of glyphosate is not within the scope of permits. Permits require buffer of 40 feet from the river and a similar buffer along the historical shoreline of the lake.

Casey Shoaff indicated that both the ANC (Aquatic Nuisance Control) and NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permits have been approved. Also VASTLAN (a formulated Triclopyr from Corteva) has been approved by the State of Michigan for use in our specific situation. This is good news as there is a high probability of having VASTLAN donated for use in the project by Corteva. Don Zakett expects to have confirmation of donation soon. If no donation, treatments will proceed with purchased herbicide. Treatment needs to occur at least 2 weeks before a hard frost to allow migration of herbicide from the leaves to the roots. As such, treatments will be completed by mid-September. Casey has a verbal quote from Hamilton helicopter (subcontractor) to apply donated herbicide for $177/acre with a 150 acre minimum. The expected test plots for helicopter application within WLIB boundaries is

anticipated to add up to 60-100 acres. To reach the minimum, Casey will combine treatments within the WLIB boundary with work to be sponsored by Edenville Township on Sanford Lake. Terry Hall, Edenville Township Supervisor, shared that he has scheduled a township meeting for Weds Aug 31st at 10 AM at the Swanton Memorial Center on Water Road where he expects to finalize plans for treatment of Sanford lake bottoms within the township and approve PLM Lake and Land Management Corp to proceed with application.

Casey indicated that canal test plots cannot be treated by helicopter and instead will be treated by ground based 2 person crew on a 4 wheeler at a cost of $500-$600/acre including the cost of herbicide. In addition to costs for application there will also be fees for creating and mailing prenotifications of treatment to affected residents, publication in newspapers and radio, as well as postings around treatment areas on the day of treatment.

Terry Walters made a motion to allow PLM Lake and Land Management Corp to initiate and sign a contract with Hamilton Helicopter at a rate of $177/acre for subcontracting the application of herbicide on the lake bed by helicopter. If the herbicide is not donated, the motion also includes approval to purchase the necessary herbicide for the test plot application. The motion was seconded by Robert Kelly. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

The outline of contract with PLM Lake and Land Management Corp for prenotifications and postings for all test plots as well as execution of the ground based work necessary for application of herbicide in test plots in canals was verbally described by Casey with an estimated cost of approximately $10,000. With time being of the essence (mid-September deadline for treatments) approval to move forward is needed now. Larry Woodard made a motion to preapprove a contract with PLM for $10,000 + contingencies. The motion was seconded by Jeanette Snyder. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Board member Jeanette Snyder departed at 6:54 pm for another commitment.

A motion to accept and file the financial statement showing an account balance of $322,635.82 as of 7/26/2022 was made by Carol Ayers and seconded by Robert Kelley. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously with board members remaining.

Chairman Sova formally opened the meeting for public comment:

Ken Neske, Twin Lake Road. He has been mowing lake bottom. Can he continue? Answer: Please don't mow test plot areas until after assessment of effectiveness of treatments (Ok to resume mowing this winter). Test plots will not be positioned where there has already been extensive mowing. If area is not a test plot, it is OK to mow anytime.

Jerry S, W. Lakeshore Dr. Has done extensive mowing of lake bottom in the Edenville/Hope Township part of Wixom lake. Should he stop? Answer: If you get a prenotification in the mail or other property owners in the area where you are mowing get a notice, you should stop. Otherwise, you can continue. Between mid-September and this winter, if you see a posted treatment test plot area, don't mow it. Maps showing the test plot areas will be posted on the Gladwin and Midland County drain commission websites in about a week.

Monty Wiseman, Pine St in the Venice subdivision. How will it be determined if treatments in test plots are successful? Answer: Paul Hausler indicated that assessment of treatments will be done in mid-

October. Due to the experimental nature of the test plots some failure is expected. Regardless, the results will inform treatment plans for 2023.

Mary Blane. Wanted to make sure that she understood that only test plots would be treated this year. Answer: yes. Timeline for obtaining ANC and NPEDS permits coupled with uncertainty around logistics and herbicide selection/dosage made wholesale treatment infeasible in 2022. NPEDS permit (slowest to get) still in effect next year. ANC permit must be renewed but is relatively quick approval.

Motion to close public comment period was made by Terry Walters and seconded by Larry Woodard. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously with board members remaining.

Adjournment:
Motion to adjourn by Carol Ayers was seconded by Robert Kelly. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously with board members remaining. 7:07 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Drumright