Wixom Lake Improvement Board
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2022

Meeting called to order by Chairman, Joe Sova at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance, followed by board member roll call.

- Board Members Present: Joe Sova, Robert Kelley, Jeanette Snyder, Don Zackett, Karen Moore, Terry Walters
- Board Members Absent: Ray Drumright, Larry Woodard, Carol Ayers
- Others in Attendance: Norma Stuart from Midland County Drain Commission, Lucy Zeestraten from Gladwin County Drain Commission, Terry Walters – Billings Township Supervisor, Casey Shoaff from PLM, Paul Hausler from Progressive AE and approximately (5) members of the public.

Sova presented a website complaint form from Jim Grzegorczyk asking regarding about dredging canals before the return of the lake.

Walters made a motion to approve the August 23, 2022, minutes, seconded by Zackett.

Sova moved onto new business and presented an invoice from PLM in the amount of $10,600.00 for the helicopter spraying. Zackett moved to approve payment of the invoice, seconded by Robert Kelley.
Voice Vote - Motion carried.

Zackett made a motion to have the agenda approved at the beginning of the meeting. He would also like add under old business, to have Casey from PLM give an overview of the spray that was done. The second item would be for recommended overview of the areas sprayed during the winter.

Sova moved to also have the agenda updated to reflect the addition of the Four Lakes Task Force offer to provide financial support canal improvements. Seconded by Jeanette Snyder.
Voice vote - Motion carried

Sova provided the 2023 Professional Service Agreement (PSA) from Progressive AE. Zackett asked Paul Hausler (Progressive AE) to give an overview of the PSA. Hausler explained that the PSA will be more for 2023, due to more activity of spraying and cutting being performed. Zackett asked if it would be adjusted if all planned work is not done. Paul responded that they can use a T&M billing, which would bring the cost of the PSA to be reduced. Sova asked for a motion to approve the PSA, seconded by Zackett. After Hausler will amends the PSA to state that the T&M is not to exceed $34,000.00.
Voice vote - Motion carried.

Casey Shoaff (PLM) gave an overview of the helicopter spraying that took place on the test plots. He came back a couple of weeks after the spraying occurred, and everything had turned brown. Shoaff explained that we will have to apply for the yearly ANC permit, but the NPDES permit is good for 5 years and does not have to re-new at this time.

Zackett spoke about the use of two herbicides for the management of woody debris. Crossbow was not approved by EGLE to be used, but a Triclopyr based herbicide was.

Kelley asked if a root ball sample can be taken in to be tested. Jeff Venturelli asked if it was too early to take a sample in to be tested. Haulser and Zackett thinks it would be fine to have it tested at this time. Zackett also explained that the test areas that were treated were showing brown leaves 10 days after the application.

Hausler gave an overview of the helicopter spraying in September. He showed before and after photos of the areas treated. He explained that part of some canals were done. Stems looked to be brittle, but is not sure if it made it to the roots, but he thinks the application was successful. Zackett thinks the areas that were treated should be mowed this winter.

Karen Moore stated that the 2023 PLM PSA should be discussed as a multi-year contract. Hausler explained that you can extend the contract. Zackett thinks that either mowing and/or spraying will need to be done until the lakes come back. Zackett said that he thinks that the contract needs to be changed to reflect that PLM will look at adding other herbicides when applying for the ANC permit. Zackett made a motion to accept a multi-year contract at this time, seconded by Terry Walters.
Voice vote - Motion carried

A motion was made to preapprove the payment of $1,600.00 for the ANC permit and the Chairman to sign the PLM contract.
Voice vote - Motion carried

Sova spoke about the meeting with Doug Hill from the Wixom Lake Association (WLA), and they would like to piggyback on the quotes we get for mowing services. The WLA would manage the project, and the WLIB & WLA each would pay part of the cost. The intent of the WLA is to remove the vegetation from the beach and shoreline areas. Sova has asked Hill to attend a WLIB meeting and explain the path they want to move in. Maps will be made before we go out for bids.

Sova and Walters spoke with the Four Lakes Task Force regarding $9 million in EGLE funding available that cannot be used for the dam-related activities. The FLTF would like the funding to be used locally, so it doesn't go elsewhere in the State. Sova and Walters are putting together an inventory of canals to be prioritized for possible improvements. Karen Avery asked about the cattails and the sediment in her canal on Northern Trail in Beaverton.

The Financial Report was presented. The balance is $309,355.42. Snyder made a motion to accept and file the report. Zackett seconded the motion.
Voice vote – Motion carried.

There was no other public comment.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 6 pm at the Billings Township Hall.

Kelley made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Walters. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Sova Chairman