

*Lakes Committee - Town of Plum Lake*  
*July 19, 2023, 10:00 am*  
*Town of Plum Lake Recreation Building, Sayner WI*

Present: Cheryl Carper, Joe Heitz, Bob Jackson, Bob Munsen, Doug Pinney, Mike Stroh, Lynn Wiggins

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Bob Jackson, Chair.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 21, 2023 – Two typographical corrections were corrected. Upon a **motion** by Doug Pinney and seconded by Cheryl Carper the minutes of the June 21, 2023 meeting, as corrected, were unanimously approved.
2. Treasurer's Report – Doug reported on the Year to Date Project Analysis for 2023.
  - General – The Committee remains within budget for each of its projects.
  - CBCW – Subsequent to the July 11 publication of the Project Analysis, a check for \$3000 was received from the Plum Lake Association. Several other donations are in process.
  - I-LIDS –
    - o On July 6 a response was sent to Alan Writ, DNR Water Resource Specialist, outlining the deliverables he had requested for the I-LIDS Acquisition Grant. The requirement for at least 200 hours of in person monitoring at each of the three lake landings will be confirmed before the conclusion of the grant period on December 31, 2025.
    - o The Town is eligible for an additional grant of up to \$2,250 for I-LIDS monitoring during the remainder of the I-LIDS Acquisition Grant period ending on December 31, 2025. Doug drafted an amendment to the existing grant which is being submitted by the Town Chair, Jackey Postuchow.

Upon a **motion** by Joe Heitz and seconded by Mike Stroh, the Treasurer's report was unanimously accepted.

3. Vilas County Update

Phragmites – Cathy Higley sent a written report to the Committee prior to the meeting regarding the phragmites on Razorback Lake:

On June 30 Cathy and Steve Garske of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) manually removed roughly ten rhizomes of non-native phragmites from the DNR campground beach area of Razorback Lake. Unfortunately they found some rhizomes on the north side of the beach area where none had been observed before. The occurrence of non-native phragmites continues to be very sparse, has not been detected on the northern shore of the lake, and remains easily managed by repeated hand removal. Cathy and Steve plan to return in July, August and September to repeat manual removal of the phragmites and monitor occurrence.

4. Old Business

- A. Lake Management Plan –As noted last month Tim Hoyman, Ecologist with Onterra LLC, will attend the next Lakes Committee meeting on August 16.

## B. Status of 2023 Programs –

### i. BLIMS –

1. Maintenance – John Richter has visited the sites and confirmed that the audio and video on Lake Laura and Ballard Lake are functioning as expected.
2. Enforcement and Video Monitoring – Two potential violations, one on Ballard and one on Irving have been reported. The videos were reviewed by Joe Heitz, determined to be confirmed violations, and referred to the DNR warden for action.

Having the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh (UW-Osh) Clean Boats Clean Water interns do periodic reports of their experience and possible violations throughout the summer was discussed. Bob Jackson will speak with the UW-Osh intern coordinator about instituting this practice.

- ii. Little Star Remediation- Onterra LLC completed its field survey of Little Star on June 27. No large clusters of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) were identified; individual plants were found in the same areas as previously reported. The data has been referred to Aquatic Plant management which will perform hand harvesting in early August.

### iii. Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW)

#### 1. Monitoring Coverage

- a. Interns – Having the UW-Osh CBCW interns submit interim reports on their experience will be investigated as noted above.
- b. Paid Volunteers – The paid volunteers have not yet started coverage at the lake landing and will begin their coverage prior to the Muskie tournaments. There are currently three prospective paid volunteers who have or are completing CBCW training.
- c. Coverage - As above.

- iv. Small Lakes Program/North Lakeland Discovery Center- Jamie, the coordinator for the PI projects on Dorothy Dunn, Jean and Nineweb Lakes is currently on maternity leave. Bob Jackson will contact Jaime when she returns about the status of the PI project as well as the possibility of including Plum Lake and Star Lake in the Center's rusty cray fish project.

### v. Fish Sticks –

1. Plum Lake – no update, on schedule
2. Lake Laura – no update, on schedule
3. Star Lake – Jim Haberle, Eric Wegleitner and Cathy Higley will visit Star Lake on July 26 to determine possible sites for future Fish Sticks projects.

## C. Lake Sweeps for Aquatic Invasive Species –

- i. Plum Lake Sweep for Curly Leaf Pond Weed – Cheryl Carper reported that the Plum Lake Association member based sweep for Curly Leaf Pondweed on July 1 did not reveal any Curly Leaf.

- ii. Milfoil – Several days after the Sweep a concerned home owner identified a patch of suspicious looking Milfoil off his shore. Samples of the Milfoil were examined by John Richter and Vilas County and were inconclusive. Further examination by the State is pending.  
The type of remediation that may be needed if the plant samples are EWM and the location of the cluster of plants near the Lakewood Community access were discussed.
- iii. Other – The presence of spiny water flea and zebra mussels was briefly discussed as was the issue of lead poisoning of loons from lead sinkers.

5. New Business –

- A. Change of Meeting Time – To allow greater attendance, it was agreed to change the August meeting time to 9:00 am.
- B. Role of the Lakes Committee – The relationship of the Lakes Committee with other Town Committees, the Town Board and the Wisconsin DNR was discussed, particularly as these relationships relate to land use agreements.

6. Other New Business and Citizen Comments and Concerns - None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 am.

The next meeting of the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake will be held on Wednesday, August 16 at 9:00 am in the Town of Plum Lake Town Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Wiggins, Secretary

Approved 8.16.23