

## LMKP-LID Board of Director's Meeting

April 28, 2021, 3:00 P.M., Telephone Conference, Minutes ( approved)

### Agenda:

1. Board members present, Jim Nigg, Blair Anderson, David Dunning, Denny Davidson, Steve Nelson, Steve Kulik, Mark Plencner, Boone Caughey, Joe Esser.

Guests attending, Roger Neitzke, Bruce Wessman, Little Mac., Doc Kupferschmid, Paul Lake, Angela Willenbring, Kerbs Lake. Mike Kurkowski Northwest Services.

Guest comments: Bruce Wessman had presented the Board with a list of five questions and asked if the Board would consider discussing them. Mike Kurkowski of Northwest Services, our pump house maintenance person, was attending and explained the pumping procedures. At the present time the pumps are off due to an actuator valve malfunction and the program logic control component. Replacement parts and upgrades are on the way and the system will be up and running as quickly as possible. Mike also stated that he has to be careful with pump speed as high winds, like we have had on some days this spring, and when the lake turns over there are large amounts of sediment that are stirred up and cause the filter system stress. Usually a backwash happens about once every fifteen minutes. When there is a backwash once a minute it can be harmful to the entire pumping system. When this happens the pump operation is slowed down or Mike will turn them off.

Regarding the red and green lights on the exterior of the pump house. No lights showing means the pumps are off. A green light on indicates the pumps or one pump are operating. A red light states that a problem has surfaced. When this happens the red light goes on and Mike is notified with the program alarm system that a problem exists. Some of these he can deal with remotely and others he needs to arrive at the pump house. If a red light and green light are on it means that one pump or both could be running and something tripped an alarm. In the past it has been an inconsistent supply of electricity to the pumps. A few seconds of interrupted electricity can set the alarm and a red light. The pumps do resume operation after the slight delay of power resulting in the red and green lights being displayed. A surge protector installed last summer seems to have eliminated this fault.

Mike stated that he speaks often with Kevin Fellbaum of the Otter Tail County (OTC) Public Service Department regarding when the pumps can be turned on and off. OTC always takes lake level readings at twelve sites before and after pumping. Our agreement with the County and Department of Natural Resources require this. Reading levels are posted on the OTC web page under Public Works ditches. We cannot put water into the Otter Tail River watershed unless they have the ability to accept it. Pumping decisions are made by OTC Public Works.

Denny D. stated that there are two control structures between Paul and Little Mac. One is at the outlet on Paul Lake and the other at the culvert, (Rusch Lake side of Highway 34) before it enters into Little Mac. These structures will accept

plates that can be inserted to restrict water flow completely if needed. Denny also stated that it appears that having the control structures open is the best way for the system to function.

Mike was asked at what lake level should the pumps be started, + 1 inch, 2, 3 inches above ordinary high water (OHW). (after OHW is reached). Mike stated 3 inches may be better. Pumps can be run, one at a time, at a slower rate of pumping if needed, and Mike has used this process. Often better decisions can be made when reviewing current situations.

Regarding a question if the State hydrologist should be used to help manage lake levels it appears that we have adequate past ice-on, ice-off information to know the recharge levels during the winter. Decisions need to be made using present conditions, and past experience. The goal is to try and keep lake levels at or near DNR established OHW levels.

Doc. Kupferschmidt had noticed a newspaper article which gave some information on Paul Lake water conditions. The report was The Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy report and is available on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's website, [www.pca.state.mn.us/water/watersheds/otter-tail-river](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/watersheds/otter-tail-river). We will acquire a copy of the part that relates to Paul and Little McDonald Lakes.

#### OLD Business:

2. A motion was made by Steve K. with a second from Steve N. to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021 Board of Director's meeting. Motion carried 9-0.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

3. Treasurer's report, Dave D. presented a spreadsheet of year to date expenses, checkbook balances and reserve funds. Monthly recurring expenses and additional invoices were paid for a total of \$5,500.18. These expenses are: Arvig, \$92.47, LRLC \$3,540.83, Forum, \$29.88, Northwest Services, \$800.00, Ohnstad Twitchell, \$348., West Central Ag Air, \$20.00, Precision Locating, \$540, Otter Tail County, \$85.00. A motion was made by David D. to approve payment, with a second from Boone C. Motion to approve carried 9-0  
David also received a tax statement from Otter Tail County for the 67 feet of channel property. A document is being prepared for exemption from this statement.
4. Committee Reports:
  - a. Joint Committee, the revision of the Joint Agreement will be moved to the May Board of Director's meeting. Revision changes are taking place with YTD Treasurer's Report.
  - b. Outlet Operations, Denny D. stated all parts of his report were covered in the guest discussion of Operations questions.
  - c. By-Laws were reviewed with additional information requested from neighboring LID's. This will be completed at the May meeting.

