

Minutes
Hess Lake Improvement Board Regular Meeting
September 12, 2023
9:30 A.M.

Board Members Present: Bart Calvi, Dale Twing, Mark Slocum, Grant Bryan, Ken DeLaat
Board Members Absent:
Also Present: Mary Spicer, Nancy Calvi, Tony Groves, Steffani Clayton

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:34 A.M. by Calvi.
2. Approval of Agenda:
Motion by DeLaat, seconded by Bryan to approve the agenda with the following amendments. Old Business- Add harmful algae bloom and Aquatic plant update-survey. New Business- Remove Alum treatments and add Bluegill with fishing stocking (D) and Website. All ayes, motion carried.
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
Motion by Twing, seconded by Calvi to approve the following meeting minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

5/9/2023
7/11/2023
8/10/2023
4. Public Comment- 2 Minutes:
None
5. Treasurer's Report:
Motion by Twing, seconded by Calvi to accept the treasurer's report as presented. All ayes, motion carried.
6. Old Business:
 - A. Groves states Carp Solutions was approved. They are surgically implanting radio telemetry tags into the fish. They are also collecting 50 carp to remove the otolith to get the age of the carp. They will come back in November and December to see if they have aggregated. They will check again in the spring. Groves says we will need a way to dispose of the 50 carp, possibly the bed of a truck. Clayton mentions that people like to use dead carp for food plots, so maybe we can advertise on facebook and people will come take the carp.
 - B. Twing states we have been working on bank stabilization, but this will not improve water quality.
 - C. Short discussion on shoreline improvements. The board just wants to keep pushing it.
 - D. Calvi asks if we have heard anything after the public hearing. The board and Clayton answer that we have not heard anything. Twing states he may add

another sediment basin on a trouble spot on Wheeler. We recently cleaned the existing sediment basin on Wheeler. Twing mentions he can lower assessment amounts for Ag as incentive if they put effort into protecting the watershed.

- E. Groves states the Federal Government in trying to use satellite imagery to track harmful algae blooms instead of sending staff out on the water. The report is still a work in progress. Calvi says there were no harmful algae blooms this year.
- F. Buteyn provides the board with an aquatic plant control summary document. The blue areas indicate no plants, which is not good. There are quite a few areas with Lilly pads. Chara was found in the spring but got destroyed. Hopefully with improved water quality, the Chara will spread. Calvi mentions leaving some milfoil. Buteyn mentions that it is better to have some than none, but large dense mats are not good.

7. New Business:

- A. Use the max amount of \$80,500 for 2023 Assessments. Motion by Twing, seconded by DeLaat to approve the following meeting dates. All ayes, motion carried.

5/7/24- 9:30 A.M. at the Drain Office

7/16/24- 6:00 P.M. at Brooks Township Hall

9/17/24- 9:30 A.M. at the Drain Office

Later: Clayton received an email from Calvi stating that Brooks Township Hall is not available on 7/16/2023. The date was changed to 7/23/2023.

- B. Groves mentioned the channel barrier to the DNR and they think the channel cat are not a problem, but rather a good thing. Groves will discuss further with him. The barrier would be built right to the wall of Catalpa Road. They are trying to decide on a physical or electrical wall. There are advantages and disadvantages to both.
- C. Calvi added a quote to the meeting packet for Bluegill stocking. Motion by Calvi, seconded by Slocum to stock Bluegill in the spring for \$15,300.00. All ayes, motion approved. Calvi wants to hold off on fall stocking to see what happens with spring stocking. Calvi is hopeful the DNR will pay for some additional fish stocking as well. Twing adds a DNR email to the meeting packet.
- D. The board loves the website, especially the video. Mary Spicer will share the video on the lake association facebook page. Calvi wants approved meeting minutes put on the new website. Calvi asks for other various things to be added to the website. Updates to the website will typically be done in the fall.

8. Correspondence/Bills

Twing comments on the joint meeting with Hess and Brooks Lake. He would like to set it up like a Healthy Lakes Forum and get EGLE and DNR to come to the meeting, maybe even Dr. Jude, Tony Groves, and the Health Departments for septic systems.

9. Public Comment- 2 Minutes:

Nancy Calvi says it is exciting to go out with Rick and see the good plants on the lake.

10. Miscellaneous:

None

11. Adjournment

Motion by Calvi, seconded by Slocum to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 A.M. All ayes, motion carried.