

Round Lake Property Owners Assn.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Saturday – September 24, 2011

Location: Town of Round Lake City Hall

Member	Present	Not Present	Member	Present	Not Present
Bill Cadogan	■		Jim Purdin	■	
Jack Gardner	■		Al Reinemann	■	
Dan Kollodge	■		Bob Strachota	■	
Wally Narr	■		Frank Tyson		■
John Otterlei		■			

John Otterlie arrived after the meeting had started.

Pre-Meeting

- △ Call to order at 8:00 AM (Board members only)
- No meeting minutes from the previous telephone meeting. Bob, will try to put something together.
- Discussion, of new board members. Three new members to be nominated at this meeting.
- Discussion of milfoil money shortage.
- Discussion of water level issue.

Public Meeting

- Call to order at 9:00 AM.
- Spring meeting minutes: Spring 2011 - Motion for approval from Carl Scheider and seconded by Neol Estenson. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Financial Report – Bob Strachota

- Bob Strachota giving the report for John Otterlie. Of note, the milfoil expense of \$27,680. Negative Income of (\$11,291). Discussion of need for a plan for long term payment of milfoil fund.
- There was a question from a member about what are the intangible assets.
- The intangible assets are the documentation that Mr. Housman donated to the RLPOA pertaining to the engineering and discovery activities collected for his lawsuit with Sawyer County.

Water Level Update - Jim Purdin

- Water level spring of 2010: 1343.35 ft. Fall 2010: 1343.81 spring 2011: normal water level range. Average rainfall for the year. Current: 1344.72 as of Sept 23, 2011.
- December 2010 a new county task force was created to proactively address the water level issue, as agreed to in the TRO settlement.
- Task force has made a written recommendation and published to the public.
- RLPOA hired an engineering firm to peer review the engineering work done for the county.
- County received approval from the WDNR to abandon/fill in the channel for the Lake Placid dam.

Water Level Discussion – Jim Purdin

- Barr engineering measured flow rates in August., right after a major rainfall. Flow rate 2 Ft³/Sec at Carlson dam and 0.5 Ft³/Sec at the NN culverts.
- Beaver dams have become the controlling mechanism for water exiting Round Lake watershed.
- BARR engineering reviewed the work done for the county by SEH, on which the county's recommendation was based. Barr agreed that the models that were created were reasonable and the work was not flawed.
- The opinion of Jim Purdin is that the natural obstructions (beaver/debris dam in Osprey Creek) provide a low water control at about the right level in relation to the 1941 Order. However, Jim feels these structures are not reliable and could erode or wash out over time, but he believes that the risk of that happening is low unless there is a catastrophic event.
- Bob S. stated that that board's desire is to have a permanent structure that would control the water level and not rely on nature to control the water level of Round Lake. Bob, asked the membership to voice any opinions for or against the desire. No comments were voiced.
- Gary Ellis: Stated "In the past that the county has opened up the channel". (opinion)
- Al: Related to county being released from liability. Talked about the weir idea. Went to the water and soil committee and discussed the weir idea in front of the box culvert. The leadership was somewhat supportive of weir idea.
- Drawing of box culvert with weir was placed on the chalkboard and a discussion of the design and its impact on water level.

Dam Ownership Discussion – Bill Codagan

- Round Lake taxing district would be required by the DNR in order for the county to transfer ownership of the dam to RLPOA. This is to ensure that RLPOA will have the resources necessary for maintenance, repair and future replacement of the dam. As has been discussed at previous meetings, a taxing district is something we may also want to consider to ensure that RLPOA has the resources required to manage the ongoing milfoil problem. Assn. needs a more permanent solution.

- Establishment of a taxing district. Sawyer county can legally establish a taxing district. In order to establish a taxing district, a majority of the landowners must sign a petition to approve it.
- If approved, then the county has a 3 month study period, then a 2 month period to solicit and review public comments.
- Need a special board to manage a taxing district. 3 land owners in the district, 1 county board member, possible 1 member at large.
- Would need to have two public meetings per year.

Issues:

- 33 taxing districts within the state of WI now.
- Tax collection. The county would not have to collect the taxes for us.
- Delinquent tax payments by property owners are a potential problem.
- Need a yearly independent audit of the taxing district finances.
- Bill surveyed some of the taxing districts in Wisconsin and learned from them that, typically, they felt that establishing and maintaining a taxing district is much more work than they anticipated, but they also believe that the benefits outweigh the negatives.

Comments from the floor:

- ⤴ Jim Crowen: Is this an additional tax to regular property taxes? Answer: Yes.
- ⤴ Carl Scheider: How are people named to the board? Nomination of members and vote.
- ⤴ Sue Seleski: If we take over responsibility, does that open the RLPOA to law suits?
- ⤴ Loel Blitz: Establishing a (common property) homeowners association is a good analogy.
- ⤴ Al Rienemann: Suggested the need for an insurance policy for liability to protect the assn.
- ⤴ Bill Cadogan: Need a legal review before any type of petition.
- ⤴ Jack (past officer) It is bad idea to take on the liability. If the county can't handle the liability how can RLPOA accept it?
- ⤴ Don Suslarski: Who would control the disbursement of the collected fees? The taxing district board has control over the disbursements.
- ⤴ Sue Kitzinger: How does it work with the three townships have jurisdiction for collecting the money? How is the money collected? The county can be contracted to collect the money. (est \$20,000 to 30,000/year) RLPOA is ultimately responsible to collect the funds.

Milfoil Report – Dan Kollodge

- Discussed treatment activities for 2011. 20 acres of milfoil treated at a cost of \$22,566.

Water Safety – Jack Gardner

- Buoys were placed in the lake on Memorial Day weekend. They are coming out this week.
- \$175 fine for 3 boats this week for failure to maintain slow/no wake speeds within 100 feet from the shore.
- Other no wake regulations: 100 feet from swimmers, diving platform, docks, 200 ft. from shore for personal water craft.
- WDNR – will start enforcing in greater next year

Membership Report – Wally Narr

- 310 renewals / current members.
- Newsletter coming out in a few weeks, expect an influx of 50 to 60 members.

Fish Committee – Al Rienemann

- Sawyer county bass association tournament: 53 bass caught (150+ pounds total weight) and released.
- Goose control suggestion.
- Contribute \$500 to LCO tribe for reestablishment of wild rice.
- Motion: Propose that \$500 be donated to the reservation.
- Jack Gardner first; Second: Carl Scheider. Motion was approved by voice vote. All approved.

Nomination of new members to the board

- Bob Sosnowski was nominated by Wally Narr.
- Tom Wolf was nominated by Jim Purdin.
- Tom Kintzinger nominated by Sue Kintzinger.

Vote by the association membership present at the meeting. The three board nominees were voted to the board by unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

- Approximately 11:00 AM