

Colon Township Lake Board Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2025

Colon Township Hall, Colon, MI

1. Call to Order: Chairman Borgert called meeting to order at 10:10 AM
Motion by J. Wenzel & second by T. Tenney to approve agenda. All yes, Motion Carried.
2. Roll Call Board Members Present: Borgert, Bell, Conklin, Crawford, Tenney, Wenzel. Absent: None
3. Roll Call Advisory Committee Members Present: Bell, Borgert, Camper, Crawford, Gentz, Tenney.
Absent: Charles, Costello, Schneider, Taylor
4. Motion by E. Bell & second by T. Conklin to approve minutes of September 14, 2024 meeting. All yes, Motion carried.
5. J. Crawford was nominated to hold Secretary position and he accepted. Motion by J. Wenzel & second by T. Tenney to accept J. Crawford as secretary. All yes, Motion carried.
J. Borgert was nominated to hold the Chair position and he accepted. Motion by J. Wenzel & second by T. Conklin to accept J. Borgert as chair. All yes, Motion carried.
6. J. Crawford read account balances as of 3/31/25. Checking has a balance of \$4,240.58. CD has a balance of \$326,595.18. Money market has a balance of \$67,495.70. Motion by J. Wenzel & second by T. Conklin to accept the financial report ledger as presented. All yes, Motion carried.

CHECKING

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
08/30/2024	Beginning Balance			\$ 109.15
09/19/2024	Transfer from M.M.		\$ 598.00	\$ 707.15
10/04/2024	P.O. Box	\$ 58.00		\$ 649.15
10/04/2024	City of Three Rivers	\$ 540.00		\$ 109.15
10/07/2024	Transfer from M.M.		\$ 20,148.25	\$ 20,257.40
10/16/2024	Progressive Companies	\$ 12,000.00		\$ 8,257.40
10/16/2024	PLM	\$ 3,495.75		\$ 4,761.65
10/22/2024	City of Three Rivers	\$ 540.00		\$ 4,221.65
10/31/2024	interest		\$ 0.69	\$ 4,222.34
11/12/2024	Transfer from M.M.		\$ 540.00	\$ 4,762.34
11/19/2024	City of Three Rivers	\$ 540.00		\$ 4,222.34
11/29/2024	interest		\$ 0.35	\$ 4,222.69
12/05/2024	Transfer from M.M.		\$ 1,080.00	\$ 5,302.69
12/05/2024	transfer to M.M.	\$ 540.00		\$ 4,762.69
12/18/2024	City of Three Rivers	\$ 540.00		\$ 4,222.69

10/07/2024	Transfer to checking	\$ 20,148.25	\$ 4,042.82
10/31/2024	Interest	\$ 6.75	\$ 4,049.57
11/12/2024	Transfer to checking	\$ 540.00	\$ 3,509.57
11/29/2024	Interest	\$ 2.95	\$ 3,512.52
12/05/2024	transfer from checking	\$ 540.00	\$ 4,052.52
12/05/2024	transfer to checking	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 2,972.52
12/31/2024	Interest	\$ 2.68	\$ 2,975.20
01/07/2025	Assessment Receipts	\$ 22,792.47	\$ 25,767.67
01/09/2025	Transfer to checking	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 22,767.67
01/16/2025	Assessment Receipts	\$ 9,225.00	\$ 31,992.67
01/31/2025	Interest	\$ 20.29	\$ 32,012.96
02/06/2025	Assessment Receipts	\$ 7,507.53	\$ 39,520.49
02/13/2025	Assessment Receipts	\$ 3,950.00	\$ 43,470.49
02/28/2025	Interest	\$ 77.55	\$ 43,548.04
03/06/2025	Assessment Receipts	\$ 21,940.79	\$ 65,488.83
03/20/2025	Assessment Receipts	\$ 1,873.79	\$ 67,362.62
03/31/2025	Interest	\$ 133.08	\$ 67,495.70
03/31/2025	Ending Balance		\$ 67,495.70

7. Old Business

- a) The DNR supplied 888 6" walleye for stocking in Long Lake in October 2024. Laggis Fish Farms was not able to supply the 675 walleye ordered by the lake board. Laggis fish Farms will deliver the walleye to Long Lake in the fall of 2025.
- b) The DNR is still compiling the fish survey results from the spring of 2024. Until the final report is issued they are recommending 1 walleye per acre for stocking in 2025 in addition to the 4 walleye per acre the DNR stocks. Motion by J. Crawford & second by J. Wenzel to contract with Laggis Fish Farms for 450 walleye to be stocked in Palmer Lake in the fall of 2025. All yes, motion carried.
- c) Andy from PLM reviewed the phycomycin treatment results on Long Lake from 2024 at the advisory meeting. Andy reported that the data showed improvement after each treatment with a reduction from 200,000 ppm algae count to 100,000 ppm algae count after the first treatment and from 100,000 ppm to 65,000 ppm after the second treatment. While the data suggests a successful treatment, the algal count remained high and the improvement in water clarity was only about half a foot. Andy was not able to predict any results for future treatments but thought the lake might see more improvement in water clarity if the treatments were started earlier in the year. The recommendation for phycomycin treatments in 2025, if approved by EGLE and the lake board, would be to monitor the algal count starting in May 2025 and begin treatments when the algal count reaches 20,000 ppm. Treatments would be in the same areas of Long Lake as treated last year. Andy has applied for the permits, but EGLE has not responded to the request yet. Andy anticipated having a decision by EGLE by the May 2025 meeting. The approximate cost for each treatment is \$27,500.00, plus \$1,400.00 for monitoring and \$600.00 for sampling. There was discussion about the

water clarity improvement. J. Borgert reported that there was about ½ a foot of clarity improvement after the treatments and that clarity continued down to the bridge after a couple of days. J. Crawford reported some positive statements from a couple of riparian's on Long Lake about the treatment and water clarity improvement. Motion by T. Tenney & second by J. Crawford to approve phycomycin treatments on Long Lake when the algal count is greater than 20,000 ppm in 2025, if permit is approved by EGLE. E. Bell, J. Borgert, J. Crawford, T. Conklin, T. Tenney voted yes. J. Wenzel voted no. Motion carried.

- d) J. Borgert reported that the lily pad treatment for access in the channel appears to have worked at this point. The lily pads have not started growing yet, but the access channels appear to be open.

8. New Business

- a) Paul from Progressive Companies discussed the watershed management study done from November 2023 through September 2024 at the advisory meeting, and the final report will be compiled and completed by the June meeting. Paul said the report is complete, but they are waiting for information about grants that might be available before they present their final report and recommendations. Paul gave an executive summary of the project and noted a few improvements that could be made regarding buffer strips along Big and Little Swan Creeks and returning the creeks to a more natural contour. Overall, Paul felt the watershed was in better condition than anticipated. Given the results of the study Paul felt the algal issues present in Long and Palmer Lakes are most likely an internal issue that is made worse by the nutrient loading from Big and Little Swan Creeks. Phosphorous levels seemed to be about natural values, but Nitrogen exceeded natural values and could be aided using best management practices (bmp) along the contributing creeks. There was no obvious reason for the elevated e. coli levels in Big or Little Swan Creek.
The Matteson Lake Association made a presentation at the advisory meeting. L. Lemke reported that the planning grant for the watershed area of Matteson Lake and Swan Creek North of the lake was rejected. EGLE is requesting an audit of their association be completed before further consideration. Currently an audit is not financially possible for their association.
- b) Discussion was had about the annual newsletter. J. Crawford reported that he and T. Taylor are working on the newsletter and will have a draft for review in the coming weeks. J. Borgert asked if we could include information about the potential phycomycin treatment on Long Lake along with the cost. There were no other recommendations for inclusion. J. Crawford asked the board to reply with any recommendations/approval once the newsletter is emailed out.
- c) The annual budget was discussed. There was discussion about increasing the budget for contracted services, but it was determined that we can make an adjustment to that line item if needed after a decision is made about the phycomycin treatment. It was determined that no action was required at this time as we are going to use the same budget as 2024.
- d) J. Borgert asked the board to start thinking about the assessment renewal for next year. Discussion was had about the assessment amount but that issued was tabled while we wait for approval/results of any phycomycin treatment on Long Lake. J. Wenzel reported that the district needs to be assessed at the maximum amount that could be collected and said the board can always assess a lower amount in any year. J. Wenzel also suggested getting assistance from Progressive Companies as we move through the assessment process. J. Borgert told the board that part of the contracted services with Progressive Companies is assisting the board with the assessment renewal.
- e) J. Borgert will not be at the May 2025 meeting and asked for a volunteer to chair that meeting. T. Tenney volunteered to chair the May 2025 meeting and asked J. Borgert to provide an agenda and any relevant information for the meeting prior to the meeting.

- f) The e. coli results from October 2024 were read by T. Tenney. It was noted that all samples taken in Palmer Lake are in the safe to swim range. Big & Little Swan Creeks continue to have many areas that are in the not safe to swim range. Results from the testing are available on our website.
There was some discussion about changing our e. coli sampling to include taking samples on both banks and the middle of Little Swan Creek at 2 or 3 locations for 5 consecutive weeks next year. This information could be presented to EGLE with the idea of getting another impairment established for Little Swan Creek. The current testing is good for identifying problem areas and for notifying the public about e. coli levels but is not statistically valid for establishing an impairment. It was decided that the board will continue to take e. coli samples monthly in the same manner as last year, increasing the frequency if any elevated readings are found in Long or Palmer Lakes.
- g) P. Camper reported seeing otters in Long Lake this spring. R. Getz thought the board should continue with the phycomycin treatment in Long Lake if there is a chance it will improve the water clarity.
- h) 2025 lake board meetings are scheduled for May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, and September 13. All meetings are scheduled to be held at the Colon Township Hall at 10:00 a.m. Public welcome.
- i) Motion by J. Crawford & second by T. Tenney, to adjourn at 11:18. All yes, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Crawford
Colon Lake Board Secretary