

Colon Township Lake Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2024
Colon Township Hall, Colon, MI

1. Call to order by acting chair Crawford at 9:00 AM
2. Roll call members present: Bell, Borgert, Camper, Charles, Crawford, Tenney
Absent: Costello, Schneitter, Taylor, Newman, Gentz
3. Motion by Tenney, second by Bell to approve minutes of September 9, 2023. All yes, motion carried.
4. Crawford nominated Taylor to be committee chairman. No other nominations were received. Motion by Borgert, second by Tenney to approve Taylor as committee chairman. All yes, motion carried.
5. No report on fishing. There was a dead beaver that washed up on shore.
6. No Secchi readings taken yet this year. Borgert stated Long Lake had about 5 to 6 feet of clarity by observation from shore about three weeks ago. The recent rain has reduced that clarity significantly. Bell thinks Palmer Lake clarity is closer to 18 inches based on his observations.
 - a. Crawford reported the water temperature was 46 degrees on 4/6.
 - b. There was no report about stump or log issues. Crawford noted that the stump markers that are usually in the channel going towards the bridge from Palmer Lake are not in place.
 - c. Tenney read the E-Coli results from the October samples. There were high/unsafe readings in Little Swan Creek, but the levels in Palmer Lake remain at safe levels. Luke from Progressive Companies reported a high reading at site 9 during his survey but said all other sites were much lower. It was noted that samples taken from late fall through spring are expected to be lower.
 - d. Luke from Progressive Companies reviewed the results of his water sampling project on Big Swan Creek and Little Swan Creek. Two high flow samples and two low flow samples have been completed so far. Luke is expected to complete two more high flow samples and two more low flow samples. Luke said he does not see any definitive results based on the samples done to date. Luke expects the Phosphorus levels will increase in the summer samples. Nitrogen was moderate but does not have much effect on algal growth. Luke expects lake surveys to be completed on May 23rd and July 10th.
 - e. Larry Lemke and Wilson Raye from the Matteson Lake Association reviewed their progress in applying for grants to study Swan Creek upstream from Matteson Lake. They have an application in place for a \$28,000.00 grant to help cover the costs of the study and hope to hear back by the end of May.

Borgert expressed an interest in working with the Matteson Lake Association to get a watershed management plan to cover all Big Swan Creek and Little Swan Creek, including the attached lakes. Larry said he is looking for our board to help with the studies of Big and Little Swan Creeks between Matteson Lake and Long/Palmer Lakes. After much discussion everyone agreed that we need to work together and include Progressive Companies in our efforts, so we do not duplicate work.

- f. Andy from PLM reported that water samples from last year show similar amounts of Phosphorous and Nitrogen in the water column when compared to historical data. Andy reiterated that copper products are very restricted by EGLE and are not an option for treating an entire lake for algae. Andy said the application for treating Long Lake with Phycomycin is moving through EGLE and it looks like that permit may be issued. There may need to be some changes to the monitoring portion of the application to include additional tests for zooplankton. If permits are issued, treatments could begin as soon as algae counts reach the threshold outlined in the permit. Treatments could be done up to six times during the year. The treatment permits for Palmer and Lepley Lakes have been issued. Andy is working on the treatment notice that will be mailed out in the coming weeks. Andy said he would get Borgert's approval on the language before the notices are mailed.
 - g. No public comments
7. Motion by Bell, second by Tenney to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 AM. All yes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Crawford
Acting Chairman