

Colon Township Lake Board Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2023

Colon Township Hall, Colon, MI

1. Call to Order: Chairman Borgert called meeting to order at 10:08 AM
Approval of agenda Tenney/Wenzel, all yes
2. Roll Call Board Members Present: Borgert, Bell, Conklin, Crawford, Tenney, Wenzel. Absent: None
3. Roll Call Advisory Committee Members Present: Bell, Borgert, Camper, Charles, Crawford, Gentz, Schneider, Tenney. Absent: Costello, Newman, Taylor.
4. Motion to approve minutes of August 12, 2023 meeting by Wenzel/Tenney, all yes
5. Financial Report.

CHECKING

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
07/31/2023	Beginning Balance			\$ 5,577.74
08/15/2023	Transfer from money market		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 12,577.74
08/22/2023	City of Three Rivers	\$ 735.00		\$ 11,842.74
08/18/2023	Progressive AE	\$ 3,000.00		\$ 8,842.74
08/18/2023	PLM weed treatment 7/31	\$ 4,860.00		\$ 3,982.74
08/31/2023	Interest		\$ 0.48	\$ 3,983.22
08/31/2023	Ending Balance			\$ 3,983.22

BILLS SUBMITTED TO BE PAID

09/09/2023	City of Three Rivers E.Coli sample testing (22 samples)		\$ 990.00
09/09/2023	Post Office Box for 1 year		\$ 56.00
BILLS TO BE PAID:			\$ 1,046.00

CD

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
07/31/2023	Beginning Balance			\$ 300,000.00
				\$ 300,000.00
08/31/2023	Ending Balance			\$ 300,000.00

Anticipated interest to be paid 9/14 \$3,712.77

MONEY
MARKET

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
07/31/2023	Beginning Balance			\$ 50,128.85
08/15/2023	Transfer to checking	\$ 7,000.00		\$ 43,128.85
08/31/2023	Interest		\$ 78.63	\$ 43,207.48
08/31/2023	Ending Balance			\$ 43,207.48

Crawford noted the CD interest of \$3,147.78 is accrued through 8/31/23 but not paid. Interest accrues daily but is only paid quarterly. Interest will be paid next on 9/14/23.

The township treasurer transferred \$7,000.00 in August to cover the approved bills to be paid which was more than the board authorized.

Motion to approve the 8/31/23 financials. Crawford/Bell, all yes

6. Old Business

- a) The scope of work from Ecosystems was reviewed by Progressive AE. PLM did not provide any information regarding the scope of work. Progressive AE provided scope of work/contract for completing a similar study to Ecosystems that could be used for application for a watershed/lake management plan and grants. Wenzel stated we could try to work with the conservation district to do some of our sampling. Crawford reviewed the scope of work from both Ecosystems and Progressive AE. It was noted that Ecosystems does not have any projects in the State of Michigan as far as the board is aware. Both companies would collect data and help the board apply for a watershed management plan as well as any available grants. Borgert stated he believes the proposal from Progressive AE would be adequate for applying for grants and a watershed management plan because they have experience working with EGLE. In conversations with Borgert, Progressive AE noted the wetlands in the watershed could be a benefit when applying for grants and a watershed management plan. Wenzel thought the Progressive AE proposal was a good option moving forward. Some discussion was held about the long-term goals of the lake board in improving water quality. The board felt the long-term goal of a watershed management plan was the right way to proceed.

Motion to accept the proposal from Progressive AE for monitoring Big Swan Creek and Little Swan Creek during 2023 and 2024 for the pursuit of grants and a watershed management plan by Tenney/Wenzel, all yes

The Matteson Lake Association application for a watershed management plan grant was denied again, but they continue to look for options.

- b) After reviewing the SeScript results, SePro recommends treating Long Lake with Phycomycin in June 2024 to remove the Limnothrix algae that is predominant in both Long and Palmer Lakes. SePro said Phycomycin is effective on this type of algae and does not have much effect on zooplankton or rotifers at the proper dosing levels. SePro provided a couple of studies and answers to our questions from the August meeting. The studies and answers support SePro's position that this type of treatment should be effective. PLM submitted a proposal of \$60,500.00 to treat Long Lake. The cost would be adjusted at the time of treatment based on the amount of Phycomycin used. The dosing rate will be calculated at the time of treatment based on the amount of algae present prior to the treatment. It is possible that follow-up treatments would be required. Long Lake was chosen for treatment because it is the smaller of

the two lakes and will cost less. PLM was not at the meeting to give any feedback. It was decided to schedule a special meeting in September or October with PLM to discuss their opinion about the treatment and the possibility of getting the treatment permitted. Motion to table decision about a Phycomycin treatment to a special meeting date in September or October that is attended by PLM by Crawford/Bell, all yes

7. New Business

- a) Tenney reviewed the E-coli readings from 8/23 at the advisory committee meeting. Levels in the creeks remain high, but the readings in Palmer Lake are in acceptable ranges. Two additional tests to be done on or about 9/13 and 10/9.
- b) Luke from Progressive AE reviewed the sampling results done in 2023 at the advisory meeting. This is a summary of that presentation. The May and July surveys revealed the need to treat limited acres on Long Lake, Palmer Lake, and the connecting channel for E. Milfoil and curly leaf pondweed. The surveys revealed low plant density, but low water prevented access to some near shore areas. The phosphorus and chlorophyll levels were both down from last year, but clarity was slightly worse with a decline of about 6 inches from 2022 to 2023. Luke did note there was a rain event just prior to the sampling which may have reduced clarity. There were about 13 or 14 species of plants found with several new pond weeds present and no new invasive species. Luke described the method for collecting samples and noted most weeds were present in 5 foot of water or less. There are some similarities between Long and Palmer Lakes and Lake Templane. Luke believes the proposal from Paul at Progressive AE would be adequate to seek grants/water management plan approvals. Luke said he did not have any experience with Phycomycin. Charles asked if we needed to monitor both inlets and outlets if we decide to move forward with the Progressive AE testing next year. Luke did not believe testing the outflow would be necessary because the water coming in remains in the lakes long enough for the algae/macrophytes to use up the nutrients. It is believed that removing some algae from the lakes would allow sunlight to reach the rooted plants, allowing them to grow back from the existing seed bed. The plants would then compete with the algae for the nutrients and help restore some of water clarity.
- c) The Matteson Lake Association was turned down, again, for their watershed management plan grant. Lemke, from the Matteson Lake Association, reported that a few dogs have become sick after drinking lake water.
- d) PLM will be on the lakes on 9/11 to retreat Lilly Pads on both sides of the long dock North of the Decker Road bridge at no cost. PLM also intends to treat the navigation lanes in the channel as the Lilly Pads have started to encroach.
- e) Discussion was had about transferring money between the money market and checking account as bills are paid or assessments are collected. Borgert spoke with the township treasurer and was told we must keep at least \$100.00 in the checking account to avoid fees. It was decided to allow the township treasurer to monitor the accounts and transfer money as needed while trying to keep the checking account balance close to \$100.00. Borgert will continue drop off bills each month for payment as usual. Crawford will email township treasurer about transferring money between accounts. Borgert will be included in the email.
- f) The advisory committee made a recommendation that Borgert be allowed to pay bills over the winter up to \$20,000.00.
Motion made to accept the advisory committee recommendation for Borgert to pay bills up to \$20,000.00 by Crawford/Bell, all yes
- g) Walleye will be stocked in Long Lake by DNR at 4 per acre and by lake board at 1 per acre in October. The cost of about \$2,097.00 was previously approved by the lake board. The DNR plans to do a fish study using fyke nets just after ice is out in 2024. The study is mostly to track the walleye population. Some other fish will be documented as well.

- h) Borgert will contact Ecosystems to let them know the lake board is moving in a different direction and will not be seeking their services.
- i) No public comments.
- j) 2024 Lake board meetings scheduled for 4/13, 5/11, 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, and 9/14. All meetings are scheduled to be held at the Colon Township Hall at 10:00 a.m. Public welcome.
- k) Motion to adjourn at 11:29 by Bell/Crawford, all yes

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Crawford
Colon Lake Board Secretary