

Colon Township Lake Board Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2023

Colon Township Hall, Colon, MI

1. Call to Order: Chairman Borgert called meeting to order at 10:08 AM
Approval of agenda adding buoy replacement to new business by Tenney/Bell, all yes
2. Roll Call Board Members Present: Borgert, Bell, Crawford, Tenney. Absent: Conklin, Wenzel
3. Roll Call Advisory Committee Members Present: Bell, Borgert, Camper, Charles, Crawford, Gentz, Schneider, Taylor, Tenney. Absent: Costello, M. Justin, R. Justin, Newman.
4. Motion to approve minutes of May 13, 2023 meeting changing the ending balance date in the financial report from 3/31/23 to 4/31/23. Tenney/Crawford, all yes
5. Borgert stated there was a clerical error in reporting interest in March. \$244.50 was reported in the minutes but the actual amount was \$224.50. Crawford stated the ending balance and starting balance were accurate. The interest amount was recorded wrong but the balances used were from the bank statement and were accurate.
6. Financial Report.

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
04/28/2023	Beginning Balance			\$ 354,198.89
05/19/2023	Progressive A/E	\$ 3,000.00		\$ 351,198.89
05/31/2023	Interest		\$ 239.37	\$ 351,438.26
05/31/2023	Ending Balance			\$ 351,438.26

BILLS SUBMITTED TO BE PAID

04/20/2023	Jim Crawford Newsletter Paid but check has not cleared	\$	358.54
06/10/2023	City of Three Rivers E.coli sample testing (10 samples)	\$	350.00
BILLS TO BE PAID:			\$ 708.54

Motion to approve the 5/31/23 financials. Bell/Tenney, all yes

7. Old Business
 - a) Borgert connected with K. Boone, Ecosystems Connections, regarding his scope of work proposal. K. Boone wants to come back to the board and present a couple of different options regarding his company's water sampling abilities. K. Boone also said they prefer a 3-year contract but would entertain a different term. Borgert/Bell commented that we have, over the years, completed/obtained vast testing and research. Bell stated he does not want to mislead K. Boone about our plans to use his company for testing. Crawford thought it was prudent to get the scope of work from K. Boone and then discuss with Progressive A/E. Camper asked what we would do with information from the testing by K. Boone. Crawford stated our goal to

use the data collected to work with the Matteson Lake Association to develop a watershed management plan. Borgert said there was a watershed management plan on Big Swan Creek 30 to 35 years ago. A management plan gives some level of enforcement, but riparian owners cannot be forced to participate.

- b) There was a lot of discussion at the advisory committee meeting regarding investing our reserve funds.

There was a recommendation from the advisory committee that J. Crawford & T. Taylor be allowed to represent the lake board in financial discussions with financial institutions. If Crawford or Taylor are not able to hold discussions with the financial institutions, any member of the lake board can hold discussions in their place.

Motion to accept the advisory committee recommendation for J. Crawford & T. Taylor to represent the lake board in financial discussions with financial institutions. If Crawford or Taylor are not able to hold discussions with the financial institutions, any member of the lake board can hold discussions in their place. By Crawford/Bell, all yes

There was a recommendation from the advisory committee that the lake board open a 12-month CD with Sturgis Bank at 5.00% for \$300,000.00 before June 16, 2023. The CD will have a one-time early withdrawal waiver per email from the bank. In addition, the lake board is to open a money market at Sturgis Bank with an APY of 2.00% guaranteed for 12 months covering the same term as the CD for \$50,000.00. Signers on both accounts will be the same as the lake board's current checking account with Sturgis Bank. The lake board then authorizes the Colon Township Treasurer's office, or its designee, to transfer funds from the lake board's money market account, at Sturgis Bank, to the lake board's checking account, at Sturgis Bank, in an amount equal to the approved total bills to be paid at each lake board meeting. Approved bills will then be paid out of the lake board's checking account by the Colon Township Treasurer.

Motion to accept the advisory committee recommendation that the lake board open a 12-month CD with Sturgis Bank at 5.00% for \$300,000.00 before June 16, 2023. The CD will have a one-time early withdrawal waiver per email from the bank. In addition, the lake board is to open a money market at Sturgis Bank with an APY of 2.00% guaranteed for 12 months covering the same term as the CD for \$50,000.00. Signers on both accounts will be the same as the lake board's current checking account with Sturgis Bank. The lake board then authorizes the Colon Township Treasurer's office, or its designee, to transfer funds from the lake board's money market account, at Sturgis Bank, to the lake board's checking account, at Sturgis Bank, in an amount equal to the approved total bills to be paid at each lake board meeting. Approved bills will then be paid out of the lake board's checking account by the Colon Township Treasurer by Tenney/Crawford, all yes

8. New Business

- a) Discussion was had about removing/replacing damaged buoys and replacing stickers on buoys that are worn. The buoys are in place as a reminder to boaters about the no wake zone and are not required by the DNR. One buoy that is half sunk between the end of Shoreland Manor and D. Schneider's house needs to be removed as it could be a boating hazard. Crawford & Taylor agreed to work on removing the buoy. Borgert wanted more research done on whether old stickers can be removed/replaced. Bell said his experience is that removing stickers on plastic is very difficult. No action was taken on replacing any buoys.
- b) E.coli results were given by Tenney. The levels in the lake were in the safe to swim range, but almost every level in Little Swan Creek was in the unsafe to swim range. Discussion was had about increasing testing because of the elevated levels. Tenney suggested we increase testing at all locations in hopes the data will be valuable in our efforts to get a watershed management plan. There was a recommendation from the advisory committee that the lake board increase testing to twice a month.

Motion that the lake board (Bell/Borgert/Tenney) increase testing to twice per month by Tenney/Bell, all yes

Public question about the lake board's work to control the E.coli levels. It was explained that the high levels are not in the lake. Furthermore, the lake board provides testing for public knowledge. There is nothing the lake board can do other than inform the public about the E.coli levels. The county, state, and DNR/EGLE are not testing but we provide the information for their review. Borgert stated that there appears to be a loading factor between Haglegans Road and Decker Road Bridge. Tenney asked about testing frequency in Matteson Lake by the Matteson Lake Association. Tenney also wanted to know if their testing results would be available to us. Borgert said he does not think Matteson Lake Association tests monthly and thought any test results could be available.

- c) Progressive A/E did the vegetation survey the week of June 1st. Progressive A/E recommended treating 4.5 acres for E. Milfoil and Curly Leaf Pond Weed. 1 acre of treatment on Palmer Lake in front of Tenney's house and 3.5 acres on Long Lake near Lepley Lake outlet and North end of lake near Decker Road bridge. PLM did treatment on 6/7. PLM did not check the mouth of the channel or drain on the East side of Palmer Lake when they did the treatment, but they will check those areas the week of 6/12.
- d) PLM to do SeScript water sampling the week of 6/12.
- e) The Colon rescue squad has a new boat for water emergencies and are looking to add a side imaging sonar to the boat. The lake board helped St. Joseph County with a similar request several years ago. Borgert told the rescue squad to gather information and come to a board meeting to describe the cost and need for the device so the board could evaluate any request for money.
- f) Public question about marking stumps in Palmer Lake near Palmer Point. Schneitter stated that stumps marked in the past have had the markers removed. Bell stated that the DNR does not want the stumps marked. Borgert stated that the stumps have been in the lakes since the dam was built. Taylor said stumps don't pose too much of an issue to boats on plane or to pontoons.
Another question about a dock at the DNR access. Borgert stated the last survey showed most respondents did not want a dock at the access. Crawford told the board the vote was not even close with far more people voting no than yes. Borgert said another survey will be done in the coming years to see if there is more interest now. It was also noted that the lake board does not have input regarding docks at DNR access.
A very short comment from the public about not spraying the lake for weeds at all.
- g) 2023 lake board meetings scheduled for 7/8, 8/12, 9/9. All meetings are scheduled to be held at the Colon Township Hall at 10:00 a.m. Public welcome.
- h) Motion to adjourn at 11:11 by Tenney/Bell, all yes

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Crawford
Colon Lake Board Secretary