

# Beach-Chair News

- August 2012 -

Annual Publication brought to you by:  
Marinette County Land & Water Conservation,  
Marinette County Association of Lakes and Streams,  
and Beecher & Upper Lake District

[www.BeecherandUperlakes.com](http://www.BeecherandUperlakes.com)

## Board of Commissioners

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### **John Keely, Supervisor, Town of Beecher Representative**

W6397 County Road Z  
Pembine, WI 54156  
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### **Cary (Clancy) Whiting, Marinette County Board Representative**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2011 Annual Report Minutes	2
Message from the Chair	3
Call For Nominations	4
Aquatic Plant Committee Report	4-5
Boundaries & Detachment Report	4
Treasurer's Report	6
2013 Budget Proposal	7
2012 District Meeting Agenda	8



Pastor Gene Wickman harvesting weeds

**The Beecher and Upper Lakes  
Public Inland Lake Protection and  
Rehabilitation District**

**Annual Meeting**

- September 3, 2011 -

*Beecher Town Hall  
Beecher, Wisconsin*

Meeting Call to Order by Nancy McKenney, Chair Person and approval of agenda by Fritz Schmeisser, seconded by Marsha Miracle.

Commissioners reports by Chair Person.

Explanation of the nomination process, thanks to Town of Beecher for use of the facilities. Thank you to those persons for repairing the Beecher Lake Association resident sign to Randy Pradel, Roger Kupsh, Tim Nolan. Nancy McKenney referred to the newsletter and the fish survey for all lake residents to read.

No Secretary report as Phil Sweet lost the information on his crashed hard drive on PC.

Treasurers report was presented by Tracy Kupsh, which was also printed and distributed to all lake residents in the 2011 newsletter. Report and 2012 budget Curt Schilling, approved, seconded by Bob Magnuson.

Town of Beecher representative John Keely discussed the town plan to dredge and improve the Beecher lake boat landing during the fall lake drawdown, however this project is unbudgeted and short of \$10-12,000. There are no reserve funds as any excess funds had needed for the new town hall. Aquatic Committee Report by Mike Gotstein. Mike reported that the draw down had begun August 28 with four siphons. If required a pump is available. DNR deadline is October 1 but could be extended dependent on water levels. There have been discussions regarding cutting a hole for a future draw downs. This would be a 16" cut and estimated cost of \$1,080 to do the cut "knife value" used in dairy farm pits. Value costs estimated at \$1,500-2,000 plus plumbing expenses which were not estimated as yet? Any work to the dam will require Town of Beecher approval as they own the dam. Further consideration to raise the lake level would be directed to Mike Winkler with the DNR. Per Greg Sevener of the DNR this would require an environmental part assessment, with all lake property owners agreeing to the level increase and also a emergency assessment to determine of the existing dam could handle the increased water level and pressure from the increase. Increased water levels may change the 75' set back on some properties and could put these properties in "non conformance". These properties will be "grandfathered" but questions remain about conformance and resale. Motion was raised to initiate the DNR assessment for the dam modification, raising the lake level and Township review. Motion to approve by Fritz Schmeisser, seconded by Marsha Miracle and unanimously accepted. Additional discussion ensued regarding the usage of weevils. Marsha Miracle presented a newspaper article regarding the use of weevils for Eurasian milfoil control and question of DNR evidence to show their value in controlling Eurasian milfoil. Savage Lake in Dickinson County, U.P. with the MDNR are trying the weevils, but no results as yet. Additional motion was passed to request signage from the Town of Beecher as a part of boat ramp improvement for "No Wake" lake, no wave runners/jet skis, etc. Also discussed was dredging of the main channel of the whole lake during the draw down which

would require compliance and approval with state regulations statutes. Also, Mike Warner volunteered to follow up with Chip Long, DNR regarding aging fish study that was to have been completed as part of the 2010 fish survey.

Nominating Committee had call to the floor for nominations for Treasurer. Mike Labs nominated Mike Warner, Curt Schilling nominated Tracy Kupsh. A secret ballot was taken and Tracy Kupsh was selected for a new term as Treasurer.

Unfinished business concerning District Boundaries/Detachment Bernard Murray property. A committee was formed for study of this issue with Marsha Miracle, Bob Magnuson and Bob Griese. Discussion about value of the lake district include, provides recreational value to all, boat launch, public beach, fishing, swimming, kayaking etc. lake provides revenue to the town and lake property owners spend money in the surrounding community creating a financial effect for all property values. Some questions arose about lot "sub dividing". The tax assessment method appears to be the correct method to follow and consideration to expanding the district boundaries generate more revenue and better serve the lake district and its members. Joe Stern/Curt Schilling mentioned the subdividing covenants under NR 115 restrictions on lot size. County ordinance is under John Lafave and there are recently revised shoreline zoning laws that may be applicable. Additional unfinished business regarded the Warner easement for boat launch. After discussion it was determined the best option was to not have a district easement but that each property owner contact Mike Warner and make a direct agreement for use of the launch on his property (State permission for recreational use?). There should be an agreement for "lake maintenance" for DNR use however. Motion by Curt Schilling which was accepted. There was discussion regarding Beecher Lake director's liability which is covered as it relates to personal assets and property. Marsha Miracle motion to verify with Carolyn Keely the total number of Lake District members currently being assessed and determine if all members are being assessed. Curt Schilling seconded the motion. Also, make budget approval subject to this review.

New Business, It was suggested and agreed to make sure that all new property owners receive the district newsletter and a lake district folder outlining the value of the district and membership. During Open Forum, it was decided to form an Ad Hoc Welcome Committee, volunteering were Cheryl Richter, Shirley Holz and potentially as suggested, Carol Wickman.

Meeting was called for adjournment and motion by Jim Lauscher, seconded by Fritz Schmeisser.

Thirty-two lake association members attended the meeting. BOC was fully represented with all members present.

Submitted by Phil Sweet, Secretary





## Message from the Chair 2011

Dear District Property Owner:

On behalf of the Beecher and Upper Lakes Public Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioners thank you for supporting and guiding us at the last year's 2011 Annual meeting. The Annual meeting directed the work of the District Board of Commissioners and Committees throughout the year.

As District property owners the Annual Meeting provides you with an opportunity to weigh in and advance important issues, provide guidance, vote on the budget, and elect new Commissioners. Please plan to attend the Annual District meeting on September 1, 2012, at the Beecher Town Hall from 9:30 – Noon.

To carry out the day to day operations of the District, there are five commissioners: John Keeley, Supervisor, Town of Beecher and Clancy Whiting, Marinette County Board representative; Beecher Lake District property owners: Tracy Kupsh, Treasurer, who is completing the 1st year of a 3-year term; Phil Sweet, Secretary, who is completing his 3rd year of 3-year term and me, completing my 2nd year of a 3-year term.

The Board has convened quarterly during 2011 and 2012 to monitor and manage the budget, consider changes to insurance, support committees, and consider a request to detach from the District. Highlights from the Board of Commissioners and Committees include the following actions.

The District Boundaries and Detachment Ad hoc Committee reported their findings to the Board of Commissioners on a request to detach from the District. At the April 2012 meeting, the Board of Commissioners denied the petition to detach from the District. At the July 2012 Board of Commissioners meeting, it was agreed there was a need to continue the Ad hoc Committee for further study on issues surrounding District boundaries.

Through a grant, the Town of Beecher is improving the Beecher Lake boat landing and has constructed a new dock. The Board of Commissioners approved a request from Robert Gehri, Town of Beecher, Chairperson to contribute \$400.00 toward completing improvements that are not covered by their grant. Mr. Gehri extended an invitation to attend the Town of Beecher meetings to the District Board of Commissions. Township meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. Please let any Board of Commissioner know if you would be willing to attend the meetings.

The Aquatic Plant Committee, led by Joe Siudzinski, worked in cooperation with Chuck Druckrey, CLM, Marinette County Water Resource Specialist, to draw down the Lakes this past fall (2011) to freeze out the Eurasian Milfoil (EWM) in the shallow areas of the lakes. The District requested and received an extension of the Beecher Lake EWM Control Project grant period through December 31, 2013. It is anticipated that aquatic herbicides in conjunction with water level adjustment will be used to manage this aggressive infestation along with an additional dredging project dependent on funding abilities of the District.

Chuck Druckrey and Joe Siudzinski will be attending the September 1, 2012 Annual meeting to provide you with an evaluation of EWM in the Lake, discuss next steps with you, and answer your questions. The total cost of this project is \$30,088.00. The grant funds \$22,522.00 and the District share is \$7,522.00 in donated labor and equipment.

Future dredging costs are unknown at this time, please see the Aquatic Committee Meeting notes published in the newsletter for additional information.

Thank you to all of the dedicated members of the Aquatic Plant Committee and Chuck Druckery for their tenacity and dedication.

The District has approved the formation of two new standing committees. The Communication Committee will assist in developing a better flow of timely information. Doyle Curtis is chairing this Committee. The Shoreline Protection Committee will seek to improve habitat, monitoring and addressing invasive plants and insects (including gypsy moths). We are seeking individuals to lead and work on this Committee.

On behalf of the District, the Commissioners have requested that the Wisconsin DNR conduct a follow up fish survey to provide us with information for fish management decision-making after the draw down.

The District continues to benefit from resources provided by the Town of Beecher, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and Marinette County. It is a pleasure to serve the District with so many dedicated individuals.

Thank you once again, Helen and Doyle Curtis, for publishing the annual newsletter (Beach Chair News).

If you have a desire to join a Committee or serve as a Board of Commissioner, please contact any of the Board Commissioners or Committee members.

Sincerely,

*Nancy McKenney*

Nancy McKenney, Chair, Board of Commissioners  
The Beecher and Upper Lakes Public Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District

# Call for Nominations

## *Beecher and Upper Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioner*

Phil Sweet is completing the last year of his three-year term. He has served as Secretary for the District all three years of his term. We are so grateful for his dedication and willingness to serve.

Are you or someone you know interested in serving as a Board of Commissioner for the District?

### **Who makes up the Board of Commissioners?**

The Board of Commissioners is made up of five individuals. Three Commissioners are elected by property owners at the District Annual Meeting and serve 3-year staggered terms (all must be property owners and if possible, one a full-time resident). One representative is from the Town of Beecher Board, and one representative from the Marinette County Board.

### **How are the officers (Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer) determined?**

After elections at the Annual Meeting, the Board of Commissioners meets to determine who will assume the District Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer roles. Commissioners with experience in certain roles may wish to contribute to the District by applying their expertise (example: someone with accounting

experience may be the Treasurer). However, no specific occupational experience is required to be a Board of Commissioner.

### **What does the Board of Commissioners do for the District?**

Commissioners meet quarterly to carry out day to day District business with direction provided by property owners during the Annual meeting. The Chair presides at the annual meeting, at all special meetings and meetings of the Board, and at all public hearings held by the Board. The Secretary keeps minutes of all meetings, prepares and sends notices for all meetings. The treasurer is responsible for maintaining district funds, preparing reports, preparing an annual budget, preparing documents for Audit Committee review and certifying tax statements annually to present to the Town of Beecher Treasurer and Clerk.

Roles and duties are carried out in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 19 General Duties of Public Officials (includes Open Meetings and Public Records), and Chapter 33 Public Inland Waters.

### **When and where are the 2012-13 meetings being held?**

2012-2013 Meeting Dates

November 10, 2011  
January 19, 2013  
April 27, 2013  
July 20, 2013  
August 30, 2013

BOC  
BOC  
BOC  
BOC  
District

Annual Meeting

\*Dates have been reserved for the Beecher Town Hall from 9:00 a.m. – Noon unless noted.

Please contact us if you would like to nominate a candidate for the Board of Commissioner election: Nancy McKenney at: Rodmckenney@aol.com (920) 570-2196 or Phil Sweet at dade138@gmail.com ((414)975-5104, or Tracy Kupsh, kupshs@gmail.com 920-660-0918.

## Aquatic Plant Committee Committee Report to Board of Commissioners April 28, 2012

Committee Members:

Jane Devine, Doyle Curtis, Mike Gotstein, Joe Siudzinski

Purpose of Meeting:

Review progress of EWM Siphon Control Project and discuss recommendations to Board of Commissioners and outline a path forward based upon Siphon results and findings

Sequence of Accomplishments and Recommendations, fall of 2011 through March of 2012:

- Proved drawdown (siphon technique) worked-average of 4.5 feet out of a goal of six feet. In fact, siphons worked better than expected. We would have easily hit the drawdown mark if we could have got the water to the dam. Lake completely filled up by March 20th despite low precipitation totals. No other issues with drawdown event.
- We cannot attain the six feet goal until we explore dredging the original creek bed from in front of Fritz's to the Dam. Weather wasn't favorable to us but we made it work the best we could. Fairly confident, we will have some EWM control in the shallow areas, frost down to four inches.
- December of 2012, Chuck completed a topographic survey and submitted data to US Soil Service-waiting on them to interpret data for us and submit that data for excavation contractors to get some estimates on cost to remove dredging's-target date of work completion, perform another drawdown with siphons, Target, late Fall of 2013. Data from USFS should be received soon.
- We will request/petition the WDNR to understand if we can amend the grant to include dredging in lieu of chemical treatment costs, when information costs, soil to be removed, are available.
- Based on total costs of the dredging we will examine next steps, (dam modifications) at that time.
- No chemical treatment to be performed in 2012 in order to comply with the terms of our grant and understand the impact of the drawdown on EWM in areas where applicable.



**Aquatic Plant Committee**  
**Committee Report to Board of Commissioners**  
April 28, 2012 *(continued from page 4)*

- Aquatic Vegetation monitoring to occur this summer to understand EWM control with winter drawdown in areas where applicable and Chemical Treatment in April of 2013 will be based on summer of 2012 monitoring findings.
- We need to figure out and use the harvester now owed by Marinette County and incorporate that method of EWM removal into our overall EWM Control Plan., 2013 activity.
- Funds for Chemical Control may be available through Harvester grant obtained in Partnership with Marinette County for 2014, 2015.
- WDNR Grant reimbursement filed, April 13th with expenses and volunteer hours completed through December of 2012.

Summary of Actions needed prior to 2012 Annual Meeting:

- Obtain Topographic Data Results from US Soil Service (Complete)
- Chuck to complete Hydro Calculation in order to understand dredging tonnage needed to remove.
- Disposal sites identified for dredging's
- Put bid estimate package together for contractors to estimate project costs.
- Submit to WDNR a Grant Modification request to allow dredging to be a reimbursable expense.
- Complete summer 2012, EWM Monitoring
- Present Proposed Path Forward at 2012 Annual Meeting-Chemical Treatment for deep areas of lake where needed, Spring of 2013. Dredging project Fall of 2013, dependent on cost and regulatory approvals.

**Boundaries & Detachment  
Committee Recommendation**  
*January 21, 2012*

**Background:**

- A request for detachment from the District was received by the Board of Commissioners from a property owner in the District
- The property is within the existing boundaries of the District
- The new lot was created when an existing lot was subdivided
- The new lot is not directly on the Lake itself
- Direct access to the Lake was not provided as part of the sales agreement
- An ad-hoc sub-committee (Marsha Miracle, Mike Geise, Bob Magnuson) was formed to review and make a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners regarding the detachment request

**Rational for the request:**

- The new lot is not on the Lake and with no direct access the owner does not feel that as an owner he benefits directly from the District and/or the District programs

**Considerations:**

- The new lot is within the existing District boundaries
- The subdivision of the original lot was/is out of the District's control
- The method of taxation set by the District is per property owner within the established District boundary and is not based on the assessed value of the property
- This method was implemented when District was established

- The District is a governmental entity and not an association (we have some laws we must follow)
- The impacts / benefits of the Lake extend beyond the boundaries of the District:
  - The Lake provides recreational opportunities to all
  - Impacts property values
  - Provides tax revenues to the Township
  - Gypsy moth spraying program
- "Off Lake" properties can and do impact the Lake:
  - Water quality
  - The groundwater/aquifer
  - Property values
  - Governmental services
  - Volunteer services (fire, rescue, etc)

**Issues:**

- The practice of dividing lots to create new lots within the boundaries of the District has the potential to negatively impact the values of existing properties within the District boundaries
- The practice of dividing lots to create new lots within the boundaries of the District has the potential to negatively impact overall quality of the Lake

**Recommendations:**

- Based on the potential long-term negative consequences delineated above, deny the request for detachment

*Recommendation respectfully submitted by:*

Marcia Miracle  
Mike Geise  
Bob Magnuson

**Beecher and Upper Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Association**  
**July 15, 2012**  
**Treasurer's Report**

Dollar Amount

**Income Summary**

Beginning Balance - Sept 2011 (per 8/15/2011 bank statement)		\$21,225.02
Labor Day Picnic Raffles - 2011	503.00	
2010 Tax Collection	\$156.89	
2011 Tax Collection	\$9,869.77	
	<hr/>	
Total Income		<b>\$10,529.66</b>

**Expenditure Summary**

Printing/Supplies	(\$263.54)	
Storage	(\$420.00)	
Aquatic Supplies - Siphoning Materials	(\$281.07)	
Causality Insurance	(\$194.00)	
	<hr/>	
Total Expense		<b>(\$1,158.61)</b>

**Current Funds On Hand as of July 15, 2012 (per 7/15/2012 bank statement) \$30,596.07**

2012 Forecasted Activity

Income		
Outstanding Taxes from 2010		\$156.89
Outstanding Taxes from 2011		\$589.23
Grant ACE1-073-10.1 - Estimated Reimbursement		\$5,000.00
Expenses		
Town of Beecher (Concrete Barriers for Boat Landing)		(\$400.00)
Printing/Supplies		(\$300.00)

**Estimated 2012 Year End Balance \$35,642.19**

<u>Reserve Funds *</u>	<u>2011 Year End</u> <u>Reserves</u>	<u>2012 Year End</u> <u>Reserves</u>
Aquatic Committee Expense and Spillway Reserve	\$11,250	\$20,750
Dry Terrain Disease Control	\$3,000	\$4,000
Habitat Improvement	\$2,000	\$3,000
Attorney Fees - Easement Reserve	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,500</u>
	\$17,250	\$29,250

*\* Reserve Funds can not be spent without a BOC approved committee plan and budget. Depending on requirements, funds can be shifted between reserves at the discretion of the BOC.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Tracy Kupsh*

Treasurer - Beecher and Upper Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Association



**Beecher and Upper Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District**

**2013 Proposed Budget**

	<b>2013 Estimate</b>	<b>Estimated Assessment</b>
Aquatic Plant Control	\$9,250	
Shoreline Protection (Dry Terrain)	\$3,000	
Habitat Improvement	\$1,000	
Legal Fees	\$1,000	
Communication Team (office supplies, newsletter & public notice)	\$500	
Storage Facility	\$480	
Picnic Costs	\$400	
Insurance Premiums	\$1,500	
<b>2013 Estimated Operating Costs</b>		<b>\$17,130</b>
Estimated 2012 Year End Balance less 2012 Reserves	\$6,392	
2012 Carry forward		<b>\$6,392</b>
<b>Net Funds Required</b>		<b>\$10,738</b>

Funds Required	\$10,738
Assessed Units	71
Estimated Tax Assessment per Unit	\$151

<u>Reserve Funds *</u>	<u>Reserve</u>	<u>Proposed 2013 Additions</u>	<u>Total Proposed Reserve Balance</u>
Aquatic Committee Expense and Spillway Reserve	\$20,750	\$9,250	\$30,000
Shoreline Protection (Dry Terrain - Gypsy Moth, Invasive Plants, etc..)	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$7,000
Habitat Improvement	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$4,000
Attorney Fees	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$2,500
	<u>\$29,250</u>	<u>\$14,250</u>	<u>\$43,500</u>

\* Reserve Funds can not be spent without a BOC approved committee plan and budget. Depending on requirements, funds can be shifted between reserves at the discretion of the BOC.



**Every other  
Wednesday in  
Amberg,  
food is distributed to  
those in need.**

For the past six years, The District has collected non-perishable food items at the annual meeting and donated the items to a local food pantry in Amberg, WI. The donated items are dropped off at Pastor Fred's Food Pantry in Amberg. The building is located next to Mathis Hardware's first store just south of their Warehouses. Donating these items contributes in some small way to support the efforts of the people in the community making a difference in the lives of others. Please remember to bring your non-perishables to the Annual Meeting on September 3rd. Thanks your help and support.  
*Joe Siudzinski*

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Roland John Kehler**

Born in Green Bay, Wisconsin  
on March 27, 1943  
Died on June 5, 2012  
Green Bay, Wisconsin

*Roland John Kehler, age 69, lost his courageous 9 month battle with cancer on Tuesday, June 5, 2012. He was born March 27, 1943 in Green Bay to the late William and Lucille (Rhodes) Kehler. On July 25, 1964 he married the former Dorothy Alef. Roland was the former owner of Muntz Audio-Video. He was a member of the Moose Lodge #801. He loved fishing and bike rides with his grandson, Braedon. Roland also loved helping his son-in-law, Scott with fixing foreclosed homes. He also enjoyed spending weekends at the cottage. Roland had the gift of 'gab' and wherever he went, he made friends with everyone.*

*He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; one son, Eric; one daughter, Rene (Scott) Sonnabend; three grandsons (Grandpa's little 'buddies'), Braedon, Brecken and Bailin. He is further survived by one sister, Linda Babiash, one brother, Charles and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his father, William and mother, Lucille*



# Annual Meeting Agenda

Saturday, September 1, 2012 9:30 AM

Beecher Town Hall

Photo courtesy of Mike Gojstein

AGENDA	
9:30	1. Call to Order
9:30-9:40	2. Approval of Agenda
9:40-9:50	3. Reading of Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 3, 2011 Annual Lake District and Board of Commissioners Meeting</li> </ul>
9:50-10:15	4. Commissioner Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairman Report</li> <li>Secretary Report</li> <li>Treasurers Report</li> <li>Beecher Town Board Representative</li> <li>Marinette County Supervisor Representative</li> </ul>
10:15-10:45	5. Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aquatic Plant Committee and Mr. Chuck Druckery, CLM, Marinette County Water Resource Specialist</li> <li>Nomination Committee</li> </ul>
10:45-11:00	6. Unfinished business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Easement</li> <li>Beecher Lake Insurance Information</li> <li>New Communication Committee</li> <li>New Shoreline Protection Committee</li> <li>Ad hoc Boundaries Committee</li> </ul>
11:00-11:25	7. New business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2013 Budget</li> <li>Board of Commissioners Election</li> </ul>
11:25-11:30	8. Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next Meeting November 10, 2012 at the Beecher Town Hall (9:30-noon)</li> <li>Picnic at the Beecher Lake Public Beach</li> </ul>
11:30	10. Annual Meeting Adjournment
11:30-noon	11. Open Forum - District Property Owners

*\*Note: The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to take agenda items out of order and adjust time frames to facilitate District business.  
Thank you for your participation.*

