

August 2017

Beach-Chair News

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Photo courtesy of Katrina Cegledi (Beecher & Upper Lake Social Society Post)



BOARD of COMMISSIONERS



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

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Photo courtesy of Lindi Magnuson (Beecher & Upper Lake Social Society Post)

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

Annual Meeting

- September 3, 2016 -

Beecher Town Hall - Beecher, Wisconsin

Submitted by Jim Johnson, Secretary

Annual Meeting

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Nancy McKenney at 9:00 AM. At that time she introduced the current members of the BOC, noting the absence of John Keeley and Cary (Clancy) Whiting. Judy Siudzinski from the Picnic Committee asked for a moment to explain the Auction procedure and asked if anyone wanted their item specifically in the Auction or in the Raffle. The Lake owners then introduced themselves one at a time going around the room.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Nancy led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance facing the flag in the Town Hall parking lot..

Approval of Agenda:

A motion to except the Agenda was made by Glen Schilling and seconded by Karen Giese. Motion approved - unanimously..

Reading of Minutes:

The minutes from the last Annual meeting (Sept. 2015) were published in the Aug. 2016 addition of the Beach-Chair News. Fritz Schmeisser made a motion to approve the minutes as published. It was seconded by Jim Lauscher and approved – unanimously.

- Open Forum-

- *Joe Stern* had a concern about the proposed 2017 budget. It looked like tax dollars were being used to fund the annual picnic. Judy Siudzinski addressed this point stating that the picnic was funded by proceeds of the donations and auction items from the previous year. Tracy agreed that since this was the case, it should not be listed as a line item on the new budget.
- *Fritz Schmeisser* wanted to know why the lake was being drawn down as of Labor Day. Joe Siudzinski explained that it was due to permits and timing of personnel to start and set up syphons. Glenn Schilling then asked for a general discussion of the Dam Draw Down project. Joe Siudzinski went on to explain that the ongoing project was 2/3 completed. If the Lake District can get Great Lakes Marine to dredge early we can drop the water to appropriate levels. Joe then proposed an incentive plan to the board to get them to complete the work early. This proposal will be voted on during the Aquatic Committees report.
- *Joe Stern* wanted to know what happens after the draw down. Will invasive species repopulate the frozen out areas? Joe Siudzinski explained that that was a possibility but this was our best course of action as determined in cooperation with the DNR.

- *Glen Schilling* wanted to know if the DNR will let us continue doing draw downs in the future if it works as proposed this year. The answer from Joe Siudzinski was yes.

- *Liz Bauer* wanted to know about Lilly Pads. Are they considered invasive species? Joe Siudzinski said that they are native to the lake and are not evasive. They are actually good for the lake even though they can look unsightly.

Commissioner Reports:

Chairperson:

Nancy McKenney began by thanking all of the commissioners, committee chairmen and the town and county representatives for the time and effort they put in over the last year. She then discussed the current bid process used by the BOC. She finished her report by asking for nominations for the BOC and additional help for the various lake committees

Secretary Report:

Jim Johnson reported that he had nothing new at this time.

Treasurer's Report

Tracy Kupsh reviewed the financial information presented in the August 2016 addition of the Beach-Chair News (page 6). She explained again that the reason we had a one-time tax increase in our 2015 taxes was to fully fund putting a valve in the dam along with a corresponding dredging project. Both were needed to address the problem we have been experiencing regarding invasive species. Joe Stern noted that the town has property on the lake and felt it should be subject to taxation by the Lake District. This suggestion was discussed by Glenn Schilling and Joe Siudzinski. They both brought up the point that trying to collect from the city for the land they owned on the lake was a zero dollar proposition. Joe Siudzinski then proposed a motion to instruct the Treasurer not to investigate trying to collect taxes from the City of Beecher for these lands. The motion was seconded by Glenn Schilling and passed with one dissenting vote. A motion was then made by Fritz Schmeisser to approve the proposed 2017 Budget as listed on page 6 of the Beach-Chair News. The motion was seconded by Mike Lops and passed unanimously. Tracy finished her report with the news that the Financial Audit Committee had completed its review of last year's books.

Beecher Town Board Representative

John Keeley was not present at this meeting as he was leaving town that morning but did open up the Beecher Town Hall at 7:30 am.

Marinette County Supervisor Representative

Cary (Clancy) was not present at this meeting.

Committee Reports:

Aquatic Plant Committee:

Joe Siudzinski had reported earlier on the progress and timing of the Dam/Dredging project during an Open Forum segment of the meeting. He now discussed the project funding past and future and said that he will complete the task of applying for another grant from the DNR. He then suggested that an incentive payment of \$250 be made to Great Lakes Marine if they can complete the work by Oct. 15th. Randy Olson made

a motion that we direct the Treasurer to make the payment if the work is completed by the 15th of Oct. The motion was seconded by Randy McArdle and passed with 3 dissenting votes.

Boundary Committee:

No update.

Communications Committee:

No update.

Shoreline Protection Committee:

Lindi Magnuson mentioned that she would be joining the committee. She then discussed procedures and information available for anyone interested in helping the committee.

Unfinished Business:

- Good Friends are Devine 2016 Award

Nancy McKinney reviewed what the Award was and the basic criteria for being nominated. She then said that this year there would be two individuals that would be receiving the award. She turned the floor over to Jim Johnson who presented the first award to Jim Lauscher. Jim Johnson recounted the numerous good works done by Mr. Lauscher over the years that have earned him this honor. Nancy then proceeded to make the second presentation to Marcia Miracle who will be leaving the Lake in the very near future. She thanked her for all her work on behalf of the Lake District and wished her all the best. Marcia was unable to be at this year's meeting. Photos were taken immediately after the meeting by Shirley Prudhomme reporting on the Annual meeting for the Peshtigo Times.



Jim Lauscher being presented the *Good Friends are Devine Award*.
(from left to right) Jim Johnson, Jim Lauscher, Nancy McKinney and Tracy Kupsh.

New Business:

- 2016 - 2017 Budget

The previous motion voted on during the Treasurer's report stands firm.

- 2016 – 2017 Board of Commissioner Elections

Nancy asked for nominations from the floor for new commissioners. None were forth coming. The current board agreed to stay on for another year. Glenn Schilling nominated Nancy McKinney Chairman and Tracy and Jim to the commission positions for the coming year. Mike Gostein seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Announcements:

The Annual Picnic to follow the meeting.

Adjournment:

Glenn Schilling made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Fritz Schmeisser seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously



Habitat/Fish Committee

Members: Paul LaSee, Randy Kiehnau

To all lake property owners, recently there has been discussion on the quality of the fish habitat on the lake. And with that, a few ideas for improvement. One suggestion by the DNR was to implement project fish stick. The idea is to locate choice areas of the lake and set trees where improvement of habitat is possible. Participation is at the owners choice and welcomed at any level. With the opportunity to work with Chip Long from the DNR, our success rate could be greatly improved. The project is at its earliest stages and any participation would be much appreciated. Being part of the fish committee I would be happy to discuss this project. If interested in more information please contact Randy Kiehnau on the Beecher & Upper Lake Social Society Group or call 920 495 0704.



The 2016 Fish Survey Results is available for download on our website:

www.beecherupperlakes.com

Call for Nominations

Beecher and Upper Lakes Protection and Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioner

Tracy Kupsh is completing the last year of her three-year term as a Commissioner. She has served as Treasurer for the District for three consecutive 3-year terms. We are so grateful for her 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 2017-18 meetings being held?

2017-2018 Meeting Dates:

October 7, 2017	BOC
January 20, 2018	BOC
May 19, 2018	BOC
July 21, 2018	BOC
September 1, 2018	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: Jim Johnson at: jkj.johnsonjr@gmail.com - 713-859-1457 or Nancy McKenney at: Rodmckenney@aol.com - 920-570-2196.

Message from the Chair 2017

Dear District Property Owner:

On behalf of the Beecher and Upper Lakes Public Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioners (BOC), thank you for your support and guidance at the last Annual meeting. Decisions you make at the Annual meeting guide the BOC throughout the year. The District has five commissioners: John Keeley, Supervisor, Town of Beecher; Clancy Whiting, Marinette County Board; and Beecher Lake District property owners: Tracy Kupsh, Treasurer, who is completing her 3rd year of a 3-year term; Jim Johnson, Secretary, in his 2nd year of 3-year term and me, completing the 1st year of my 3-year term.

This year the BOC met quarterly (in addition to the Annual meeting). Highlights included monitoring the budget, the draw down process, and dredging of a channel from the main lake to the dam. The dam modification and dredging (to remove muck and debris) will facilitate periodic draw down to help freeze out the Eurasian Milfoil. We hosted Christopher (Chip) Long, Fish Biologist for the Wisconsin DNR to share results of the most recent fish survey.

As we near completion of the Aquatic Invasive Species grant project, we hope you will join us to celebrate our accomplishments and envision the District's future. The Annual meeting is on Saturday, September 2, 2017 from 9 am – Noon at the Beecher Town Hall. The Open Forum (a visioning session) begins at 9:00 am. Come to the picnic and auction after the Annual Meeting for fun with friends and neighbors.

The Aquatic Plant Committee (Joe Siudzinski, Chair); Habitat/Fish Committee (Paul LaSee, Chair); Boundaries Committee (Bob Magnuson, Chair); Welcome Ad hoc Committee (Lindi Magnuson and Carol Wickman), and Picnic Ad hoc Committee (Penny Albers, Judy Siudzinski, Marlene Johnson and Christina Hermson) are activated. A chair and committee are needed to activate the Shoreline Protection Committee. This committee addresses invasive plants and insects, including gypsy moths. Please contact us if you would like to lead or join a committee or the BOC.

Beecher Township meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. Please let any BOC know if you would be willing to attend the meetings.

We are seeking nominations for the 5th annual "Good Friends are Devine Award" this year. If you have a nominee, please contact one of the BOCs prior to August 31st.

On behalf of the BOC, thank you to all District Committees, our State and County partners: the Town of Beecher; Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR); and Marinette County for their continued dedication to Beecher and Upper Lakes. We are very grateful to Helen and Doyle Curtis who continue to publish the annual newsletter (Beach Chair News) and maintain the District website. It is a pleasure to serve with these individuals.

We look forward to seeing you on September 2, 2017 at the Annual Meeting, picnic, and auction.

Sincerely,

Nancy McKenney

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

Aquatic Plant Committee

Committee Report to Board of Commissioners & Residents for the 2017 Annual Meeting

Committee Members:

Mike Gotstein, Joe Siudzinski, Roger Kupsh



Hello again-

We've made some significant progress with our 2016-2017 efforts. The final 20 feet of the drawdown system was completed last Fall, dredging was completed during the Winter of 2016/7 and the reclamation of dredging deposits property along with the lake entry site was completed the last week of July. One small paragraph one huge effort. And we have seen progress for the partial drawdown that took place last Winter. Thanks to all who participated especially to the Kupsh's and Hensel's for the use of their property for the dredging deposits.

Contract payments and grant administration should be up to date by the time of the annual meeting.

Path forward-

Chuck Druckrey will be completing a plant survey in August to understand changes year to year with preliminary results available at the annual meeting.

Chuck will be attending the annual meeting at 9AM and available for questions.

We recommend pursuing a full drawdown this Fall using the new system in its entirety along with a couple of our legacy siphons put out for 30 feet into the new pool for insurance of high rain events that have been our history the past couple of years and especially with the starting point water level for this year's drawdown unknown at the time of this writing. This will allow us to understand the impact of a complete quality drawdown and build on the success of the partial drawdown last Winter.

Again, we are required to have the drawdown completed by October 1st as written in our Endangered Species Permit due to being in the range of the Blanding's and Wood Turtles and to minimize impact of the drawdown on hibernation/wintering of those endangered/threatened turtles. As you have observed, we have been granted some latitude in that requirement, but we do intend to honor the requirement and what it represents as we have done in the past.

There will be no chemical treatment in Spring of 2018 due to the grant requirement and need to understand the full drawdown impact.



Photo courtesy of Lindi Magnuson (Beecher & Upper Lake Social Society Post)

Summer of 2018:

An additional plant survey will be taken by Chuck Druckrey and Brenda Nordin of the WDNR and their teams on August 8, 2018. When those results are available, we'll reconvene with WDNR and Marinette County to understand findings of the project and best path forward for additional EWM Control.

If all goes well, there will be no drawdowns in 2019 and 2020 with limited chemical treatment in May of 2019 which will complete our existing grant requirements and WDNR cost sharing.

As usual, if you have suggestions, ideas of a more innovative path forward, please feel free to bring those ideas up at the annual meeting.

Joe Siudzinski

2017 Annual Beecher Lake District Picnic and Fund Raising

Three ways you can help? #1 Bring guests #2 Donate ticket raffle and auction items*
#3 Come create community

Where: Beecher Town Hall

When: Saturday September 2, 2017.

Time: Immediately following the Annual Meeting

What To Bring: A dish to pass and an incessant need to buy something!!

Picnic will include: 50/50 Raffle, Ticket Gift Raffle and Oral Auction

District will provide: Bottled water, soda, hamburgers, brats, relishes, paper plates, napkins, utensils



*examples of items donated in the past include gift certificates, homemade items, adult beverage party baskets, services....Raffle and auction items can be brought to the town hall the morning of the event, or if you would like to drop off donations prior to the picnic, please contact Marlene Johnson at (281) 387-9198. Marlene's residence is at N16724 North Lake Ln Pembine

Beecher and Upper Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Association
August 2017
Treasurer's Report

	August 2017	July 31st 2016
Income Summary		
Beginning Balance	\$68,878.03	\$57,462.66
Net Labor Day Picnic	\$2,132.34	\$1,704.95
Tax Collection	\$10,530.08	\$37,938.35
WNDR	\$49,672.50	\$0.00
Total Income	\$62,334.92	\$39,643.30
Expenditure Summary		
Printing/Supplies/Web Site	(\$221.05)	(\$118.91)
Storage Unit	(\$420.00)	(\$420.00)
Casualty Insurance	(\$1,143.00)	(\$1,143.00)
Aquatic - Dam Modification & Siphon	(\$11,349.06)	(\$26,546.02)
Aquatic - Dredging	(\$91,000.00)	\$0.00
Aquatic - Marinette County	(\$26,825.00)	\$0.00
Total Expense	(\$130,958.11)	(\$28,227.93)
Current Funds On Hand	\$254.84	\$68,878.03
2017 Forecasted Activity		
Income		
2017 Tax Collection (estimate)	\$1,000.00	
WDNR (Reimbursement of Dredging & Marinette Cty)	\$27,975.00	
Expenses		
Gersek - Draw #4	(\$7,500.00)	
Total Short Term Forecasted Activity	\$21,729.84	

Respectfully Submitted,
Tracy Kupsh
 Treasurer - Beecher and Upper Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

Beecher and Upper Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District
2018 Proposed Budget

	2018 Proposed	2017 Budget
Aquatic Plant Control	\$9,000	\$10,000
Shoreline Protection (Dry Terrain)	\$0	\$0
Habitat Improvement	\$1,000	\$0
Legal Fees	\$0	\$0
Office Supplies/Public Notice/Communication Team	\$350	\$1,000
Storage Facility	\$420	\$420
Insurance Premiums	\$1,150	\$1,200
Total Operating Costs	\$11,920	\$12,620
Net Position (Balance less Reserves)	\$730	\$1,613
Net Funds Required	\$11,190	\$11,007
Funds Required	\$11,190	\$11,007
Assessed Units	70	70
Estimated Tax Assessment per Unit	\$159.86	\$157.24

	2018 Proposed Reserve	2017 Reserve
Reserve Funds *		
Aquatic Committee Expense and Spillway Reserve **	\$19,000	\$76,030
Shoreline Protection (Dry Terrain - Gypsy Moth, Invasive Plants, etc..)	\$1,000	\$0
Boundaries Committee **	\$0	\$0
Habitat/Fish Improvement	\$0	\$0
Attorney Fees	\$1,000	\$1,000
	\$21,000	\$77,030

* 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.

** These Committees were authorized during the Annual Meeting and also have formal BOC approval which requires three items: 1) Charge (purpose), 2) Membership (prefer 3 members), and 3) Budget.



Photo courtesy of Mike Gotstein (Beecher & Upper Lake Social Society Post)



2nd Annual Independence Celebration Regatta





Annual Meeting Agenda

Saturday, September 2, 2017 9:00 AM

Beecher Town Hall

Photo courtesy of Helen Curtis

AGENDA	
09:00:00 AM	1. Open Forum – Visioning Session
10:00-10:05	2. Call to Order
10:05-10:10	3. Pledge of Allegiance
10:10-10:20	4. Approval of Agenda Review of the Minutes
10:20-10:50	5. Commissioner Reports Chairperson Report Secretary Report Treasurers Report Beecher Town Board Representative Marinette County Supervisor Representative
10:50-11:20	6. Committee Reports Aquatic Plant Committee Boundaries Committee Habitat/Fish Committee Shoreline Protection Committee Audit Ad hoc Committee Nominating Ad hoc Committee Picnic Ad hoc Committee Welcome Ad hoc Committee
11:20-11:25	7. Unfinished business
11:20-11:50	8. New business 2017-2018 Budget 2017-2018 Board of Commissioner Election
11:50-12:00	9. Announcements – Picnic to Follow Annual Meeting
12:00:00 PM	10. Adjournment

**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.*

Board of Commissioners:

- Tracy Kupsh (3rd year of a 3 year term) (920) 660-0918 kupshs@gmail.com
- Nancy McKenney (1st year of a 3 year term) (920) 570-2196 Rodmckenney@aol.com
- Jim Johnson (2nd year of a 3 year term) jki.johnsonjr@gmail.com
- John Keeley, Supervisor, Town of Beecher Representative (715) 324-5361
- Marinette County Representative: Cary (Clancy) Whiting; Marinette County Board Representative (715) 324-6195

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