



Townsend Flowage Protection District (TFPD)
Annual Meeting
August 26, 2023

Board Members present: John Zimdars, Mike Gabryszek, Jim Bieber, Chuck De Moulin (Town appointee) and Mark Clements.

The Board of Commissioners Annual Meeting of the Townsend Flowage Protection District was called to order by Board President, John Zimdars on August 26, 2023 at 9 a.m. at the Townsend Town Hall. It was confirmed that the meeting agenda was posted at the Townsend Town Hall, Townsend Post Office, Karla's Kountry Kitchen, Laona State Bank, TFPD website and mailed to all property TFPD owners.

A motion was made by Jim Bieber to approve the August 27, 2022 annual meeting minutes. Cathy Seibel seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Audit report, conducted by Terry De Moulin was read by Treasurer, Mike Gabryszek. Gabryszek also presented the Treasurers Report. Mike Vande Walle made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as read. Frank Briski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

An update on the EWM Treatment & Testing by given by Jim Scharl of the Wisconsin Lakes and Ponds Resource, by phone. Report summarized the status of post treatment from last year and treatment this year. Milfoil has spread because of ice conditions this past winter and minimal snow covering. Initial pretreatment surveys and select treatment in June were applied. Treatment was done to an estimated 10 acres over the summer. We applied for a treatment of an additional nine acres but were denied by the DNR because of impact on lake native species. Post treatment survey will be done in approximately two weeks. A comprehensive lake management plan will be completed by the DNR together with Oconto County Land and Water Conservation Department and UW Stevens Point. Wisconsin Lakes and Ponds will complete the additional surveys required for the comprehensive plan. The previous lake management plan was last approved in 2019/2020. DNR wants this plan to be updated, and should be renewed every 5 years. It is planned that we will apply for a grant and if accepted, it will include DNR surveys, reviewed in 2024, and ready to implement in early 2025.

All property owners intending to do Healthy Lakes projects need to contact Betty Zimdars.. Applications need to be submitted by September 15.

Jim Scharl explained some of the reasons for the spread of milfoil. With thin ice this past winter and the sporadic snow cover, the milfoil has spread. Milfoil does not spread by seeds, it spreads thru fragmentation, one fragmented (chopped up pieces of one milfoil plant) has the potential 10 new plants starting.

Jack DeWolf asked if there was a plan for a drawdown to control the milfoil. Jim Scharl explained it is too early to tell if this would be considered, but it is an option because the flowage has a dam. That

option would be called out in the management plan. But as of right now, there is no active for a drawdown.

Ken Bowers asked what the timeline was for the research study and when is expected. Timeline is July/August 2024 survey, write the plan October thru December 2024, review draft and then plan approval early (Feb/March) 2025.

Jeff Schroeter asked if during a potential drawdown, it might be a good time for property owners to consider improvement of shoreline projects. Asked – what notice of potential drawdown would be given ahead of time. Answer – property owners would be given 9-12 months notice in advance of a potential drawdown, with options for input.

Cathy Seibel commented it was a tough year for weeds. Is there anything property owners can do. Yes, floaters can be raked up, throw on a garden. The weeds cannot be put back into the water but can be taken to Townsend Recycling Center. Per Chuck DeMoulin, weeds will be accepted and can be placed in the area between the blocks where leaves are placed.

Rick Bodart asked – with lack of snow and with sunlight accelerating the plant growth, do the plants die off, i.e. winter kill. Yes, most plants die off naturally. Plants will come up again later in the spring.

Duane Bann reported seeing fish floating first part of June even before hot days of summer began, but have not seen since mid-June. Answer - during spawning there is a certain bacterial infection that can affect panfish that get stressed during spawning. Fins look fuzzy, moldy on gills, and the weaker ones fall out. If this is observed, John Zimdars asked that you give him a call to observe along with the DNR.

Agenda item. Discuss and adoption of budget and tax levy. Tax levy remains at \$150 per parcel. Approximately \$67,500 income comes from tax levy. Zimdars reviewed the 2024 proposed budget line items.

Dan Coopman made a motion to approve 2024 TFPD budget. Seconded by Frank Briski. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Cathy Seibel to approve tax levy of \$150.00 per parcel. Mike Vande Walle seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Rick Bodart questioned if the invasive treatment budget was spent this year. Answer - we applied for grant two years ago, and we have utilized all that money thru this year. If grant comes thru, we will have less expenses. If the grant does not come through, then the budget is as presented.

Frank Briski noted the weeds on Buckeye Lane are terrible and should be addressed.

Nomination of Commissioner position, a 3-year position. Mark Clements is willing to continue as commissioner and was nominated by Frank Briski and Bob Honeck seconded. Betty Zimdars made a motion to close the nominations, Bob Honeck seconded to close nominations. Mark Clements will remain on the board of commissioners.

Christmas Party. Mike Vande Walle announced the party will be at the Old Town Hall on December 2. Price will be \$21.50, which include \$5.05 tax and tip. Includes a chicken, beef tips, dressing, potatoes, Donations will again be collected and can be given to Mike Vande Walle before December 2, or can be brought to the December Board Meeting, (ambulance building) that day, or could be brought directly to the party. Mary Van Vonderen will be sending the Christmas party invitation in October. We are limited to 60 people.

Presentation was given by Chip Long, Head of DNR Fish Committee. He is currently working on a fish report, intended to be completed in Spring. A Pdf of his slide presentation will be posted on the website when available.

Dawn Herlache reported the Kids fishing tournament which was a big success with 195 kids registered this year—the largest in 15 years.. Volunteers were plentiful. \$3,800 cleared. Two \$500 donations were made to FISH (Fishing Inspires Special Hearts), a fishing event for kids with special needs and the Oconto River Kids which sets up outdoor/hunting trips for challenged kids. The committee is already taking donations for next year's tournament which is held the first Saturday in July.

Mary Van Vonderen gave some reminders about the purpose and rules about the Townsend Flowage Protection District Facebook page. The purpose of the page is to provide a platform for lake health issues. It is not meant for issues that involve issues off the lake or property issues. The rules are: No buy, sell, trade posts, Be kind and courteous and a reminder that the TFPD does not have enforcement capabilities for issues on the lake and people are reminded to contact the DNR or the Oconto County Police Department. Contact information is on the website.

The 2024 annual meeting will be the third Saturday of August, August 17.

Duane Bann made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dawn Herlache seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Commissioners meeting directly following the annual meeting.

The agenda was posted at same places.

Election of officers. John Zimdars continues as President, Jim Biever continues as VP. John Zimdars nominated Mark Clements as Board Secretary. Chuck DeMoulin seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. Mark Clements will continue as Board Secretary.

Jim Biever made a motion to adjoun. Mark Clements seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Mary Van Vonderen, Non-board Recording Secretary