

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 1998

The 1998 annual meeting was called to order by Commissioner/President Steve Sward at 9:00 a.m. following a continental breakfast at the Bear's Den/Black Bear Lodge. All in attendance introduced themselves including guest speakers Bill Rose of the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Steve Gilbert of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Commissioner/Secretary Ted Ritter was noted as absent.

Motion by Lee Holthaus, second by Erv Stiemke to approve the agenda. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Minutes of the 1997 annual meeting and the financial report had been mailed to all district property owners with the notice of the 1998 annual meeting. Motion by Dick Brooks, second by Marc Dean to waive reading of the minutes and review of the financial report. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The following committee reports were presented:

DAM RE-LICENSING: Lee Holthaus reported that the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company (WVIC) re-licensing of the dam on Little Saint Germain Lake was virtually a done deal. The intervention issues raised by our district and other interested parties including WDNR had no success in being considered by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

NO WAKE ORDINANCE: Lee Holthaus reported that a group of property owners in the far end of West bay had petitioned the Town Board to consider a No Wake zone in that area of the lake due to tremendous pressure of personal water craft, water skiers and other high speed boat traffic. The Town Board needs to adopt an ordinance in order for any No Wake zones to be enforceable by WDNR wardens or Sheriff Department personnel. Holthaus reported that the Town Board has instructed the town attorney to draft an ordinance that would govern No Wake zones in all lakes within the boundaries of St. Germain. It is expected that the Town Board will adopt such an ordinance by spring of 1999.

FISHERIES: Larry Acker reported on how the money which had been appropriated for stocking had been split between walleye and bass. Positive reports came from the floor regarding the success of bass stocking. Not so positive reports were offered from the floor regarding the success of the walleye program in spite of low spring spearing harvests. Consensus of attendees was to continue with the same fisheries budget and allow the Fisheries Committee discretion in how the money is to be spent.

BUOYS AND DOCK MAINTENANCE: Steve Sward read a letter which had been prepared by Ted Ritter in which Ted suggested that someone be hired to install and remove buoys and the protective winter fencing on the public landing dock annually and to perform routine inspections of the fencing and buys throughout the year. During following discussion it was suggested by one individual that the resort owners on the lake should handle that responsibility. A motion was made from the floor and seconded to approve a \$500 annual allocation of budget funds to hire someone as per Ted's suggestion. Motion passed by voice vote.

End of Committee Reports.

The proposed budget was discussed. Motion by Dick Brook, second by Lee Holthaus to approve the proposed budget and tax levy of \$15,000. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Nominations were called for to fill the expiring three year commissioner's term currently being held by Erv Stiemke. There being no other nominations, Erv agreed to serve another three year term. Erv was elected by unanimous voice vote.

Guest speakers reported the following:

Bill Rose from USGS presented the findings of the water quality study which had been conducted on Little St. Germain Lake. A great deal of data was provided and a complete copy of the study is available on request from the

Lake District. Some of the highlights of the report include-

1. There is a tremendous amount of phosphorous loading coming into the lake from Muskellunge Creek (1475 pounds in 1997 as compared to less than 100 pounds in other similar lakes). :
2. All of South and East Bays go anoxic (no oxygen) by early February with the exception of a small pocket of water in East Bay which is believed to be the result of the flow of water from Muskellunge Creek. West Bay is the only area of the lake that maintains a winter level of oxygen sufficient to support fish and plant life. Some possible means of enhancing water quality and fish reproduction are:
 - a. Winter aeration of Muskellunge Creek to enhance the delivery of oxygenated water to the lake.
 - b. Injection of alum into Muskellunge Creek to reduce phosphorous loading into the lake.

Discussion following Mr. Rose's report lead to the consensus that his suggestions for improving water quality be further studied and considered.

Steve Gilbert of WDNR presented the findings of the recent fish creel study which is a compilation of physical interviews and contacts with people while they were actually fishing on the lake. His full report is available at the Woodruff office of WDNR. Some of the highlights of his report include:

1. Our lake is heavily fished - 1254 interviews in 1997. Total angler hours of 104,145 resulting in 106.3 angler hours per acre compared to an average 32.8 hours per acre in all of Vilas County and 33.6 hours per acre statewide.
2. Little St. Germain is presently primarily a pan fish producing lake with black crappie, yellow perch and bluegill being the predominant species Largemouth and smallmouth bass are on the increase. There is a heavy population of bullhead presented Walleye northern and musky account for approximately 30% of total angler harvest.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Ted Ritter, Secretary from notes taken by Lee Holthaus