

# LITTLE ST. GERMAIN LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT SAINT GERMAIN, WI

## Elected Commissioners

Tom Groth, Chairman  
Tom Schwartz, Treasurer  
Cheryl Kelsey, Secretary

## Appointed Commissioners

Tom Christensen, Town of Saint Germain  
Carolyn Ritter, Vilas County

<http://www.littlesaint.org>

## Annual Meeting Minutes Sunday, Sept. 1, 2019 St. Germain Community Center

**Social Gathering – 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.** Coffee & Sweet Rolls were served. Sign in was held.

**Welcome & Introduction** - Chairman Tom Groth welcomed everyone to the meeting & started with an Introduction of the Commissioners present, Tom Schwartz, Treasurer, Cheryl Kelsey, Secretary & Carolyn Ritter, Vilas County. Tom Christensen, Town of St. Germain arrived late.

**Budget Hearing** – Treasurer, Tom Schwartz read the 2018 Financials & 2019 Expenses. He also presented the proposed Budget & 2019 Tax Levy.

**Call to Order** – Tom Groth called the meeting to order at 9:22 a.m.

**Approval of Agenda** – Randy Farchmin motioned, Steve LaRiviere seconded, motion carried.

**Approval of 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes – Sept. 2, 2018** – Barb Steinhilber motioned, Greg Loesche seconded, motion carried.

## REPORTS

1. **Muskellunge Creek Beaver Control** – Tom Groth read a report regarding the results of the aerial survey of the creek. There were no Beaver dams removed this year. We will continue monitoring the creek.
2. **USGS Report** – Tom Groth reviewed the results of the USGS report & discussed the possibility of the timing for the Water Draw Down. If approved, the Lake District will apply for a WDNR grant to help with the costs. In addition, the USGS will give us a grant for approx. \$30,000. Please see full report at [www.littlesaint.org](http://www.littlesaint.org).
3. **AIS-DASH Boat Update** – Cheryl Kelsey reported that Aquatic Plant Management LLC was out on the lake for 9 days using the Diver Assisted Suctioning Harvesting Boat in West Bay. The report indicates that DASH efforts at high priority dense locations are effective at reducing the EWM population. Continued monitoring and management efforts are important to prevent proliferation of EWM throughout the lake. The full report will be available on the Lake District's website at [www.littlesaint.org](http://www.littlesaint.org).
4. **Lake Management Planning Update** – Tom Groth reported that the plan is now finished and a copy of the full report will be on our website. He explained that if we want to apply for any future Grants, we will need this report approved by the DNR. Tim Hoyman and Eddie Heath from Onterra are responsible for the report and its contents.

5. **Mechanical Harvest – Native Weed Control – Tom Groth reported that the Mechanical harvesting is available to us to control weeds in the traffic lanes of the lake. We were prepared with a Permit with the DNR in case we needed it. This year, the Southern Naiad in the South basin of South Bay did not become a problem. The other areas that we were prepared to cut were, near Serenity Bay, No Fish Bay and the narrow part of East Bay.**
6. **Clean Boats Clean Waters – Schwartz reported that we have continued with the UW Oshkosh program this year at a cost of \$1,700 to the District.**
7. **Fishery Update – Steve Gilbert, DNR Fishery Biologist, reported that in Oct. of 2018, they released 217 Musky into the lake. According to their studies, there is no natural reproduction of Walleyes, so the plan is to release 14,700 “extended growth” walleyes this year in the Fall. Hadley Boehm will be overseeing the Fall survey when the water temperature is 65 or below. He indicated that the program should continue alternating Musky and Walleye until at least 2025.**

### Old Business

Tom Groth described the steps that the District Board has taken in the process of coordinating with the WVIC, WDNR and USGS to make the Water Draw Down a reality. We will be required to do a 4-5 year study to see what the environmental impact would be to the proposed change. The cost would be approximately \$200,000 over the next 5 years. He explained that the USGS will give us a Grant for about \$30,000. We would need to employ Onterra’s Tim Hoyman to write a Grant proposal to the WDNR which would potentially cover \$100,000 to \$140,000 of the cost. The bottom line cost to the Lake District would be somewhere between \$7,000 to \$11,000 per year over 5 years in order to get this project accomplished. The first draw down could be as early as 2020, depending on the WDNR Grant. Motion was made by Dan Lyons to continue to pursue the Water Draw Down proposal contingent upon a possible WDNR Grant of at least \$115,000. Jim Kelsey seconded, motion carried.

I-Lids Camera – Continued discussion regarding the idea of purchasing an I-Lid Camera (Internet Landing Installed Device Sensor) for the Boat Landing. The camera is motion activated and takes high resolution video that is uploaded to the vendor’s computers in real-time. The signs and recorded message would be a constant reminder to boaters entering or leaving the lake. It would enable the DNR to issue citations based on the video. The camera would need to be removed and stored for the winter. Insurance would cover us for any legal action that could occur. This would be a second system when the Clean Boats Clean Waters interns are not present at the landing. Carolyn Ritter motioned to table any further action on the I-Lids Camera, Tony Cempel seconded. Motion carried.

### New Business

Eurasian Milfoil Treatment 2020 – Discussion regarding the possibility of returning to an AIS Chemical Treatment for next year depending on Onterra’s Fall and Spring Surveys. If any of the areas meet the trigger for treatment, we would move forward with a chemical treatment. Motion to proceed with a 2020 Chemical treatment was made by Rick Burdorf, seconded by Ted Nelson, motion carried.

A discussion regarding the problem we have been having with the Wakesurf boats was had and Chuck Strauss, who lives in West Bay, told us that he has been monitoring the activity and going out and approaching some of the bigger offenders. We need to come up with some ideas about how to communicate with boaters and possibly resort owners to ask the boat owners to be more courteous to their fellow boaters. The lake is there for everyone’s enjoyment and it becomes dangerous up in the narrow part of West Bay, where the repeated circling of the boats causes large waves and disturbs fisherman and other boats.

**Action Items**

**Approval of 2018 Financials – Motion to approve made by Erv Stiemke, seconded by Steve LaRiviere, motion carried.**

**Approval of 2020 Budget – Motion to approve made by Randy Farchmin, seconded by Barb Steinhilber, motion carried.**

**Approval of 2019 Tax Levy – Motion to approve made by Dan Lyons, seconded by Jim Kelsey, motion carried.**

**Election of Expiring Term of Tom Groth – Motion to nominate Tom Groth for another 3 year term, made by Barb Steinhilber, seconded by Greg Loesche, motion carried.**

**Open Discussion**

**Due to the fact that the Aeration line has been hit a couple of times and has cost the District hundreds of dollars in labor and materials to replace, it was suggested that we ask the DNR for permission to place another Buoy in Lower East Bay near the aeration line. Tom Groth was going to inquire about this.**

**Ted Nelson brought to our attention that the AIS and Curly Leaf Pondweed over near his point has really exploded over the last couple of years. He was wondering if Onterra could come over there and take a look at the location of this outbreak. He is located where No Fish Bay meets East Bay, his property has frontage on both bays.**

**It was mentioned that some of the lakes that are part of the Town Lakes Committee, are wanting to establish a “no wake after a certain time”. Tom Christensen, our Town of St. Germain representative said it would be very difficult to enforce this. At this time, there is only 1 Vilas County Recreational officer.**

**Set Time for 2020 Meeting – September 6, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. for the next Annual meeting.**

**Adjournment – Motion to adjourn was made by Steve LaRiviere at 11:32 a.m.**