

MINUTES

Secord Lake Association (SLA) meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Phil Dast. Board members present via Zoom: Phil Dast, Chuck Sikora, Susan Morgan, Richard West, Bruce Plowman, Deb Stover, Rita Lewis, Carl Kerr and Jeanne Ballor. Also present Sandy Sikora and guests Dave Rothman, Four Lakes Task Force (FLTF), and Commissioner Joel Vernier, Gladwin County Board of Commissioners

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Motion made to approve Minutes from meetings on 8/15, 8/19 and 9/2/20. Seconded and passed. Jeanne reported that the request to the Post Office for special mailing rates for 501c3 organizations has been approved. The approval letter was from the Flint Post Office, where the request was submitted. If SLA is to mail from another location, the letter must be provided to that post office. A copy of the letter was given to Sandy Sikora.

TREASURERS REPORT: Current bank balance is \$8430.56. Susan reported that the account for Secord Dam Repairs has been opened. \$500 from our general account has been transferred to that account. Bills approved at the last Board meeting have been paid: Vintage Printing (\$1,067.57); Post Office for mailing newsletter (\$515.85); Vector Stock for new logo (\$30.00); State of Michigan licensing of SLA (\$20.00). New bills presented for authorization: Zoom (\$53.00); Amazon for ink (\$29.42); card stock for membership cards (\$23.25) for a total of \$105.67. Motion made to approve new bills for payment made, seconded and passed. Motion to approve Treasurer's Report made, seconded and passed.

Phil introduced the members of current SLA committees and asked for their reports.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: (Rita Lewis, Sandy Sikora, Carl Kerr). Sandy reported that our current membership is 436. Of those, 350 are paid through 2020; 20 are paid through 2023 and 60 are paid through 2024.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: (Chuck Sikora, Sandy Sikora, Rita Lewis, Deb Stover). Sandy reported that the Committee has been working on accomplishing the task of improving communications between SLA and our membership and the Secord Lake community. The committee is responsible for mailing a newsletter to all homeowners on the lake; obtaining support from 37 local businesses and 4 townships; purchasing a new logo; updating the website to make it more user friendly and to include a 'donate' button for donations to Secord Dam repairs; Creating and emailing News You Can Use and FAQs to membership and those who have requested email updates.

ELECTION COMMITTEE: (Jeanne Ballor, Richard West, Sue Morgan, Bruce Plowman). Jeanne reported that as of the 8/15 election, SLA had 401 eligible voters and that 310 ballots were cast. The results were that Phil Dast, Chuck Sikora, Susan Morgan and Jeanne Ballor were elected as Directors. Each of the 9 Directors serves a 3 year term, staggered so that only 3 will run for reelection each year. The terms are as follows: Carl, Bruce and Richard have 1 year terms; Deb, Sue and Rita have 2 year terms; and Phil, Chuck and Jeanne have 3 year terms. Phil advised that Carl Kerr will be resigning from the Board. Any member interested in serving the remainder of his term should contact SLA by contacting a Board member or sending an email. The deadline for doing this is Oct. 2. Interviews will take place in early October.

SECORD LAKE ASSOCIATION INC

Public Board Meeting via Zoom

Sept. 19, 2020

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: Phil spoke about ways individuals can donate funds to FLTF and SLA. The funds that are donated to FLTF will be used for shared expenses incurred by all 4 lakes collectively, such as legal, engineering, and administrative expenses. Those donated to SLA will be used for repairs to Secord Dam only. The costs for repairs of the dams and SAD assessments have been estimated post-flood, and for Secord Lake homeowners, the estimated assessments have not changed very much, with a range of possible assessment amounts from \$250 to \$450 per year. Homeowners on the other 3 lakes are not so fortunate, as their potential assessment amounts have increased quite a lot.

Phil read a 9/17 FERC letter sent to Lee Mueller regarding his continuing failure to meet deadlines and his inaction to undertake repairs he has been ordered to make. Until those repairs are made, FERC will not allow Secord to raise the water level.

In the Boyce Bankruptcy case, FLTF has filed a motion to lift the automatic stay of other litigation so the condemnation action can proceed. Boyce is opposing the condemnation action, so once the stay is lifted, that action will proceed.

Phil then introduced Joel Vernier and asked for his comments. Joel first spoke about a few improvements made in Secord Township. The Hall has updated its wifi capabilities so that webinars and zoom meetings can take place without problems. This was done at no cost to taxpayers and there will be no monthly charge. The water well for use by the firehouse has been completed and can pump 800 gallons per minute. As for Gladwin County, the data committee has changed from use of hard lines (fax) to online communications, saving thousands of dollars a year. This is part of the County's efforts to cut costs while maintaining services in anticipation of lesser tax revenues due to the flood and COVID. Joel also assured that the County is well aware of the economic benefits it reaps from Secord Lake, and its top priority is seeing that Secord Lake is returned to its legal level in a safe manner. Property assessors will be completing tax assessments at the end of this year.

PROGRAM: Dave Rothman is on the Wixom Lake Association Board and the FLTF Board. He is in charge of erosion and weed control for FLTF. He presented information about the status of erosion programs, weed control programs, debris removal and dam stabilization at all 4 of the lakes. Plans to address immediate concerns such as erosion and weed control are underway. Weeds will die off as winter approaches, and a plan for next year is being developed. Trees are a big problem. EGLE guidelines are being developed so homeowners know what they can and cannot do on river bottoms. Public documents will be prepared and safety concerns addressed. Mr. Rothman stated that the 4 year estimate to complete all repairs is not the same as saying that we will have no water for that entire time. But until the Counties obtain ownership the work cannot start. In the meantime, all avenues for additional funding are being explored. Phil asked Mr. Rothman where to buy seed and erosion mats for use on river bottoms. Some places are listed on the FLTF web site in the EROSION link. Standish Milling and Gladwin Conservation Service both have them available. He recommended purchasing through these locations or other contractors rather than big box stores, as the latter are relatively more expensive.

His comprehensive review of these issues can be viewed on the recording of this meeting at SLA website.

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QUESTION AND ANSWER: Phil opened the meeting for questions. One question was presented regarding whether seepage at Secord Dam embankment has stopped. Dave responded that we don't know the answer because Boyce will not allow FLTF on the dam to inspect.

Motion made to adjourn with support; passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

JB