



MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 5, 2023

1. Call to order

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Silver Lake Management District (the “District”) was called to order at 6:30 p.m. December 5, 2023. The meeting was held at the Silver Lake Community Center, 133 S. 1st St., Silver Lake, WI.

2. Roll Call

Present: Dee Andershock
 John Coffey
 Harry Laws
 Jim Purinton

Absent: Bill Hopkins

Guest presenter: Jim Scharl, representing Wisconsin Lake & Pond Resource

3. Open Meeting Law Compliance Check

The Open Meeting Law requirement for 24-hour notice of the meeting was satisfied. The December 5, 2023 Board Meeting Notice with agenda was posted on the District’s website (www.silverlakemgmt.org) on November 28, 2023, and

then posted at the Salem Lakes Community Library, the Silver Lake Post Office, and Salem Lakes Village Hall by December 1, 2023.

Without objection, Chair Purinton shifted the order of the agenda items to accommodate the presentation by Jim Scharl, WLPR.

4. Treasurer's Report

A. Treasurer Laws presented the Treasurer's Report:

- a. Since the September 12 Board meeting, \$1500 in revenue was received (SLPA donation toward the APMP preparation). \$1,016 in bills were paid (attorney fees and PO Box rental). The 2024 tax levy documents were filed with WDOR and the Village of Salem Lakes Clerk.
- b. Invoices yet to be paid in 2023 total \$10,186.38 (attorney fees, annual website costs, APMP survey and draft report). Invoices for annual insurance to be paid in early 2024 are estimated not to exceed \$2,500.00.
- c. The current 2023 Actual v Budget was presented (see Exhibit A).
- d. Treasurer Laws said he recommends using the same consultant as last year for the required independent review of the SLMD 2023 financials, provided the proposal comes within budget.

B. Motion to approve payment of the invoices totaling \$12,692.38 was made by Andershock, seconded by Coffey. Motion passed.

C. Motion to approve using the same consultant used last year for independent review of 2023 SLMD financials, provided the proposal is within budget, was made by Andershock, seconded by Coffey. Motion passed.

D. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Andershock, seconded by Coffey. Motion passed.

5. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning the Aquatic Plant Management Plan (APMP)

- A. Jim Scharl, WPLR, presented a slideshow summary of the draft APMP. Sharl has 17 years of experience in lake management and has personally been involved in the surveys and subsequent hybrid water milfoil management of Silver Lake since 2014. Sharl said the last APMP was in 2013 and the WDNR requires an updated APMP every five years for treatment programs to be grant-eligible,
- B. Discussion of results
- a. 88.8% of the lake is less than 20 feet deep and has plants growing.
 - b. Three Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are present in Silver Lake. Unfortunately, once an AIS is established, it is almost impossible to completely remove it.
 - c. Silver Lake has 28 total species of which 25 are native. The diversity of aquatic plants in Silver Lake is broader than most other nearby lakes and is in the upper quartile of all lakes in Wisconsin.
 - d. Silver Lake has three AIS:
 - i. Hybrid Water Milfoil (HWM): In Silver Lake since about 2012 as a hybrid, which makes it harder to control. In 2023, HWM was found in about 53 acres of the lake. This is down from past surveys.
 - ii. Curly Leaf Pondweed: Confirmed in Silver Lake in 1976. Not a management problem over the years, as it is found only in spots in the lake.
 - iii. Starry Stonewort: Found for the first time this summer in one spot. Management of this AIS is currently only done if it becomes a nuisance, but population needs to be closely monitored. Also found in four other nearby lakes.
- C. Future actions suggested in the APMP include:
- a. Maintain a rotation process of chemicals used to manage aquatic plants.
 - b. Seek grant funding to help offset the cost of surveys, especially regarding starry stonewort.
 - c. Add signage at launch ramps to remind people to clean their boats.

D. Discussion of Lake User Survey sent out in late summer. Detailed results are included in the APMP.

- a. 99 total responses.
- b. 77.3% responses were lakeshore full or part-time residents.
- c. Respondents have used the lake for an average of 20.7 years (median of 15 years).
- d. Average usage of lake is 12.6 days/month in summer and 4.2 days in the winter.
- e. Most popular activity is pleasure boating, fishing, then skiing/tubing.
- f. Enjoyment of the lake decreased for 52.6% of respondents due to plant growth (50%), then boat traffic (42%).
- g. Plant growth affected 78% negatively. 88% of respondents support management control of plant growth.
- h. Main concerns were water safety/enforcement, AIS, plant growth, and lake levels.

E. Public Review of Draft APMP

- a. A recorded narration of Jim Sharl's slideshow presentation, as well as the draft APMP will be uploaded to the website.
- b. The public will be able to review and make comments on the APMP until January 31, 2024. Comments will be directed to Jim Sharl.
- c. The WDNR will need to approve the APMP as the final step.
- d. The final APMP will be discussed at the 2024 Annual Meeting.
- e. After the holidays, Purinton will publicize the APMP and the public review and comment opportunity via the website's "Message From The Chair" page and an email to the website list (approximately 250 interested parties).

6. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning the 2024 HWM Lake Treatment Program

A. Sharl said HWM density is again down from 2021, and he recommended treatment of HWM in two areas totaling approximately 6.85 acres: A 4.2-acre area in the far northern corner of the lake and a 2.65-acre area just north of the Village

swim beach. See Exhibit C.

- B. Sharl said the total cost of the proposed 2024 HWM treatment should not exceed \$13,000.
- C. A motion was made by Coffey, seconded by Laws, to proceed with the recommended 2024 HWM Lake Treatment at a cost not-to-exceed \$13,000. Motion passed.
- D. Purinton said he would upload the 2024 HWM Treatment map onto the website and include it in the updated “Message from the Chair” and the email noted above.

7. Chairman’s Report

- A. Purinton said Coffey was reappointed to the SLMD Board by the Kenosha County Board for a term ending December 31, 2025.
- B. Purinton said he and Scott McComb, UW Sea Grant, couldn’t find a way to undertake a Clean Boats, Clean Waters program for Silver Lake in 2024 pursuant to the conditions raised at the September Board Meeting. McComb is working on additional ideas for solutions for future years.
- C. Purinton said he updated the website since the September 12 Board meeting. The update included the posting of the August Board Meeting minutes and removing the information concerning the Lake User Survey. He said that website usage in 2023 was up 500% over the prior year.
- D. Purinton reported that he received a bid for SLMD emails for Board members that had an annual cost of about \$850/year (five emails) and \$140/hour for installation on personal devices. There was no Board member support for pursuing this item.

8. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning the 2024 Annual Meeting

- A. The 2024 Annual Meeting was tentatively set for 10:00am, Saturday, May 25 at the Copper Bottom Pavilion.

- B. The Treasurer and the Chair will prepare the Proposed 2025 Annual Budget, the Annual Meeting Agenda, and the Meeting Notice documents (Meeting Notice/Agenda, the Call For Nominations, and Financials) for review at the next Board Meeting.
- C. Andershock and Coffey will serve as Election Commissioners. Other assignments will be made at the next Board Meeting.

9. Other Topics for Discussion

- A. Water Safety/Enforcement: Laws and Andershock said they will lead the SLMD's investigation of ways to address this issue, hoping for some initial solution for the 2024 season. Purinton said a group of lake districts are reaching out to Kenosha County regarding a possible expanded Sheriff water patrol program and that SLMD should participate in those discussions.
- B. Lake Levels: There was discussion that the District should look further at lake levels.

10. Next Board Meeting

Tentatively set for Tuesday, March 12, 2024 (subsequently changed to March 19, 2024) at 6:30pm at the Silver Lake Community Building.

11. Adjournment

Motion was made by Laws, seconded by Coffey to adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Andershock, Secretary

Exhibit A



2023 BUDGET / ACTUAL YTD CASH BASIS

	BUDGET	12/5/2023		
		Actual	Variance	
CASH RECEIPTS				
Tax Receipts	52,000.00	52,000.00	-	Note 1
Grants	-	5,947.09	5,947.09	Note 2
Donations	-	1,500.00	1,500.00	Note 3
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	52,000.00	59,447.09	7,447.09	
CASH EXPENSES				
Aquatic Plant Mgmt Plan	10,000.00	3,626.19	6,374.00	Note 4
Aquatic Plant Treatment	25,000.00	3,550.25	21,450.00	Note 5
SLPA Loan Payoff	5,300.00	5,266.66	33.00	Note 6
Website	2,500.00	701.25	1,799.00	
Insurance	2,500.00	2,202.00	298.00	
Legal	1,000.00	960.00	40.00	
Annual Meeting	500.00	500.00	-	
Admin/Acctg/Audit				
PO Box	100.00	56.00	44.00	
Banking	200.00	-	200.00	
Audit	700.00	363.00	337.00	
Contingency	200.00		200.00	
Reserve For Future Proj	4,000.00		4,000.00	
TOTAL CASH EXPENSES	52,000.00	17,225.35	34,775.00	
CASH SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	42,221.74		
CASH POSITION				
Start of Year	4,578.04			
Year to Date		46,799.78		

Note 1: Tax receipts received February-August

Note 2: Advance payment from WDNR APMP Planning Grant

Note 3: SLPA Donation toward updated APMP

Note 4: Estimated cost of APMP during calendar year

Note 5: Cost of HWM treatment far below budget

Note 6: Loan pay-off as of 5/15/23

Exhibit B

Proposed 2024 HWM Lake Treatment

