

Trego Lake District

Quarterly Board of Commissioners' Meeting

April 17, 2021
Trego Town Hall, Trego, Wisconsin

Minutes

(Board members present: Dan DuRose, Tim Reedy, Charlie Petersen, Bob Somermeyer, Gary Kaiser, Tom Frost; other individuals were present both in person and by Zoom).

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by board chair Charlie Petersen.
2. There was a motion, second and vote to approve the minutes of Winter 2021 Board Meeting.
3. Board chair Charlie Petersen reported that there would be two board positions up for election at the June 12, 2021, Annual Meeting.

He further announced that issues related to aquatic invasive species, lake management plan, dam re-licensing, were all related and would be discussed as part of the response and discussion during and following the PowerPoint presentation of Dave Bluner (L.E.A.P.S).

Discussion of planning for the Trego Lake District picnic would be postponed to the end of the meeting.

4. Treasurer Tom Frost's Report consisted of two items:
 - The Quarterly Treasurer's Report (on the website) -- There was a motion, second, and vote to approve the Quarterly Financial Report.
 - Treasurer Frost presented the proposed Budget (for the 2021-22 fiscal year). The proposal will be considered at the 2021 Annual Meeting. There was a motion, second and vote to support the proposed Budget and recommend it for passage at the Annual Meeting. The proposed budget is posted on the Trego Lake District website.
5. Committee Reports
 - Lake Management Plan discussion began with the PowerPoint presentation of Dave Blumer. Dave Blumer is a lake management consultant and owner of L.E.A.P.S. (Lake Education and Planning Services). He has been retained by Trego Lake District to assist TLD as it deals with aquatic invasive species. Payment for his services is through a DNR Rapid Response Grant received by TLD.

His presentation is on the website. It contains interesting and valuable information about aquatic invasive species and plant management for Trego Lake. Survey on multiple intercept points was done last summer and compared to similar plant study of 2011. He showed slides of aquatic invasive species (AIS) curly leaf pond leaf and Eurasian milfoil. He discussed their life cycles and methods for dealing with them. One of the issues he addressed was the current weed harvesting. There is an

opportunity to both better coordinate the timing of harvesting with the plant growth life cycle and to consider how placement of buoys and channel identification may be more strategic in the future. He recommended consideration of an additional harvest during the summer season. Consideration of weed harvesting options beyond 2021 is necessary.

Charlie Petersen provided background information and led discussion about the Xcel Energy dam re-licensing for the dams on Trego Lake and in Hayward scheduled for completion in 2025. As part of the dam re-licensing input has been sought from lake partners including DNR, TLD, National Park Service (NPS) and others. After a meeting in March, Charlie Petersen, and representatives of the NPS discussed studies that would be helpful to identify issues on the lakes they create. NPS has taken the lead on this and is proposing three studies – 1. Recreation; 2. Shoreline Survey; 3. Hydraulics, Sedimentation, and Channel Change.

There was a motion, second and vote approving the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Trego Lake District (TLD) is interested in the relicensing of Xcel Energy's hydroelectric dam creating Trego Lake.

WHEREAS, the process has begun for re-licensure of the dam and part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) process for re-licensure includes a request for possible areas to study that the dam project may affect.

WHEREAS, the National Park Service (NPS) has drafted three study proposals that identify key issues relating to Trego Lake and TLD concerns. The studies include: 1) Recreation Study, 2) Shoreline Survey, and 3) Hydraulics, Sedimentation, and Channel Change Study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trego Lake District Board of Commissioners is authorized to act in support of these study requests and submit a letter to FERC as testimony to this support. Additionally, the TLD will participate with NPS, and other interested parties, in providing information on these study areas to NPS and FERC as needed and/or requested.

Charlie Petersen will draft a letter in support of the proposed NPS requests for studies. He will also seek information from NPS on expanding the studies to include data upstream from Trego Lake to the Hayward dam and will support such expansion in the letter.

Charlie Petersen discussed creating a Long Range Planning Committee to manage the process for developing a long-range plan (two to four years up to ten years) for Trego Lake. The plan will include member surveys to understand all the various needs and hopes for the lake. DNR grant funding is available for this project. There was a motion, second and vote to create a Long Range Planning Committee with about ten members reflecting the geography and diversity of the lake.

- Weed Harvesting – After discussion, there was a motion, second and vote to request the weed harvester (that has already contracted with TLD) to do the weed harvesting this summer during the week of June 14 to 18.

- Clean Boats/Clean Waters – Tim Reedy reported that TLD will again engage L.E.A.P.S. to oversee its implementation of voluntary boat inspections and information distribution this summer. Tim Reedy reported that TLD has been awarded the maximum grant and that he expects that TLD will expand its time commitment this year. TLD employs people to do the work. It has been a successful DNR grant supported project the past several summers.
- Water Quality – Dan DuRose reported that the season’s first tests will be conducted this week. He reminded people of the positive Succi disk findings and the increased phosphorus and nitrogen levels from last year. He indicated Minnesota is studying the effects of bottom feeding fish on the level of phosphorus and nitrogen in water bodies.
- Buoys, Public Landing Pier – Tim Reedy reported that the buoys will be going in later this week. The pier at the landing is already in. There was discussion of the placement of the buoys in relationship to the channels cleared by the weed harvester.

At the request of several people, TLD will attempt to educate boaters on the purpose and placement of the buoys. Possible ways to communicate include emails, website, and posting at the landing.
- Fish Stocking/Management – No report.
- Sedimentation – Charlie Petersen reported that dredging this summer will be conducted at three sites on Trego Lake. He is reaching out to the sedimentation committee to establish a work plan. Three sedimentation disposal sites are identified, Two of the three have new owners who are supportive, but will need to commit in writing. The first date TLD can dredge is June 15. Further discussion and calls for volunteer help will be made at the June Annual Meeting.

6. Citizen comments

After discussion, it was agreed not to have a picnic this summer.

Request made to have paper copies of Agenda available for future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Next meeting: Annual Meeting - June 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Trego Town Hall (and by Zoom)