

Trego Lake District Meeting - Minutes

Quarterly Meeting – Spring 2022

April 16, 2022

Trego Town Hall, Trego, Wisconsin

(Board members present: Charlie Petersen, Tim Reedy, Tom Frost; members present by Zoom: Dan Frase, Nick Tseffos, Bob Somermeyer)

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Board Chair Charlie Petersen.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. There was a motion, second and vote to approve the minutes of January 8, 2022, Board Meeting.
3. Board chair's Report - Chair Petersen reported that Gary Kaiser had resigned from the Board of Commissioners. The position will be filled by election at the June 11, 2022, meeting. Three positions will need to be filled by election at the Annual Meeting.
4. Updating TLD By-laws. The Board of Commissioners reviewed the proposed edits for the Trego Lake District by-laws at the January meeting and recommended them for approval at the Annual Meeting. There were no additional comments or recommendations.
5. Committee Reports
 - Clean Boats/Clean Waters – Tim Reedy reported that L.E.A.P.S. will administer the time keeping, payroll and payments to employees for this program as it did last year. Tim advised that he currently has three candidates for the inspection and information duties at the landing this summer. They will receive training from the Land and Water Conservation Department of Washburn County.
 - Buoys, Public Landing Pier – Tim Reedy reported that the buoys will be put in the lake the last week of April by AAA Sports. Volunteers are needed in the fall for removal of the buoys. Anyone interested should contact Tim. The pier at the landing will also be put in the last week of April by Sam Smith.
 - Fish Stocking/Management – No report.
 - Water Quality – With L.E.A.P.S., Trego Lake District is looking into possible alternatives for analyzing the data. Dan DuRose indicated he would be printing the results of tests going back ten years along with commentary on what presence of chemicals mean for posting on the Trego Lake District website.

- Sedimentation – Charlie Petersen reported that last summer’s dredging with the new small district owned dredge was successful. Channels were made sufficiently deeper on both the north and south sides of the flowage. Channels will be examined later this spring to see if additional dredging is necessary. Possible additional dredging site, where Potato Creek enters the flowage, will be reviewed and need for additional permits explored this summer.
- Lake Management Plan – Charlie Petersen led discussion.
 - Trego Dam relicensing moves forward. A more robust recreation impact report was recommended by NPS. FERC has the proposals under consideration with a likely order by the end of April.
 - Trego Lake – Comprehensive Lake Management Plan – Trego Lake District is planning to have a complete lake management plan developed for the lake to guide decisions and priorities in the future. Grant funding is available from the DNR. A preliminary application is due September 1, with a final application due later in the year. This proposal would involve gathering input from the broadest range of stakeholders. If successful, funding would be available in 2023.
 - Aquatic Plant Management Plan – 2022 to 2026. This plan (posted on the TLD website) was developed by Dave Blumer (L.E.A.P.S.). The time for public comment has closed. TLD received some comments. And these were passed along to L.E.A.P.S. for consideration and inclusion in the final report. The report will now be submitted to the DNR. They will review and consider it for approval. DNR approval of the report and recommend measures would form the basis for additional weed harvesting options and locations on Trego Lake. Based on the plan, Charlie prepared and shared activities worksheet survey he distributed to Board members. The survey results show the priorities for recommended priority action by the Board. These will be discussed at the Annual Meeting. They will form a basis for moving forward on broader and expanded harvesting activities. There was a motion, second and vote to recommend adoption of the plan at the Annual Meeting.
- Weed Harvesting – Tom Frost reported that the weed harvesting in the navigation channels for 2022 is scheduled to start June 15 with the same harvester as the last two years. Bob Somermeyer and Dan DuRose volunteered to monitor the harvester. Nick Tseffos agreed to be back up.

Weed Harvesting proposed for 2023 (and beyond) - Charlie Petersen led discussion. Two days of harvesting were needed for last year’s harvest in the channels. If TLD expands harvesting activity to capture areas with AIS growth, additional days will be needed. The additional areas would need to be

permitted, but if the TLD Aquatic Plant Management Plan is approved by the DNR, it follows that permits would be approved for the additional harvesting proposed in the Plan. It is unknown how many additional days would be needed, but the maximum area should be harvested.

6. Treasurer's Report

- There was a motion, second and vote to approve the Treasurer's Quarterly Financial Report (as posted on the website).
- Proposed FY 2022-2023 budget - There was discussion about the proposed budget. The need for additional harvesting of aquatic invasive species to maintain and restore Trego Lake was the primary consideration. In order to fund additional weed harvesting (consistent with the recommendation of the grant funded Aquatic Plant Management Plan) additional revenue through a levy increase is needed. The Board concluded that an increase of \$15,000 was appropriate and necessary. There was a motion, second and vote to amend the proposed budget to create additional revenue through levy increase of \$15,000 and change the expense line item for AIS harvesting to \$15,000. There was a motion, second and vote to recommend this proposed budget to the Annual Meeting. (The proposed budget as recommended by the Board will be provided to members with the meeting notice and posted on the website.)

7. Citizen comments

Discussion of how taking on the issue of aquatic invasive species and the proposal to apply for a grant for a total lake management plan was moving the Trego Lake District operations and scope to the next level.

Discussion of the possible negative impact of the highway construction and re-routing of Highway 63. The new route has caused the closing of the landing across from the National Park Service building. Unless a new alternative is created, there may be no place for canoeists, kayakers, or tubers to land and exit river. This may impact TLD west of Highway 53 bridge.

Discussion of how to deal with bottles and cans dropped in the river. Glass containers are prohibited.

Discussion of National Park Service attendance at meetings. Tom will reach out to NPS staff.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Annual Meeting: June 11, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. - Trego Town Hall