



Lakes Committee Meeting

7/27/2023

11:00 AM

Lake County DOT, 600 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL

Minutes

1. Call to order

Chair Bartolai called the meeting to order at 11:04.

2. Roll call

Members present: Alana Bartolai, Rob Flood, Tom Morthorst, Nick Huber

Members absent: Mike Adam

Others present: Mike Prusila, Anna Niedzinski, Joel Sensenig

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approval of January 26, 2023 Lakes Committee Meeting Minutes

Approval of the minutes was tabled.

5. NARP Update

Bartolai reported that Geosyntec is finishing up with the NARP report. Current deadlines are at the end of July and end of August for portions of the report. The Lakes Committee's role will likely be greater at the project implementation phase after the NARP is completed.

6. Lake Projects Update

a. Carp reduction project

Alana Bartolai reported that the project grant is over, and it is in the monitoring phase now. Lake County Health Dept. & Lake County Forest Preserves have been on all lakes since the grant expired, aquatic plant coverage is increasing on all lakes, particularly on McDonald and Slough. Clarity is also improving. Carp removals do not occur in mid-summer. Nick Huber noted that their projection is that there should be more than 30,000 carp removed by end of the year from all 8 lakes total. Rob Flood added that 404

carp were removed from Gages Lake by IDNR in May. Alana Bartolai reported that LCHD will do chemical monitoring next year and hope to expand the program. Rob Flood asked if there are invasive species grants for future projects. The other committee members were not aware of specific grants for that use. LCHD uses a formula to estimate the amount of phosphorus removed based on number/weight of carp removed, which may need to be updated.

7. Illinois EPA Water Quality Standards Triennial Review Discussion ([link to IL EPA webpage](#))

Alana Bartolai reported that the public comment period is open through August 7, and IL EPA's survey is currently open on 16 water quality standards that IL EPA will look at. DRWW members have been encouraged by the monitoring committee to both fill out the survey and request an extension until December 31, 2023.

One topic related to lakes is the development of a Harmful Algal Bloom water quality standard, as no official standard exists, there is a recommended standard for microcystin. The proposed update to chloride standards is also germane to lakes (currently 500 mg/L). Modification of the phosphorus standard for lakes is also one of the potential topics for review. IL EPA has only provided a list with brief summaries.

8. DRWW Lake Education Discussion

Alana Bartolai reported that she spoke with ILMA about reinvigorating PODs (Point of Discussion). They are interested in getting those going again and are considering the early Fall time frame. She canvassed the members for potential topics. Rob Flood mentioned grant funding available to lakes groups, including eligibility requirements and some real-life experiences, along with aquatic plant topics. The committee indicated that a round table format with a few lake groups that can share their experience might be preferable. Alana Bartolai will begin coordinating with ILMA board. Tom Morthorst noted that carp removal is a good topic. Rob Flood suggested combining carp removal with Harmful Algal Blooms as a Spring topic.

9. Member Comments

Alana Bartolai reported that at the end of August LCHD staff will conduct an informal plant ID paddle on Third Lake. Starry Stonewort discussion from LCHD this fall as well.

Tom Morthorst reported that IDNR was out looking for 3 each of 5 different fish species for tissue sampling at Third Lake last week.

10. Meeting Dates

- a. Next Scheduled Lakes Committee Meeting: October 26, 2023 (10:00 AM at LCDOT)

11. Adjourn

Motion by Morthorst, seconded by Huber, to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 11:41