



INDIAN LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES May 18, 2022

The Indian Lake Watershed Project Board of Directors met May 18, 2022, at the Indian Lake State Park Campground's Multi-Purpose Building. President Tom Langhals called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Approval of Minutes

Dustin Wickersham moved to approve the May minutes, Frank Giannola 2nd, passed.

Financial Report

Gary Schick moved to approve the May Financial Statements, Dustin Wickersham 2nd, passed.

Bills to be Paid

Dustin Wickersham moved to approve the current bills, Frank Giannola 2nd, passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Eco Harvester is in the water
- Focusing on channels and docks

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Hitmakers**
 - Ticket sales are moving along
 - Almost all the sponsorships are in
- **Membership**
 - Logan County Business Bureau Breakfast
 - 4th Thursday Food Trucks
 - Ad in the Shoppers Edge
 - Seminole Island Civic Association newsletter had an article and contact info for the watershed
 - Still accepting new members

- SOL – Save Our Lake
 - The ILWP is a nonprofit 501c3 that focuses on water quality
 - The management of Indian Lake belongs to ODNR
 - ILWP has been working since last September with members of the State Legislature
 - Jon Cross, Commissioner Joe Antrim and Commissioner-Elect Mike Yoder were in attendance
 - Contact sheets are available to contact your representatives
 - \$250,000 has been awarded to fund open water harvesting at 225 acres and 600 cubic yards per week
 - Approximately 10 years ago ILWP bought the Lake Raker weed harvester
 - IN 2021 ILWP bought the Eco Harvester
 - The open water harvester is owned by a private contractor

OLD BUSINESS

- Harvester GPS
 - Purchased 2 NEBO Global units
 - Tracks speed, weather, location, and engine time

NEW BUSINESS

- Josh Garner – ODNR
 - Vegetation and clear water are sign of a healthy lake
 - Invasive species have taken off
 - Last years increase in weeds was not expected
 - ODNR has ordered a new large harvester for 2023
 - Harvesters are slow and work best along the shore and channels
 - Weekly updates on the ODNR website
 - Hired or hiring 12 people moving to more hours to work the harvesters
 - Similar lakes are facing this problem but all lakes are unique. A plan needs to be tailored for Indian Lake
 - Hired Ed Kwietniewski to study the lake to find the best options
 - End goal is to have a lake vegetation management plan
 - Small scale targeted spray is underway
 - Dredging has started for this year. One dredge is waiting on a transmission. Any large scale dredging will have to wait until the study is done
 - Grass carp will avoid the milfoil. They don't like to eat it
- John Cross
 - Deeply concerned about the weed problem
 - Trying to draw attention to the weed problem
 - Trying to get the Governor to visit Indian Lake to see it
 - Trying to declare a State of Emergency
 - Jon Cross provided his phone number
 - 567-674-7076

QUESTION TIME

- Is there a study?
 - Yes, a one-year study on the type, density and amount of weeds to provide a targeted management approach
- Are there any similar lakes facing this issue?
 - Yes but it is rare and each lake has its own issues. No exact answer on how to treat it.
- Is there any way to get the Gillespie open water harvester running?
 - Yes, The ILWP received \$250,000 to fund open water harvesting
- Has there ever been a study on the revenue brought in by the lake?
 - Not by ILWP. We are not involved in tourism. We are a water quality group. ILWP is not opposed to an economic study.
- How much will Logan County fund to help, from a tax perspective?
 - Most of the taxes paid goes to fund schools and other budgeted programs
- How does the public dumping their own chemical affect the lake?
 - Copper sulfate in large amounts can become toxic to fish
 - Bleach kills a lot of things not just weeds
 - It is illegal for the public to put chemicals in the lake, and they can be fined
 - ODNR is spraying in prescribed areas already
- How often have the harvesters been running?
 - Historically ODNR stopped harvesting before the weekend to avoid boat traffic
 - They are hiring more people to operate longer
- Is the State going to give Indian Lake more money?
 - Cross – we are going after as much money as we can
 - The \$500,000 was just a quick amount to get started

Gary Schick moved to adjourn

The next regularly scheduled ILWP Board of Directors meeting will be held Wednesday, July 20th, 2022, 6:00 PM at the Indian Lake State Park Multi-Purpose building located at the State Park Campground.