

**North Fork Crow River Watershed District**  
**Project 2019-1 Pirz Lake Aquatic Plant Management Hearing**  
**Roscoe, MN**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Managers Present:** Jim Barchenger, Bob Brauchler, Gary Berndt, John Hanson, Jim Wuertz

**Managers Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Cris Skonard, Christopher Lundeen

**Others Present:** Moriya Rufer (HEI), Joe Lewis (HEI), Ron Ringquist (appraiser), Al Kerber (appraiser), Jeff Johnson (appraiser), Kurt Deter (Rinke-Noonan), Others-See Attached Sign-In Sheet

**Opening of Public Hearing**

President Brauchler called the hearing to order at 7:00 pm.

**Purpose of the Hearing**

Attorney Deter stated the purpose of the hearing and process to follow. Attorney Deter reviewed the petition and stated the petition is sufficient and meets states statutes.

**Record of Notice Requirements**

Administrator Skonard reviewed the following project timeline.

May 13, 2019 – Board accepted Petition and Appointed Houston Engineering, Inc (HEI) as Engineer

June 10, 2019 – Appointed Appraisers

June 26, 2019 – Received Engineers Report

July 8, 2019 – Set Final Hearing Date

August 6, 2019 – Received DNR Advisory Report, Received Appraisers Report

August 14, 2019 – Individual Landowner Report Sent, Final Hearing Notice to the Paynesville Press.

August 23, 2019 – Received BWSR Advisory Report.

August 29, 2019 – Final Hearing

Attorney Deter read into the record the Engineering Report comments from BWSR and DNR.

**Engineer's Report**

Moriya Rufer and Joe Lewis of HEI presented the engineer's report. They reported on historical lake water quality, need for the project, management alternatives, economic benefits and a management plan. Four alternatives were presented with HEI recommending Alternative 4 due to lower annual cost and simplified management.

**Public Comments and Questions Regarding Engineering**

There were many comments/questions from the public with areas focusing on:

What is the efficiency of the harvester compared to other types of harvesters?

Have there been studies done on other lakes with Curly Leaf Pond Weed (CLPW) and this method of control?

What about fragments left behind the harvester?

Effectiveness of harvester versus hand pulling?

**Appraisers Report**

Ron Ringquist presented the appraisers report. Appointed appraisers Al Kerber and Jeff Johnson were also present. The appraising methodology was introduced and the benefit roster explained.

**Public Comments and Questions Regarding Appraisers Report**

Comments/questions focused on properties with benefits but were not on the lake and deeded access.

The following properties were included in the appraisers report but are not located on the lake:

08.04263.0000, 08.04273.0000, 08.04273.0055 and 08.04262.0000.

**Motion to direct the appraisers to investigate the four properties not on the lake and continue the hearing to September 16, 2019 at 6:00 pm in Roscoe made by Jim Wuertz, seconded by Gary Berndt. Motion Carried.**

## **Continued Hearing – September 16, 2019**

**Managers Present:** Jim Barchenger, Bob Brauchler, Gary Berndt, John Hanson, Jim Wuertz

**Managers Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Cris Skonard, Christopher Lundeen

**Others Present:** Moriya Rufer (HEI), Joe Lewis (HEI), Ron Ringquist (appraiser), Al Kerber (appraiser), Jeff Johnson (appraiser), Kurt Deter (Rinke-Noonan), Others-See Attached Sign-In Sheet

### **Call to Order**

President Brauchler called the continued hearing to order at 6:00 pm.

### **Engineering Report-Update**

HEI provided supplemental information based on comments/questions.

### **Public Comments and Questions Regarding Engineering Update**

Comments/questions centered on CLPW vegetative fragments. Kevin Farnum (KLA) provided a detailed explanation of the mechanical puller.

### **Appraisers Report-Update**

Ron Ringquist reported that the four properties located off the lake previously included were removed from the benefit roster as they were not on the lake.

### **Public Comments and Questions Regarding Appraisers Update**

Question how this will affect everyone else with the property removal. Ringquist explained the impact would marginally impact the remaining properties.

**Motion to close the public comment portion of the hearing made by John Hanson, seconded by Jim Barchenger. Motion Carried.**

**Motion to make a final decision tonight made by Jim Wuertz, seconded by Jim Barchenger. Motion Carried.**

**Motion to approve Project 2019-1 Pirz Lake Aquatic Plant Management Project noting the project will be conducive to public health, will promote the general welfare, is compliant with MN Statute 103D and will result in benefits that are greater than the costs of implementing the project made by Jim Barchenger, seconded by Jim Wuertz. Roll Call vote.**

**Affirmative:** Brauchler, Barchenger, Berndt, Hanson, Wuertz

**Opposed:** None

**Motion Carried**

**Motion to close and adjourn the public hearing made by Gary Berndt, seconded by Jim Wuertz. Motion Carried. Hearing Closed and Adjourned.**