

## **MINUTES OF ISCCW BOARD OF DIRECTORS – LAKEGUARDS**

January 15, 2008 at USFS Conference Room – Watersmeet

Will Buergey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Persons Present:** Will Buergey, Jim Reiels, Ken Wendt, Steve Wilkinson, Bob Evans, Dave Gunderson, Kathy Floriano, Jim Floriano, Fred Duerkop, Chuck Sethness, Joe LoMastro, Arny and Karen Domanus, Jack Erhart, Randall Wollenhaup

**President Report:** Will reported that he participated in a DEQ conference regarding the fee structure being charged for permits for lake treatments. This permit program has been administered by the Water Quality Division of the DEQ since 1970. He reported that there are five ranges of fees based on the number of acres treated. They range from \$75 to \$1500. The fees are used to cover direct costs of the program. However, as of September 30 when the current fee program lapses, the DEQ has proposed raising the permit fees by 40% to cover administrative and secretarial costs as well. Because the state has mandated that the program must be self-supporting, either these huge increases will have to be imposed or another source of funding must be found.

This brought about extensive discussion by the board as to why there is need for a permit program. The fee program actually imposes a penalty on lake property owners who want to keep their lakes free of invasive species. It was cited that some states do not impose fees for treating lakes. A number of suggestions followed:

- Charge a higher boat registration fee as the boaters are the ones bringing in the problems.
- Contact legislators to alert them to the need for change in this program
- Eliminate fees entirely
- Work with the Michigan Township Assn and the Michigan Lake and Stream Assn to effect change
- Use our ISCCW website to help spread the word about the situation
- Take an ad out in ML&SA quarterly bulletin
- Make a presentation at the annual meeting of the ML&SA convention.
- Use e-mail to communicate with multiple constituents and legislators
- Join the Michigan Waterfront Alliance

Will indicated that the \$40,000 grant was submitted with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation in a timely fashion. We'll learn if we are approved for the award by May 15. There was discussion of the possibility of finding a grant writer, perhaps even to hire such a person. Joe LoMastro volunteered to contact Stephen Anderson at the Conserve School about grant writing personnel and Bob Evans offered to contact a past grant writer for Trees for Tomorrow.

The idea of purchasing the original self-contained boat washing device has been given up since the price was raised from \$40,000 to \$63,000. An option for building our own equipment from off the shelf components is also being studied. However, an alternative commercially manufactured machine is being looked into for about \$6,500. It has an 18 horse power Honda motor powering the pressure washer, a water heater, a 200 gallon water reservoir and is pre-assembled on a small trailer so it could be easily transported by truck or auto.

**Thank you:** Arny Domanus expressed a big thank you to Will Buergey on behalf of the board for all of his outstanding work for the ISCCW.

**Minutes Approved for the Nov. 13, 2007 meeting.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Steve Wilkinson distributed a treasurer's report that reflected a \$13,446 balance. He indicated that to use a money market account we would have to maintain a minimum balance of \$10,000; so that didn't seem viable.

Ken Wendt indicated that the Township was holding \$4,600 in money that was appropriated for the ANS program in the township. He was going to urge the Township Board to transfer that money to ISCCW.

**Education Committee:** The committee had not met in December so there was no news to report other than that the website is up and running. It contains minutes of meetings, public notices and pertinent articles of information for residents to read. Jim Floriano will check with Allen Piel to see if we can check on the number of hits the site receives.

The Education Committee is checking into the purchase of a good quality laser printer. They run about \$550 but the ink cartridges are more costly. There was discussion about where the printer should be located. Will Buergey will check with the Town Supervisor for ideas.

**Finance Committee:** The committee did not meet in December; however, there will be a meeting before the February meeting of the board.

**New business:**

The matter of **membership classifications** was tabled until the next meeting so that Diana Mehlhop could be present.

There was some discussion about **changing the fiscal year** to work in harmony with the activities of ISCCW, possibly November 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>. Steve Wilkinson will meet with Roy Porterfield about that possibility.

**New member recruitment** was discussed. It was suggested that the best recruitment is to have present members talk with their neighbors to join and to volunteer for tasks with the ISCCW.

**No Old Business**

**New Business:**

The ISCCW prefers to continue handling **payroll** through the Township.

We will investigate placing an **ad in the quarterly magazine of the Michigan Lake and Stream Assn** regarding the ISCCW's activities and to inform other lake owners and conservation groups about our views concerning current riparian problems and issues.

Arny Domanus moved/Fred Duerkop seconded that discussion of a **new budget be tabled** until the next meeting to give time for the Finance Committee to meet.

Meetings scheduled: Education Committee at Floriano's home, 2/4/08 at 9:00 a.m.  
Finance Committee at Wendt's home, 2/7/08 at 2:30 p.m.  
Next ISCCW Meeting in USFS conference room, 2/19/08 at 9:00 a.m.  
ISCCW Annual Membership Meeting, 6/17/2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Arny Domanus moved/ Chuck Sethness seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jim Reiels  
Recording Secretary