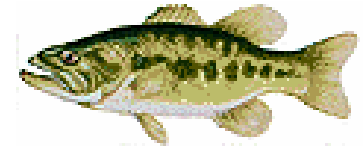




**Lakes Commission Meeting
May 18, 2021
7:00 p.m.
Via Zoom**



Ken Funk	Lake Waterford	Jim Stout	Park District Liaison
Tom Heinrich	Lake Springledge	Brad Winter	Lake Potomac
P.J. Hilbert	Village at Large	Caly Winter	Village at Large
Dave Kraft	Chair & Village at Large	Pat Dickson	Village Trustee
Kevin Lowry	Village at Large	Clay Johnson	Village Administrator
Fritz Meyer	Village at Large	Kevin Klahs	Director of Operations
Carlos Menor Salazar	Lake Linden	Dominic Marturano	Mayor
			bold = present

- I. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm
- II. Roll Call - Members of the Lakes Commission were present as indicated in **bold** above.
- III. Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Brad and seconded by P.J. to approve the minutes of the meetings of March 16, 2021, and May 6, 2021. The motion carried.

IV. Commissioner Reports

A. Chairperson Report – Dave began by reporting that the lakes treatment contract with McCloud Aquatic Services was approved by the Village Board, and that personnel from McCloud will be out on our lakes tomorrow. He went on to report that McCloud will normally make visits every 2 weeks and will try to keep the visits on Wednesdays. Dave said that at the start of the season meeting last week, representatives of McCloud were engaged and there was an understanding that there will be a single point of contact with respect to communications. McCloud personnel will not leave our lakes until an on-line report is made. In addition, Dave communicated the following points.

- There will be an end of year report and meeting with McCloud representatives.
- Treatment of Village lakes in the spring were concerning because covid and the absence of a new lakes' treatment contract hindered early treatment. Nevertheless, Kevin K. was diligent in arranging for ILM to make some necessary algae treatments, and McCloud will now be on top of future treatment needs.

Following his report, Dave asked for the following reports from commissioners representing the various Village lakes.

B. Individual Lakes Commissioner Reports –

Waterford Lake Report – Newly appointed commissioner, Fritz, reported Waterford was pretty well covered with emerging vegetation except for the

central, deep part of the lake. He said that Thunder Bay was largely open, but some fibrous algae were beginning to develop.

Following Fritz's comments, Tom said that, despite Ken's absence, Ken had provided some comments that he wanted to share at the meeting. Tom communicated Ken's report as follows:

The water temperature on Waterford on 5/16 was 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The water level was the lowest that Ken has observed since the time the lake was drained. Thunder Bay was probably 50% or more curly leaf to the surface and somewhat murky from phytoplankton in the water column. Fishing was poor and fishermen and boaters were few. It has been an unusual spring with no noticeable midge or the normal tree swallows skimming the surface for them. There was no appreciable filamentous algae on Thunder Bay probably due to the massive biomass utilizing the nutrients. However, things were different in the warmer channel. The area between the bodies of water was totally algae choked with curlyleaf in and around the algae. The main lake again was full of curlyleaf. The whole east end and the Grass Lake/Red Rock shorelines were totally choked with curlyleaf, and large underwater algae blooms were present, and algae mats were beginning to form on the surface. The water column in the main lake was amazingly clear, likely due to the biomass utilizing the nutrients. That is expected to change as the biomass growth of the curlyleaf maxes out.

In his report, Ken reported his opinion that we are in this worst-case scenario because of three years of low or late sonar treatment. Ken reported that Lyle, a former McCloud employee, predicted this exact problem if we did not continue the regular and early use of Sonar. According to Ken, some residents on the lake with their pontoon boats are likely ready to register verbal upset with the condition of Waterford when compared to seasonal conditions back several years. He reported that lake was almost as bad as when he moved in in 1986.

Ken's report continued to say that the treatment of the biomass will be a touchy matter for the new applicators. This much biomass, killed off too quickly, will dramatically drop the dissolved oxygen which will likely present a serious concern for the fishery. Return of the biomass nutrients to the water column will likely result in an unpleasant level of filamentous algal blooms as the water heats to the usual 80 degrees F of summer.

In closing, Ken's report communicated that beaver damage was obvious around the lake, but the offender has not been observed. However, the muskrat population is increasing. Furthermore, very few turtles, and no frogs, have been observed so far this spring.

Potomac Lake Report – Brad reported that there were algae issues on Potomac, and although the water clarity was good, the water level was perhaps the lowest he has seen on the lake. He went on to report that fishing was very poor and there was minimal fishing activity on the lake. He reminded those in

attendance that there had been a fish kill on Potomac over the winter. At this point, Dave interjected that a representative of McCloud informed him that he (the McCloud representative) had heard of about 70 fish kills on the lakes with which he is familiar.

Brad ended his report by saying that there were plenty of frogs and buffleheads. He added that the swans had already come and are gone from the lake.

Caly added that she has not even seen fish from the shoreline of Potomac.

Springledge Lake Report – Tom reported that April was a difficult month for Springledge in terms of algae and water clarity. Tom said that on April 9, he alerted Kevin K. about the poor conditions on Springledge, and Kevin took swift action by contacting ILM for treatment. ILM came out on April 20 and treated for algae. ILM's treatment report stated that they noticed "a large amount of organic debris", for which they recommended "a sediment investigation study." Because Tom wanted more information about his recommendation, he contacted Debbie Budyak of ILM. Debbie responded with an email saying that Springledge has an accumulation of organic material throughout the lake, which is likely due to the numerous trees and steep shorelines. She went on to say that the recommended sediment study would gather detailed information about the lake and provide data driven recommendations. In addition, such a study would specifically identify the sources of organic material and quantify how much sediment material is in the lake. An updated bathymetric map of the lake would be developed as well. Once the study was completed, the information resulting from the study would help drive recommendations for future action. The cost for a study like this would typically be about \$1,600.

After ILM treated Springledge for algae, the lake looked much better for several weeks. Nevertheless, Tom reported that the conditions on Springledge were worsening once again. The biomass on the lake bottom was developing rapidly and the algae was reappearing quickly. The north end of the lake was dominated by algal mats, and there was a surrounding bright green scum that he did not think was blue-green algae. He said about 15% of the entire lake was covered by algae at the time of the report.

Tom continued his report by saying that the lake level was low, and water was not flowing out of the outlet on the south end of the lake. He said that he has not seen a lot of fishing on the lake recently, but he has observed quite a few fish beneath the surface during kayak rides. As usual, he said, there were quite a few turtles as well as Canada geese, blue herons, green herons, and white egrets. Some residents have been frequenting the lake with kayaks and canoes.

Tom ended his report by thanking Kevin K. for his help in making sure that Springledge received an early treatment. He said that without that early treatment, Springledge's unchecked algae problems would surely have been worse.

Linden Lake Report – Carlos reported that the lake was clear of algae at this time, but the water levels were low. He continued his report by saying that kayakers and fishermen were observed on the lake.

- C. Trustee Report – Pat clarified that the Village Board has passed the budget to allow for McCloud to begin treatment on the Village lakes.
- D. Village Report – Kevin K. reported that representatives of McCloud asked if it was permissible to engage in fishing activities on the Village lakes occasionally. Kevin gave his permission and wanted members of the LLC to know that they might observe McCloud's applicators fishing on the lake from time to time.

V. Old Business: None

VI. New Business:

- A. McCloud Contract – Dave informed members of the LLC that McCloud will go out on the lakes tomorrow. He said that McCloud has a plan of attack, and they are aware of our battles with curly leaf pondweed. He went on to say that since this is one of the driest spring seasons on record, nutrients are not getting diluted on the lakes. In addition, Dave reported that McCloud can perform mechanical macrophyte removal, but it is not on the schedule, nor is it officially planned at this time. Nevertheless, Dave said that mechanical removal is something that can be considered if it becomes necessary.
- B. Lakes Fisheries – Dave informed members of the LLC that he communicated with Frank Jakubicek, a fisheries biologist with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) about the presence and possible negative aspects of northern pike in our Village lakes. Frank informed Dave that northern pike are found on some of our lakes, and they enter in a variety of ways, including from Hastings Lake. In addition, Frank opined that the presence of northern pike is not problematic for our fisheries because there is insufficient habitat for them to spawn. Therefore, it is very unlikely that they will be able to take over any of the Village lakes.

A discussion about restocking Waterford included comments that muskie fishing has dropped off. Nevertheless, Frank had suggested that there was no need to restock muskie in the fall but restocking largemouth bass might be reasonable.

A discussion about restocking Potomac because of the recent fish kill ensued. Dave said that Frank J. acknowledged that fish kill problems were common early in the year. Brad expressed a desire to have a fish stocking plan in place soon. He said that the plan should specify which fish should be stocked and the timing of the endeavor. P.J. added that fall or early spring are usually the appropriate times to restock, and he said that he had no issues with restocking in Fall. Dave reminded members of the LLC that there was money in the budget for restocking. The discussion ended with a general agreement that Dave will get restocking quotes from McCloud before July and P.J. will get quotes from Keystone.

- C. Lake Management Plan – Dave said he will contact Alana Bartolai of the Lake County Health Department and invite her to an upcoming LLC meeting to advise us on developing a comprehensive lake management plan.
- D. Miscellaneous Outstanding Issues – In response to Fritz’s question, Dave said that McCloud has agreed to issue a lake treatment report before they leave the lake after treatment. In addition, Dave said that Springledge might be a good test for the use of alum or Phoslock, which binds to phosphorous in the water column and “locks it up.” Dave said he will discuss this possible treatment with McCloud.

VII. Public Participation: A resident on Lake Linden commented that the pond weed growth on the southwest portion of the lake was very high, and it was necessary to raise the propellor on his pontoon boat in order to get through the area. In addition, he commented that the water temperature was 70 degrees.

VIII. Adjournment:

There was a motion made by Tom to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Fritz. The meeting ended at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Heinrich
Recording Secretary

LLC Public Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
John Filippo	
Tom Schwab	

Reminder: Next Meeting Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

