

## **Lake Improvement Board of Bear Lake**

August 30, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM, by Jack Sawka.

**Board members present:** Carver Edwards-Village of Bear Lake, Robert Yates-Bear Lake Township, Jack Sawka-Pleasanton Township, Allan O'Shea- Manistee County Commissioner.

**Absent was:** Ken Berentsen- Manistee County Drain Commissioner.

Motion was made, supported and carried that Don Brisbin will be on the LIB for a four year term as a riparian owner.

Motions were made, supported and carried that Jack Sawka will be chairperson, Don Brisbin will be secretary, and Bob Yates will be treasurer. Motions were made, carried and supported that the LIB will retain the services of attorney, Stacy Hissong and the LIB will continue the services of ASI Environmental as the Marine Biologist experts. Jennifer Jemalowicz-Jones will continue as ASI representative.

A motion was made, supported and carried to accept the proposal by ASI to prepare a feasibility study. The study will cost \$7000.00 and will;

1. Provide 7 different studies that will be the basis of comprehensive detail about the lake(EWM).
2. Provide estimates for treatment of the Eurasian Water Milfoil.
3. Provide on-site assistance with the development of a Special Assessment District(SAD ).
4. Provide on-site assistance with public hearings.

A discussion on PA 451, part 309 followed with a discussion on a grid matrix map, steps, and timetable to establish a SAD and treatment of the lake.

It was discussed on a way to effectively communicate with the 3 municipalities and the public. Also discussed was how the public needs to communicate with the LIB.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

*\*Next meeting of the LIB will be held September 13,2007, at 7:00PM, at the Bear Lake Township Hall.*

**Respectfully submitted:** Don Brisbin, Secretary

**Lake Improvement Board of Bear Lake**  
September 13, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Jack Sawka called the 9/13/07 meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

**Board members present:** Ken Berentsen-Manistee County Drain Commissioner, Carver Edwards- Village of Bear Lake, Robert Yates-Bear Lake Township, Jack Sawka-Pleasanton Township, Allen O'Shea-Manistee County Commissioner, and Don Brisbin-elected riparian owner.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by secretary Don Brisbin and approved by the board.

James Eaton talked about the "green crust" on the shoreline of North shore and gave such sample to Jennifer Jones for A.I.S. to analyze.

Allen O'Shea gave copies of the "Guidelines For Effective Administration of Lake Improvement Boards for Oakland County" to each member and stated there would be a copy available at the library.

Jack Sawka met with Tom Cominski regarding the process for filing for a Revenue Sharing Grant. The grant application was completed and submitted.

The attorney for the Lake Improvement Board, Stacy Hissong, had a telephone conference with us and informed us of the steps that needed to be taken to set up a Special Assessment District (SAD). Ms. Hissong suggested sending a letter of information to all property owners that are going to be in the SAD. Also discussed was what might be the best method of assessment. It was suggested that the simplest and easiest would be to assess each parcel.

Jennifer Jones from A.S.1. discussed the feasibility study that would be done. The report will set the baseline for the future. Both a feasibility study and a report on the test weevil locations should be completed in October.

*The next Lake Improvement Board meeting will be September 27,2007 at 7:00 PM, at the Bear Lake Township Hall.*

A motion by Allen O'Shea to adjourn the meeting was made and supported. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

**Respectfully submitted:** Don Brisbin, Secretary

**Lake Improvement Board of Bear Lake**  
September 27, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Jack Sawka.

All members were present. There were 14 guests and Attorney Stacy Hissong was on speaker phone. The LIB and guests were introduced.

Jack Sawka explained to those present what had transpired at the last two meetings and that a visual inspection of properties in the proposed Special Assessment District would be done by the next meeting. The board discussed how to determine who would be in the SAD also discussed the methodology for setting the SAD and the assessment.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Chris Bade from A.S.L gave a short synopsis on what Jennifer Jones is working on as a feasibility and weevil study. The results are still predicted to be done by late October or early November.

Jack Sawka explained the Manistee County Revolving Fund and how the board might be able to borrow money for early treatment of the lake and pay back after taxes are collected. Ms. Hissong has drafted and sent a resolution to Allen O'Shea, Manistee County Commissioner, to present to the Manistee County Commissioners.

*The next meeting for the LIB will be October 11,2007 at 7:00PM at the Bear Lake Township Hall.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

## **Lake Improvement Board of Bear Lake**

October 11, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Jack Sawka.

All members were present with exception of Don Brisbin and Ken Berentsen. Also in attendance were four guests and Ms. Jennifer Jermatowicz-Jones, MS, PhD candidate from A.S.L.

Minutes from the last meeting were read, amended and approved.

Ms. Jermalowicz-Jones stated that no major issues were noted thus far in the Feasibility Study concerning the lake bottom. She did say that the weevil study showed that more than half the stems of milfoil in the two study sites showed damage. The sites also showed signs of reproduction of the weevils. More information will be forthcoming in late October or November from A.S.L.

Much discussion took place regarding the Special Assessment District (SAD). The board is still working on the determination who will be in the district and the cost.

Jack Sawka will talk to someone regarding the Manistee County Website and see about getting the LIB information on that website.

The next meeting will be on October 25, 2007, at 7:00 PM at the Bear Lake Township Hall.

A bill from Stacy Hisson for \$5550.36 for legal fees was submitted by Robert Yates to the board.

Allen O'Shea reported that the request for help from the Revenue Sharing is not too promising because of the economy and the need to put monies into Public Safety.

Ms. Jermalowicz-Jones discussed some different types of grants that may be available through the Fisheries Division.

Briefly discussed was how to establish a Bear Lake Watershed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28PM.

## **Lake Improvement Board of Bear Lake**

November 15, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Jack Sawka. All the board was in attendance except Ken Berentsen. Also in attendance was Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones from ASI.

Mary Manning was present and talked about Autumn's Glory Day. The Ladies of the Lake earned \$4000.00, they have donated \$3500.00 to the LIB to help cover bills before the LIB was officially formed. They will hold out \$500.00 for seed money for next years event. The board extended a heartfelt thank you to the Ladies who worked so hard for such a wonderful event.

Minutes from the last meeting of October 25, 2007 were read and approved.

The LIB Communications Plan was distributed to the board members after which the plan was discussed.

### **Banking Plan:**

Robert Yates, Treasurer, will partner with Bear Lake Township treasurer to use Bear Lake Township as a conduit for LIB needs.

### **SAD progress:**

Working decisions were sent to the attorneys of the three municipalities. The LIB will meet with all three municipalities boards to discuss the SAD progress.

A tentative public hearing date is January 2008.

### **Manistee County Revolving Fund:**

The LID will apply shortly after the SAD hearing that will held sometime in February, 2008, which will include the summary of treatments and estimated costs per unit.

The board hopes for approval from the County Commissioner before treatment in 2008.

### **Feasibility Study:**

The feasibility study should be done by December 18th's meeting. Estimates from numerous companies on weevil and chemical control EWM in Bear Lake was presented by Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones to the board and cost were discussed. A tentative hearing date will be in January, 2008. Map and estimates are attached.

\*The next meeting of the LIB will be December 18th, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the Bear

Lake Township Hall. It will be a two item only meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.



## **Lake Improvement Board of Bear Lake**

December 18, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Lake Improvement Board was called to order at 7:00PM by Jack Sawka. All board members were in attendance with exception of Allen O'Shea, Manistee County Commissioner and Ken Berentsen, Manistee County Drain Commissioner. Also in attendance was Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones from ASI and nine members of the community.

The floor was opened for public comment or questions:

Mr. Bob Somsel asked questions referring to the editorial written by Paul Hietanen that appeared in the Manistee News Advocate. He referred to the questions regarding 1) How the assessment amounts are going to be determined, 2) and how and why the lake front/riparians were the only ones to be assessed.

Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones answered these questions for Mr. Somsel, explaining that the cost will be determined by the course of treatments and that those assessed will benefit the greatest. She also explained that sealed bids from five different companies had been submitted for the treatment of the lake.

The minutes from the November 15th, 2007 meeting were read and approved.

Communication Plan: Village to post information from LIB on their website [bearlakemichigan.org](http://bearlakemichigan.org) to date there is nothing available at the site. The minutes are available at the library.

SAD progress: Meetings with all three municipalities and ASI to confirm accuracy of the data and prepare the SAD map. Public Hearing tentatively set for February 21, 2008.

Manistee Revolving Fund: The formal application of the Revolving Fund loan will be submitted shortly after the SAD hearing at the end of February. Included in the resolution drafted by Attorney Stacy Hissong with the summary of the treatment plans and costs, as well as SAD and estimated cost per unit.

The LIB members will attend the Manistee County Commissioner Meeting in March or April.

A draft of the Feasibility Study was discussed and the method of treatment of the lake

was continued by Jennifer Jermalowicz-Jones and the board. Issues of weevil versus weevil/chemical versus just chemical, made up the discussion.

#### Preparation for Hearings:

Hearings are set for February 21, 2008 and February 28th, 2008 at the Manistee County Road Commission Building. Public notices will be posted and printed in the local paper and letters will be sent to each individual parcel in SAD. Banking: Bob Yates presented a plan submitted by Don Shreve, Bear Lake Township Treasurer, to be the conduit for handling LIB monies.

A motion was made to let Don Shreve, Bear Lake Township Treasurer, handle the LIB monies through the Bear Lake Township Tax collection for a fee of \$750.00 a year. Of that \$750.00, \$600.00 will go to Don Shreve and \$150.00 will go to Bear Lake Township. The motion was moved by Carver Edwards and supported by Bob Yates. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the board.

A motion was made that: The LIB and ASI come up with a map of the Special Assessment District. The motion was moved by Bob Yates and supported by Carver Edwards. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote of the board.

The next LIB meeting will be January 8th, 2008 at 7PM at the Bear Lake Twp. Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35PM.

Respectfully submitted by Don Brisbin, Secretary of the LIB.