

## Cormorant Lakes Watershed District

Board of Managers, Mid-Month Meeting

Monday, June 20, 2011

The June 20 mid-month meeting of the Cormorant Lakes Watershed District (CLWD) Board of Managers was held in the Cormorant Town Hall, Cormorant Room, 10929 County Highway #5, Cormorant, MN, with the primary purpose being to review the 2010 A.W. Research fly-over results.

Those present were; managers Jeff Moritz, Gene Olson, Orvis Olson and Ellis Peterson; inspectors Duane Erickson and Sheldon Struble; attorney Terry Karkela; administrator Woody Olson; and Bob Merritt, consulting hydrologist.

Minutes of the 6/6 regular meeting, distributed previously, were accepted. Being a mid-month meeting, no treasurer's report was given.

**Big Cormorant Outflow Agreement:** Bob Merritt of Merritt Hydrologic and Environmental Consulting attended and submitted a proposal (copy on file) to develop an agreement workable for all concerned (e.g. Pelican Lake associations such as PGOLID, Lake Ida, the Cormorant Lake Watershed District, property owners in the Watershed, and others). His work will include review of the lakes hydrology, history of past efforts, the need for permits, involvement of appropriate agencies such as the DNR, and development of a permit amendment to govern the outflow. Orvis entered a motion, seconded by Gene, to hire Bob per his proposal. Carried unanimously. Jeff entered a motion, seconded by Ellis, to make resources such as Houston Engineering and attorney Terry Karkela available to Bob in support of his work. Carried unanimously.

**Big Cormorant Outlet Easement:** No change. It's expected that when the property owner returns to the Lake area, Jody and Terry Karkela will continue with the easement language. Meadowland Surveying is also contributing.

**Conflict of Interest:** Terry noted that Minnesota statute states that Watersheds must bid out contracts that are expected to be more than \$25,000. If under \$25,000, a Watershed Manager may bid, so long as the remaining board unanimously approves of the bid. Emergency situations may require a streamlined approach. Jeff entered a motion, seconded by Orvis, to appoint Ellis and Gene as a team to authorize work up to \$1,500. Carried unanimously. In discussion, it was noted that work outside of normal Manager duties can be billed at rates different than the Watershed compensation schedule. This might include, for example, a Manager providing equipment and skills used in his usual business.

**Culvert at County 11 and So. Big Corm Rd.:** The possibility of having the County take over maintenance (debris removal, other) was discussed. The Watershed had it installed, but since it's on County right of way it makes sense that the County take it over. Commissioner Barry Nelson will be contacted for his assistance.

**Combined Lake Associations Meeting:** The meeting will be at the Cormorant Center. Jeff is developing the details. Darrin Hoverson and Moriya Rufer a potential presenters, and the Watershed will lead short discussions on topics such as Lake Association funding practices, how they set dues, what special projects they have going, issues important to them, and other.

**Blue Water Bay Road assistance request:** Residents have approached the Watershed to assist in stabilizing a low-maintenance, non-public roadway in their area. Managers weren't sure why improving this road is a Watershed issue, though rip-rapping to prevent erosion into the lake may be.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Chairman Peterson adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 5 at 6:00 PM in the Cormorant Center.

Respectfully submitted

Jeff Moritz, Secretary

Prepared by Sherwood Olson, Administrator