

## Cormorant Lakes Watershed District

Board of Managers, Regular Meeting

Monday, May 3, 2010

The regular meeting of the Cormorant Lakes Watershed District (The Watershed) Board of Managers was held on Monday, May 3, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Cormorant Town Hall, Cormorant Room, 10929 County Highway #5, Cormorant, MN.

Those present were; managers Beaudine, Moritz and Peterson; inspectors Erickson and Struble; administrator Henrikson; associate administrator Olson; guests Grant Johnson, Joe Lightowler, Maggie Metcalf Orvis Olson; Alan Cibuzar and Sam Coward of A. W. Research Laboratories, Inc.

Chairperson Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and presented the agenda.

The Treasurer's account report filed for May 3, 2010 was \$192,784.25.

The Upper Cormorant Curly Leaf Pondweed control treatment was applied today, May 3. 170 acres were applied, about 70 fewer than last year.

Two public hearings on variance petitions are scheduled for May 11, 2010 with the Township:

- Robert Sweeney, new roof and vertical addition
- Harold Chyle, move and expand existing structure footprint.

Joe Lightowler reported that Mike Ostby from Pelican Lake has said their organization is prepared to approve the draft addendum that would amend the current agreement between the Watershed and Pelican. These agreements regulate the flow of water out of Big Cormorant Lake into Spring Creek, toward Pelican. The term for the current agreement has expired, so a detailed review of it along with the addendum is necessary, and both documents must be signed.

Alan and Sam, representing A. W. Research Laboratories, gave an overview of the Watershed flyover results. Areas with possible Curly Leaf Pondweed growth were seen in several of the lakes; however initial "ground truthing" of a Middle Cormorant area on the west side showed the weeds to be native aquatic vegetation. As such, the flyover results will be verified from the water top, using points identified in the flyover as a guide, to speed thing up. Alan suggested that an underwater camera will be useful in inspections from the water top. Moritz will check into a camera.

Admin Olson will get a copy of Alan's report to Darrin Hoverson of the DNR, and will contact Alan regarding download of software to view the CD video's of the flyover.

Alan will bring in a few "Zebra bobbers", a device used to detect zebra mussels.

Grant Johnson addressed replacement of the Middle Cormorant outlet culvert, now failing, in order to improve access across his property. Grant has a permit from the MN DNR to proceed, and will be requesting a permit from the Watershed as well. He asked which organization controls, the DNR or the Watershed. A downstream owner has objected out of concern that the replacement activity as well as ongoing flow from a larger culvert might cause flooding on his property. The Watershed has a September 8, 2009 report from Houston Engineering that addresses the risk of downstream flooding. Orvis Olson suggested that the Watershed groom and riprap the downstream channel to mitigate the risk of flooding.

The managers have met with Little Cormorant regarding their interest in being included in the Watershed. Peterson has a letter from attorney Karkela that outlines requirements. The Little Cormorant area property owners must submit a petition to the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources – BWSR – with signatures from 50 people in the affected area. We can ask Karkela to draft an appropriate petition for use by Little Cormorant.

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The Watershed option to buy two lots near the southeast corner of Pike's Bay for a common septic system was discussed. This will be continued in the May mid-month meeting.

The proposal to increase the Watershed managers from 3 to 5 has been posted. Attorney Karkela has requested a response from the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR).

The beaver dam in the wetlands outlet near Ness Estate Lane on Upper Cormorant's west side was removed. The wetland water level is now down close to the Upper Cormorant level.

Moritz read highlights from a Houston Engineering letter regarding the outflow from the Big Cormorant outlet structure. The outflow, which ultimately flows through Pelican Lake to the Red river, takes about 8-10 days to travel from Big Cormorant to Fargo, and has minimal affect on the Red river level. Three wetland storage areas between Big Cormorant Lake and Pelican Lake, totaling 700 acre-feet, buffer the outflow.

The inspections report was given and filed.

The following bills were paid:

	<u>Check #</u>	<u>AMT.</u>
• Benson-Leitheiser-Soberg – Financial Audit	1235	\$1030.00
• B & B Electric	1236	340.00

A mid-month meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 17 at 7:00 PM in Cormorant Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Jeff Moritz, Secretary

Prepared by Sherwood Olson, Assoc. Administrator