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## **Houghton Lake Improvement Board Meeting Minutes August 25, 2015**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Deamud at 7:00 pm. Chairman Deamud led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call, Members present, Keith Stiles, David Russo, James Deamud, Jack McCauley and Norm Fullmer. Members absent, Brett Yardley. County Drain Commissioner's seat is vacant. Alternates present, Norm Goddard, Gary Stefanko, Howard Hatherly, Robyn Daniels and Dick Pastula who sat in for the absent Brett Yardley. Alternates absent, Chip McCullough.

**Motion** by Mr. Russo and supported by Mr. McCauley to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2015.

**Motion** by Mr. Stiles and supported by Mr. Pastula to approve the agenda with the addition of two budget adjustments requested by the Auditor and the State of Michigan.

**Public Comment**-Several residents from the McKinley sub area expressed concern about the water quality and algae blooms in the canal system. A resident from Osage drive was concerned that the canals in their area had not been treated in many years and that vegetation was hampering navigation. Howard Hatherly encouraged the board to make education of the public a priority when addressing the milfoil and starry stonewort issues in Houghton Lake. Gary Stefanko spoke of a meeting with the DNR on 8-24-15 that addressed swimmers itch in Higgins Lake.

Keith Stiles brought to the Board's attention a complaint from John Jackson about swimmers itch in Houghton Lake. A discussion of the topic followed with comments from the audience and board members. The consensus was that swimmers itch in Houghton Lake seems to be much more isolated than at Higgins Lake.

**Chairman's Report**-Chairman Deamud paid tribute to Board member and Drain Commissioner Sheridan Cole who passed away since the last board meeting. He suggested that a "Friend of Houghton Lake" plaque be presented to Mr. Cole's family in his honor. Chairman Deamud addressed the board members expressing his disappointment for their inaction at the June board meeting. His feeling was that milfoil was not under control and was concerned that a whole lake treatment would be necessary if actions were not taken.

**Motion** by Mr. Pastula and supported by Mr. Russo to have "Friend of Houghton Lake" plaque made in Mr. Cole's honor. All present voting in the affirmative the motion carries.

**Treasurers Report** Treasurer Fullmer stated that as a result of the 2015 audit the Board needs to make two line item budget adjustments that were overspent by \$100 on audit fees and \$87 on insurance. Also presented were four invoices to be paid totaling \$29,532.13. Current balances with Chemical Bank are \$821,582.73 in the money market account and \$10,921.49 in the checking account.

**Motion** by Mr. Russo and supported by Mr. McCauley to make the two budget adjustment requested by the auditor. All present voting in the affirmative the motion carries.

**Motion** by Mr. Pastula and supported by Mr. McCauley to approve payment of the four invoices presented totaling \$29,532.13. All present voting in the affirmative the motion carries.

Results of the AIS-MSU boat wash over the 4th of July weekend were not available as there have been several personnel changes at MRWA. The HLLA provided free hotdogs and beverages. Thank you to those who volunteered for this event.

There were no decisions made at the Roscommon County Road Commission meeting held on 6-25-15. Another meeting is scheduled for 8-27-15 with the Road Commission.

**Progressive** report-Tony Groves stated there were over 100 acres of hybrid milfoil in the North Bay, an area that has not been treated for the past several years. He said milfoil in the North Bay was common to dense. Mr. Groves fielded a number of questions from the audience and board members. Mr. Groves recommended a fall treatment totaling 600 acres, one hundred acres near Muddy Bay and 500 acres in the southwest area of the lake. He stated that 98% of the areas to be treated contained hybrid milfoil. Treatment will be scheduled after the Labor Day holiday.

**Motion** by Mr. Pastula and supported by Mr. Russo to approve the treatment recommended by Mr. Groves. Those voting in the affirmative were Mr. Pastula, Mr. Deamud, Mr. McCauley and Mr. Russo. Those voting in the negative were Mr. Stiles and Mr. Fullmer. Motion carries.

**Motion** by Mr. Russo and supported by Mr. Pastula to adjourn at 8:49 pm. All present voting in the affirmative the motion carries.

**Next Meeting** Tuesday September 22, 2015, 7:00 pm, Lake Township Hall

Respectfully Submitted  
Norm Fullmer Sec/Teas