

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COMFORT LAKE–FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
Thursday, June 22, 2023

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5 **1. Call to Order**

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7 Manager Anderson called the June 22, 2023, regular board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at 44 Lake
8 Street South Forest Lake and via online video conference.

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10 Managers Present:

11 Christopher Loth, Vice President (remote attendance)
12 Dave Bakke, Secretary (remote attendance)
13 Jackie Anderson, Treasurer
14 Douglas Toavs, Assistant Treasurer
15

16 Absent:

17 Steve Schmaltz, President
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19 Staff Present:

20 Mike Kinney, Administrator
21 Aidan Read, Land Management Specialist
22 Bobbie Law, Office Manager
23 Emily Heinz, Planning Coordinator
24 Garrett Miller, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator
25

26 Others Present:

27 Greg Graske, Emmons & Olivier Resources
28 Cecilio Olivier, Emmons & Olivier Resources
29 Chuck Holtman, Smith Partners
30 Arik Lokensgard
31

32 **2. Setting of Meeting Agenda**

33 Item 8b – Budget Meeting Schedule was added to the agenda.

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35 Manager Loth moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Manager Toavs, Upon a roll
36 call vote, the motion carried 4-0.
37

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz			X	

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39 **3. Consent Agenda**

40 a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2023

- 41 b) Special Board Workshop Minutes - May 24, 2023
- 42 c) Regular Board Meeting Minutes - May 25, 2023

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44 The consent agenda was proposed to be adopted by unanimous consent. Upon a roll call vote, the
45 motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz			X	

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48 **4. Public Open Forum**

49 There were no comments.

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52 **5. Citizen Advisory Committee Update**

53 **[6:35 pm]**

54 Administrator Kinney noted that the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) has recently been discussing
55 research pertaining to wake boats. Aidan Read explained that the CAC is specifically interested in
56 research done by the University of Minnesota St. Anthony Falls Laboratory (SAFL) and the regulatory
57 implications associated with the impacts wake boats have on shoreline erosion.

58
59 Manager Bakke moved to direct the District Administrator to research the impacts of wake boats on
60 the health of District waterbodies. Seconded by Manager Toavs.

61
62 Manager Toavs asked if Manager Bakke has noticed wake boat impacts on Bone Lake. Manager
63 Bakke indicated he's observed wake boats on Bone Lake and believes they are having erosion
64 impacts. Manager Anderson noted she's observed similar things on Comfort Lake. She supported
65 the idea of regulation in order to mitigate the erosion effects of wake boats. Administrator Kinney
66 recommended that staff bring back a proposal to work with SAFL to do this research. Manager Bakke
67 supported that approach. Manager Anderson noted that Minnesota Lakes & Rivers (MLR) has
68 presented to lake associations throughout Minnesota on this topic. She suggested that Mr. Kinney
69 look into this as well. She recommended the Forest Lake Lake Association meeting location at the
70 local high school as a potential location to hold wake boat presentations to lake associations.

71
72 Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz			X	

74
75 Resources with respect to wake boats and shoreline erosion were shared in the Zoom meeting
76 chat:

- <https://www.kare11.com/article/sports/outdoors/new-lake-minnetonka-speed-limit-rule-to-take-effect-in-2023/89-f934d083-105d-4753-bf76-001dffbbdab5>
- <https://mnlakesandrivers.org/minnesota-lakes-and-rivers-webinar-draws-national-audience/>

6. Aquatic Invasive Species Update

[6:47 pm]

Garrett Miller reported that curly-leaf pondweed treatments occurred last month. Although he doesn't yet have the assessment reports, he heard from the surveyor that the treatments have been successful. He reported that Eurasian watermilfoil delineation surveys have been occurring, and he should receive the maps from Blue Water Science soon. He noted that Eurasian watermilfoil growth appears to be delayed this year compared to normal. A point-intercept survey was recently conducted on Comfort Lake, and Mr. Miller expects to receive the report this week. Mr. Miller provided an update on a recent zebra mussel veliger tow survey on Bone Lake, noting that the Department of Natural Resources is aiding the project by waiving the lab fees to process the samples. Mr. Miller indicated he hopes that the 2019 rapid response treatment was successful, and there is not, in fact, a population of zebra mussels in Bone Lake anymore. Mr. Miller indicated that the native species transplant project on Moody Lake is underway. He noted that watercraft inspectors have been hired, the program is up and running, and there should be excellent coverage at boat launches over the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

Manager Anderson asked if the Chisago County decontamination unit could be staged at the Comfort Lake boat launch sometime. Mr. Miller indicated he has spoken with Chisago County staff about this. He explained that the County is having trouble staffing the decontamination unit but will hopefully be up and running soon.

Manager Bakke asked for Mr. Miller to keep him updated with the results of the Bone Lake point-intercept survey.

7. New Business

- a) Permit #23-007 Mister Carwash

[6:57 pm]

Greg Graske provided an overview of the proposed project. The site is located on Broadway Avenue in Forest Lake. The proposed project meets stormwater management standards and erosion and sediment control requirements. Manager Anderson asked about the routing of car wash water to sanitary sewer. Mr. Graske explained that the dirty car wash water is being routed to the sanitary sewer system and is being treated separately from the stormwater.

Manager Toavs moved to approve permit application #23-007 with conditions stated in the engineer's memorandum. Seconded by Manager Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			

Stephen Schmaltz			X	
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8. Old Business

a) Forest Lake Cooperative AIS Agreement

[7:03 pm]

Administrator Kinney explained that the agreement is similar to last year’s agreement, with the addition of a spending carryover component. Mr. Miller explained that the carryover component was a suggestion by the Forest Lake Lake Association and the City of Forest Lake.

Manager Bakke asked if there was unspent money last year. Mr. Miller indicated that any unspent funds last year would have gone back into the respective organization’s general fund. The newly revised agreement would require that the organization track and dedicate those funds for future aquatic invasive species use, rather than going into the general fund.

Manager Anderson asked who would be overseeing the management of these carryover funds. She expressed concern about the restrictions being applied to the District’s spending. She stated that this methodology seems to be taking something simple and making it very complex. Mr. Kinney noted that Legal Counsel Holtman has been involved in the drafting of the text to incorporate the request of the City to include the carryover component. Mr. Miller explained how he tracks the expenditures in a spreadsheet and how the carryover would work. Manager Loth obtained clarification from staff that the District’s spending commitment under this agreement isn’t above and beyond normally planned spending; the District would normally spend this amount on Forest Lake, and this agreement is a matter of accounting for that spending. He indicated that this is a way for each of the three parties to have accountability and transparency with respect to their spending on Forest Lake aquatic invasive species management, and specifically that it is a means to ensure that the City will meet its spending commitment.

Manager Anderson indicated she is concerned about some of the wording in the agreement and how the reserve funds will be managed. Mr. Holtman clarified that the reserve funds that any entity is required to designate under the agreement would remain the funds of that entity. He noted that the agreement is the same as last year’s with the addition of paragraph 6.

Manager Anderson moved to postpone this item until the next meeting. Seconded by Manager Bakke. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz			X	

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b) Budget Meeting Schedule

[7:45 pm]

Administrator Kinney indicated that the July 13th regular board meeting agenda is currently very light. He suggested using that meeting time to review the floodplain vulnerability assessment

161 questions brought up at the last budget workshop. The board could also utilize this existing
162 meeting time to hold the next budget workshop, rather than holding a separate special meeting.
163 Per the scheduling survey, July 20th is the best time to hold a special meeting for a budget
164 workshop, and this date could be used as a backup, in case more discussion is warranted after
165 the July 13th meeting.
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167 **9. Report of Staff**

168 a) Administrator

169 [7:50 pm]

170 Administrator Kinney noted that staff is getting connected with a herpetologist who is interested
171 in researching turtle impacts from alum treatments. Manager Anderson indicated it is
172 remarkable that there have already been 13 site visits under the newly revamped cost-share
173 program. Manager Bakke asked for more details on the Bone Lake South Wetland Acquisition
174 project. Mr. Kinney noted that the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council approved the
175 District's accomplishment plan for the grant. He explained that he is continuing price
176 negotiations with the landowner in order to reach an agreement that fits within the grant
177 requirements. He indicated he is encouraged by the progress being made. Manager Anderson
178 asked for an update on the tree planting for the Sunrise River Highway-61 Wetland
179 Enhancement Project. Mr. Kinney explained that weather is affecting the landscaping schedule.
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181 b) Emmons & Olivier Resources

182 [7:55 pm]

183 Mr. Graske reported that things are going well. The permitting program has been active. The
184 Forest Lake Alum Treatment Project, WJD-6 Wetland Restoration Project, and Moody Lake
185 Capstone Project are all going out for bid this year. The pumps are up and running on the County
186 Road 50 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter.
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188 c) Smith Partners

189 Nothing to report.
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192 **10. Report of Treasurer**

193 a) Approval of Bills and Treasurer's Report

194 Treasurer Anderson reported income for the period of \$770,447.62 and expenses in the amount
195 of \$271,280.17.
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197 Manager Bakke moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills in the amount of
198 \$271,280.17. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon vote, the motion carried 4-0.
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Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz			X	

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203 11. Report of Officers and Managers

204 [8:00 pm]

205 Manager Bakke reported that he, Manager Anderson, and staff toured the old Ameriprise office
206 location within the District’s current building. Manager Toavs reported that he attended the MN
207 Watersheds Summer Tour and attended an interesting talk on multipurpose drainage management.
208 He noted that he had some interesting conversations with other conference attendees about street
209 sweeping. Manager Anderson reported that the Highway 8 road reconstruction project is
210 progressing, and there is a public comment period coming up.
211

212 12. Summary and Approval of Board Direction

213 [8:05 pm]

214 Board directives were summarized:

- 215 - Manager Anderson asked staff to look into wake boat presentations to lake associations.
- 216 - Manager Anderson asked Mr. Miller to look into stationing the Chisago County
217 decontamination unit at Comfort Lake.
- 218 - Manager Bakke asked Mr. Miller to keep him updated with the results of the Bone Lake point-
219 intercept survey.
- 220 - Manager Anderson asked staff to provide information on the greenway corridor visioning and
221 natural resources inventory at the next meeting.
- 222 - Manager Anderson asked staff and counsel to review section 6 in the Forest Lake AIS
223 cooperative agreement and explain the thinking behind the wording.
- 224 - Manager Anderson asked staff to keep an eye out for the Highway 8 roadway project
225 environmental assessment worksheet.
- 226 - Manager Anderson asked staff to keep in touch with the lake associations during the heavy
227 recreational use periods of the year.

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229 13. Adjourn

230 a) Next regular board meeting - July 13, 2023, 6:30 pm
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233 Manager Toavs moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Manager Bakke. Upon a roll call
234 vote, the motion carried 4-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.
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Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	X			
Christopher Loth	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz			X	

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237 Dave Bakke, Secretary _____