

**Silver Lake Management District  
Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
May 28, 2022  
Reediger's Triangle**

**1. Call to Order by Ed at 0905.**

- a. Board Members in attendance Ed Kissinger, Mark Magnusson, Greg Barczak, Jim Morgenroth, Bill Herbert
- b. Town of Marion Representative – Bill Behnke, Officer Adam Weber
- c. Approximately 100 other individuals were in attendance

**2. Treasurer's Report**

- a. Bill presented the FY2022 Income–Expense statement – current YTD thru May 28, 2022 shows a gain of \$1,572.37 compared to a budgeted loss for the Fiscal Year of \$59,313.60.
- b. Current balances
  - Hometown Checking \$ 33,062.97
  - Hometown Savings \$ 81,223.91
  - LGIP \$335,343.02
  - Total \$449,629.91
- c. Treasurer's report was approved as submitted.

**3. Secretary's Report**

- a. Don Maes motioned to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the February 12, 2022 Board Meeting. Motion was seconded
- b. Minutes of the February 12, 2022 were approved as submitted/posted on the Town of Marion website

**4. District Business**

**a. High Water Options/Status - Mark**

Mark shared that in October 2021 an RFP was distributed to Crane, Stantec and Strand Engineering asking for an updated cost estimate to a 1985/1997 storm water runoff proposal. Crane chose not to submit a response stating that land use work was not their forte. Strand chose not to submit a response believing that the project would be very difficult to implement given that it would require moving storm water between 2 different watersheds, controlling water levels in various marshes and no less than 15 land parcels that would all need easements. Stantec did respond with a \$30-40K proposal that would revisit the costs associated with diverting storm water from the Hwy 21 corridor to the White River watershed. The \$443K 1997 cost when adjusted with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) equates to a 2021 cost of \$773K. Stantec and Strand both responded the project cost is more likely in the order of \$1.2-\$1.5M. The Board chose not to pursue this proposal believing the chance of DNR approval and obtaining easements would have a minimal chance of success. (This option does not allow SLMD to proactively control the water level of Silver Lake).

Stantec was asked on the cost for an updated estimate for a pump on Town of Marion land east of Silvercryst, piped down 20<sup>th</sup> avenue to the weir outlet. Stantec's 2019 design on options presented to the Sanitary district had a \$3M order of magnitude. Stantec responded for \$25-\$30K they would provide an updated estimate. The board did not pursue because it's not the best use of district funds to find out this option is \$3.5M versus \$3M. Only Stantec was asked for an RFP since this was their design from 2019 water control studies performed for Silver Lake Sanitary District.

Mark is currently preparing another RFP for a Strand Engineering (Brandon Herbert) recommended option that would place a pump on the Silver Lake side of the culvert with a pipe placed on the Irogami lake bed directly to the weir. This option would allow for some control of the Silver Lake level based on the height of the water compared to the culvert heights and the maximum flow rate (10 ft<sup>3</sup>/sec) thru the weir. The drawback to this proposal was since piping would need to be done from the culvert to weir inlet, it must be constructed in a manner not to impede navigation or use of Lake Irogami. This project would be subject to WI DNR regulations and approval of the piping placed in the lake bed.

There is still an option to construct a new weir on Town of Marion property on Lake Irogami. A new easement would be required through Mark Pindel's property of which he was not favorable to the proposal. The current weir would need to be decommissioned. The only advantage here would be Town of Marion control of the weir and a more manageable weir agreement,

All options would be limited to a total maximum flow of 10 cu ft/sec into the Bruce/Thorstead creek watershed from any water source, Irogami, Silver or both.

Question was asked if the weir was currently open. Don Maes reported that the weir is open and has been open since last August. SLSD does not have any plans to close the weir – only reason SLSD would consider closing or partially close the weir would be if the flow rate exceeded the established maximum. Don did share that SLSD is working to write a new agreement that would clarify the agreement and conditions for open/closing of the weir.

As of May 20, 2022 – Silver Lake was at 867.49 ft – in order for Silver Lake to flow into Lake Irogami, Silver Lake needs to be at or above 867.67 ft.

To limit flow of water into Silver Lake from Lake Irogami and allow Lake Irogami to stay as high as possible, will be exploring a potential option to sand bag/bladder bag the Lake Irogami side of the culvert – will explore DNR review/approval of this option.

As a point of reference, Mark shared that at the maximum flow rate (10 ft<sup>3</sup>/sec) thru the weir, it would take 37 days to clear an acre foot of water – however in reality it is in excess of 60 days to lower the lake by that amount (all other conditions being ideal)

Ed shared that a vote would be taken at the annual meeting on the desired water level for Silver Lake – OTHWM or lower? He also shared that over his time on the lake, the current lake level and the conditions that effect/control the water level have changed significantly – Lake

Alpine/dam, Hwy 21 reconstruction to name a few. A few members shared their perspectives on cycles of water levels and remember years when the water level was significantly lower (also perceived by some as a negative.)

**b. Milfoil Plans for 2022 – Mark**

Onterra is schedule to be on Silver Lake on Tuesday, May 31 to conduct AIS mapping that would then be used as the basis for the 2022 DASH program. Plan for 8 weeks of DASH for the summer of 2022 – significant growth in the Hwy 73/21 west bay. Currently at 2.5% of littoral zone – up about 10-fold from the previous years.

Will explore a herbicide treatment in this area in 2023 depending on results from 2022 efforts and DNR approval. (Whole lake treatment was completed in 2016 with a focused treatment in Foxtail Bay in 2020). DNR small grant was awarded for \$46,700k – will help defray DASH costs by about \$24k over the next 2 years. Mark was grateful that SLMD was awarded a grant this year – (\$3mil requested with a total pot of \$1.2mil)

Cost for milfoil treatment in 2023 – about 16 acres may need to be treated in the west bay – about \$20k projected cost for Procella. DASH costs would potentially decrease in 2023 if herbicide applied to west bay. Mike Ruhland questioned whether the membership would be willing to increase the number of weeks of DASH with a potential increase in membership dues to cover the costs (approximately \$10k per week of DASH)

**c. Lake Management Plan – Greg**

Greg shared that the survey response was very good – 194 responses representing approximately a 70% response rate. Once all of the data has been compiled, the results will be distributed to the membership (via email). Ed reminded the membership that having an active/current lake management plan is a critical component for grant submissions. SLMD voted to fund the development/revision to our lake management plan internally – rather than submit for a grant.

**d. Clean Boats/Clean Waters – Bill**

Grant has been approved (CBCW 103882) – Total grant request \$4996.65 (75/25% share) – SLMD share would be \$1249.16. Kade Panich will be supporting Silver Lake and Pearl Lake this summer as the CBCW inspector. Kade is a graduate of Wautoma High School - currently attending Northland College. Hours for CBCW will be primarily on Saturday and Sunday with coverage on Tuesday evenings when Bass Fishing tournaments are scheduled on Silver Lake

Question was raised about the current “murkiness” of the water. Members reported that the lake was clear in late April and then turned murky in early May. Onterra will do water samples on their scheduled visit on Tuesday. Water clarity as measured with a Secchi Disk is typically around 16-17 ft in May/June. Currently now reported at 3ft.

**e. Wautoma Schools AIS Tour 2022 – Jim**

Jim reported that the program will continue as in past years – taking approximately 90 7<sup>th</sup> grade students from Wautoma Schools onto the lake. Students are divided into 3 groups for approximately an hour tour with a DNR/Golden Sands biologist. Jim has obtained some educational materials that will be used for the AIS. Jim is looking for a volunteer with a

pontoon boat with a capacity of 12-14 individuals (need 3 pontoons - currently have 2 commitments). Tour is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

**f. AGOL Web App. – Mark**

Mark worked with Onterra to have the milfoil map available via a web app. A handout on how to use the website/software was available for members. The website is a very nice tool that allows a comparison of year over year of scattered plants vs colonies – in 2019 there were no large colonies on the lake (very high water and Slow no Wake all summer – both would limit the spread of milfoil) – in 2020, some colonies started to show.

**g. Alliant Energy –**

Curt from Alliant Energy was present to provide an update on the underground utility transfer project. Project is underway with a goal to bury electrical lines from Hwy 73/Silver Oak to Hwy 21/Silver Lake Road. Chris from InterCon has been the main point of contact to date for most homeowners. Telephone and cable may not be buried – still waiting on final word. Curt has asked contractors to complete their work by noon on Fridays of holiday weekends.

**h. Rentals – Ed**

Ed shared an update on discussions with the county on rentals (VRBO/AIRBNB) – The county health department inspects/licenses rental locations and is agency that should be contacted if residents have any issues with rentals. Unfortunately, there is nothing that the SLMD can do related to rentals. The Health Department will be assessing locations for appropriate square footage/cubic footage of space per occupant. Other concerns like noise, parking, Sanitation concerns should be taken to the Health Department, noise and parking issues can be directed to the Sheriff's Department

**i. Town Report – Bill B.**

Bill Behnke shared that the Town of Marion awarded funds to the various lakes in the township. He shared that Silver Lake was awarded a \$10,000 grant to be used to defray any of our costs associated with maintaining the lake. The membership thanked him for the Town of Marion award.

Bill introduced Officer Adam Weber – Adam then shared that he has been in the area for 10 years, working with the Sheriff's Department and is pleased to now be in the Town of Marion position. Officer Weber informed the group that lake patrol would be starting this weekend. Questions did arise related to the predictability vs variability of the patrol – unfortunately like many employers, the Sheriff's Department is also working short staffed so establishing a schedule that provides the desired patrol times on the lake with hours that deputies are interested in patrolling is a balancing act – all of the deputies are working overtime as part of the lake patrol.

**j. County Report –**

Not in attendance – no report

## 5. Questions/Comments from Members

### a. Barefoot Bay Logo Wear

Brandon Herbert shared an opportunity working with Barefoot Bay – a distributor of logo wear – shirts, hats that promote Silver Lake – the product will display an outline/broidery of Silver Lake. Product is of high quality with a portion of the purchase price donated back to SLMD. Products can be reviewed and ordered via [www.barefootbay.net](http://www.barefootbay.net)

### b. Expand Waterskiing hours

Question was raised on whether the waterskiing hours could be extended to sundown on weekends similar to weekday hours. Ed responded by sharing that the current hours were established thru a petition circulated by homeowners that ultimately led to the establishment of the Town ordinance outlining the skiing hours. Ed suggested that anyone interested in modifying the skiing hours could take the same path – circulate a petition with sufficient signatures and submit to the Town of Marion.

### c. Boat Landing Repair

Question was raised regarding the Hwy 73 boat landing which is need of repair. Boat landings are the property of the Town of Marion and despite needing some repair, the thought is that the condition of the landing may deter some boaters from launching their boat onto Silver Lake. Hwy 21 boat landing is in good shape and is the primary landing used for launching boats onto Silver Lake. Follow-up question on whether parking could be limited at the Hwy 21 landing – Ed did not think we had the authority to do that and further commented that the DNR does have guidelines for boat capacity on lakes

### d. Patching pot holes

Ed shared that the Town of Marion is in the process of fixing/filling potholes on town property. If residents have a specific location that needs attention, contact Vicki Synder at the Town office.

## 6. Upcoming events

- a. Rummage / Garage Sale – June 10-11, 2022
- b. Annual meeting – August 27, 2022 0900 Reediger’s Triangle, Rain location – Town Hall
- c. School Tour – September 14<sup>th</sup>, Rain date September 20<sup>th</sup>

## 7. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:37am

Respectfully submitted

*William Herbert*

Bill Herbert  
Secretary/Treasurer