

ROGERS LAKE AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF December 14, 2022

A meeting of the Rogers Lake Authority (RLA) was convened at Rogers Lake Clubhouse at 7:30 PM on December 14, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Dennis Overfield. The following members were present: Toni Phillips, Jenell Janes, Maneesha Joshi, Mark Hastings, Dick Smith, and Dennis Overfield. There was also an estimate 12 local attendees. The minutes were recorded by Erica Correia.

The November 9th minutes were read aloud and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Dick Smith and seconded by Mark Hastings. Motion passed unanimously. Jenell abstained because was not at the November meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Alyssa Mullen - Jenell contacted her – new teacher in charge of the students who do the diving. Alyssa is speaking with the new teacher and will let Jenell or Dennis know if the students will be able to help. Alyssa will not be involved as she is having a baby so it is up to the new dive instructor.

November budget review – RLA clerk – last month's will be used as guide going forward. Weed Treatment/Survey – finished with expenditures there. RLA Boat Expense of \$1873.

Review and approve 23/24 budget request –

Jenell Janes made a motion to submit 23/24 budget at \$52000 and Maneesha Joshi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Capital Expenditures –

Jenell Janes made motion to accept the capital budget as submitted for \$35,000 and Dick Smith seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Patrol boat – found broken ground wire. New thermostat, new propeller – should be in good shape. Picked up boat last week and it is now at the Public Works garage. Jenell has boat covers.

Association meeting update – meeting will be in January and date will be determined tonight.

Update on Asian Clam and Water Quality reports - Pond & Lake – permit we have through DEEP is good through 2024 but only for Pond & Lake. If go through someone else need a new permit and will cost approximately \$2500. Makes sense to stay with Pond & Lake. Milfoil treatment good for 3 years so they will come do a survey early September/late August – cost is \$1500 for equipment + cost of survey and report = \$5000 estimate. Would treat the following spring based on what is found.

NEW BUSINESS

Patrol recruitment plans – all returning employees need new job letter sent out along with a job description

Approve Patrol Supervisor and tasks –

Dick Smith made a motion to approve discussed changes on Rogers Lake Supervisor and was seconded by Jenell Janes. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Rogers Lake Seasonal Employment Opportunity –

Jenell Janes made a motion to accept the Rogers Lake Seasonal Employment opportunity as revised during the meeting and Maneesha Joshi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Plans for invasive weed survey and treatment through 2024 – Jenell suggests we give timelines to all vendors on when we want services completed and when we need to receive reports.

DEEP dam operation and maintenance discussion –

Public Comment

Dave Evers spoke about lake level being 12 inches over the damn. Referenced the Operations manual. He had texted Dennis, Jenell, and Dick on 12/8 and it still took them 2 days to go open the damn. Dennis stated they should have opened the gate sooner.

Christina Evers stated the damn should be opened pre-emptively. Dave Evers had called and texted him but no one opened the damn until there was already a problem.

Julie B – 19 Osceola - called Dennis that night. Her crawl space was frozen with water. After she called they did open the damn. Questions why the damn can't be opened when we know a storm is coming? Dennis states that a small amount of water has to be flowing so we don't have wells going dry. Julie wants us to work a little better so that this doesn't happen to others.

Tom Baird – 11 Town Woods Rd – has water in basement and his dock almost floated away. Clearly the procedures don't work and wants to see a motion by the board to amend the current procedures.

Dave Evers – March 2010 storm Dick had damn open before the storm thank goodness and they still flooded. In 1980s first floor of home flooded. What is the problem with opening the damn too soon? Did not open the sluice gate all the way last Saturday. If we get another freak storm it needs to be opened preemptively. Dick stated he will check the

weather this week and will open the damn if need be. Dave stated if draw the lake down 3” it will come back because of the runoff. Thinks it is crazy having the lake this high this time of year.

Pete Zach – Blood St – boats on Gardner Lake for the most part and every year the lake gets lowered. They must not have the well issue there.

Bill Ferguson – 7 Lake Dr – lost a hot water heater during this last flood and also damaged his dock. Wants to know who to send the bill to? If state won’t allow RLA to touch the damn then are they liable for damages? When ground is frozen run-off doesn’t take place as quickly. Wells that go dry are point wells and are only a few feet deep.

Andy – Hickory St in Lyme – very cloudy and dirty last month. Is water testing being done because he has never seen it like this before? Dennis states Yale is still testing 2x/month

Julie B – thank everyone for volunteering

Discussion around why damn was left closed – Dennis stated initially wanted to lower the lake to kill the weeds but CT does not want that done.

Any other new business – Historical Society reached out for information on Rogers Lake and Dennis provided what he had from a former project done on the lake.

Jenell made a motion to send John Freer a letter of employment for 2023 Boating season and was seconded by Maneesha Joshi. Motion passed unanimously.

Jenell made a motion to accept Greg Brennan’s application for seasonal employment for the 2023 boating season.

Jenell made a motion to accept Dick Smith’s application for seasonal employment. Toni Phillips seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dick Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:19pm and Maneesha Joshi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Jenell and Dennis will not be at the next meeting.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 11, 2023.