

MINUTES

Apple River Protection and Rehabilitation District (ARPRD)

Board of Commissioners' Meeting

Saturday, July 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Amery City Hall Council Room

1. Chairman Roland Peterson called the meeting to order, set the agenda, and verified that the official notices were published in Amery Free Press and posted online.

2. Board Members present were Roland Peterson, Angie Johnson, Paul Isakson, and Billie Jo Schleusner. Dave Schleusner and Derrick Carlson were also present.

3. Reports:

a. The Minutes of the April 24, 2021 meeting were approved.

b. The Treasurer's Report was approved:

1. Checking Account Balance as of July 23, 2021 was \$11,429.68.

2. Expenses for 2020 were \$306,920.22.

3. Income for 2020 was \$329,851.74.

4. Expense total to date for 2021 is \$44,515.32.

5. Income total to date for 2021 is \$55,945.21.

c. Roland Peterson reported that the Clean Boats Clean Water Inspections led by Steve Schieffer with 4 students at the Lincoln Landing will cover 144 hours by the end of the season. Dave Schleusner has donated 48 hours to date, and Dave and Isaac will cover the remaining hours to meet the minimum of 200 hours required by the grant.

d. Dave Schleusner reported on Weed Harvesting. Because of the hot weather, the weeds have been the worst he's seen. They started harvesting up north 2 weeks earlier this year on May 12. They have harvested 6 ½ weeks so far and will have 5 ½ weeks left to harvest. There have been 65 total loads (146 ton) up north and 172 loads (1,548 ton) in the south end as on July 12. They have 274 running hours to date. The costs have been under \$20,000 so far. The fuel costs have been up with \$2,191 spent; however, the new machine's fuel efficiency has helped. A new apron was put on the old harvester. The new machine is working well with only a few minor repairs.

e. Derrick Carlson continues to look for invasive species with no new species noticed. Roland Peterson handed out copies of the Polk County Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan, 2015-2020. Our Apple River Flowage looks better than most of the area waters with only Curly-Leaf Pondweed listed. It is important to continue our Clean Boats Clean Water inspection efforts.

f. Paul Isakson updated on the proposed No Wake Zone application for the narrow area by North Park. The DNR denied it because the area is already a no wake zone within 100 feet of shoreline under current law. Perhaps a reminder sign could be posted on shore; Paul will check on the price and wording.

g. Water testing is currently being conducted by Tom Scheffel.

4. Action Items

a. The Board approved Billie Jo Schleusner as a nominee for the position of Treasurer for 2022-24.

b. The Audit Committee for 2021 of Derrick Carlson, Erin Schleusner, and Allison Schleusner was approved.

c. The Board approved a motion to pursue actions to update the Aquatic Plant Management Plan, which must be done every 5 years to continue receiving a harvesting permit. We will apply for a grant in fall 2021 to help pay costs. In 2022, we must have a Plant Survey done. In 2023, we must have the updated plan completed. The estimated total cost will be \$14,080. The Plant Survey by Matt Berg will cost \$7,900. The Counseling Services will cost \$5,700. Travel and Training volunteer services will be \$480. The State's share is 67%, likely paid in 2022 with an advance of 25% and the rest paid in 2023 when the plan is completed.

d. The Board approved action to continue the Clean Boats Clean Water project. We will need to continue efforts to find boat inspectors.

e. The Board approved the Proposed Budget for 2022 with a one-time tax increase of \$10,000 to be reviewed annually. The increase will help cover the \$7,900 cost of the Plant Survey conducted by Matt Berg in 2022, which is required, and any unknown costs of fuel plus a possible price inflation increase.

f. The Board approved the agenda for the ARPRD Annual Meeting for August 21, 2021 at Amery City Hall.

5. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Johnson, Secretary