July 2024

www.beaverdamlake.org

BEAVER DAM LAKE

MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Preserving and Protecting

Current Officers:

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Email: tcschroeder@centurytel.net

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Letter from the President

Hard to believe another year has passed and I am completing the 11th year as President of the BDLMD. So that there would be an orderly transition from my years as President of the BDLMD, a few years ago Commissioner Mike Werner agreed to step up to the challenge. As last year's 2022/2023 fiscal year progressed it became evident with the changes of personnel at the WDNR, the completion of the SE Storm water Park, and the Restoration/dredging of Library Lake, that staying on as President for one more year was practical. The plan then evolved that when my current term ended at the 2024 Annual meeting that Mike would take over as President. However, in late March, Mike announced that he would be leaving Cumberland as he had an opportunity to sell his home. So, back to the drawing board! I nominated John Peterson to fill the remaining term of Mike Werner, which ends in 2025. I will be running again for another 3 year term as a commissioner. Should I be re-elected and approved by the Board as President for another year, I will again be focused on transitioning to new leadership while making sure the ship doesn't run aground.

With the awarding of a WDNR Lake Protection grant in Feb. 2023, the second stage of developing the SE storm water pond/park was completed in late Oct. 2023. The project included building a small pond handling highway runoff and the addition of an Iron Enhanced Sand Filter pond that will remove phosphorous from the storm water before it goes into Library Lake. Iron (Fe) has an affinity for capturing Phosphorous (P), and one pound of P can produce between 350 to 450# of algae. In Feb. 2024 another WDNR grant to complete the last stage of the SE Storm water pond infrastructure was awarded. The work scope will connect the 3 catch basins along the alley by the Utility to the east pond, within the SE storm water park. This project may be completed before you receive this news Letter. 8 trees were planted this spring and once all the construction is completed the total area will be groomed and reseeded.

Based on the results of the Beaver Dam Lake July and Oct. 2023 Plant Surveys, the only area that had EWM was Cemetery Bay. This is remarkable as almost 20 years ago,

75% of the Littoral Zone (the depth of water where EWM can grow usually as deep as 25 ft.) in Beaver Dam Lake had EWM. Not observing EWM in Beaver Dam Lake other than in Cemetery Bay is a testament to the EWM treatment program the Lake District has promoted. The Lake District applied for a permit to treat Eurasian Water Milfoil –EWM in Cemetery Bay, and to treat City Bay and Norwegian Bay for plant growth that interferes with watercraft operation. Rather than wait until the plant growth became a problem and then apply for a permit, the application proactively included addressing this issue. The permit was approved for dealing with the navigation issues but the WDNR rejected approving the treatment of Cemetery Bay for EWM. As a requirement in the permit the WDNR must observe and approve the treatment prior to executing the treatment. The EWM in Cemetery Bay is being closely monitored.

For the past few years I haven't mentioned walleye stocking in Beaver Dam Lake. During 2003, Beaver Dam Lake was stocked with Small Fingerling Walleye at about 50 fish/acre or ~50,000 fish. Currently there are no plans to stock any walleyes in Beaver Dam Lake due to the poor performance of past stocking not yielding positive results. Unfortunately, many lakes in the area that received DNR stocked walleye have either been permanently cut or stocking has been deferred due to limited supply of large fingerlings. I have heard that a few nice walleyes are being caught but they are few and far between catches. Remember that there is an 18" minimum length to keep a walleye. I also encourage using barbless hooks when fishing for walleyes as there is a much greater survival rate for the released fish.

WDOT engineers continue to design the replacement of the Highway 63 box culvert going between the east and west sections of the lake. The current design envisions a "bridge-like" structure. During the construction, the current plan allows for continuous traffic flow around the site, which should result in a shortened construction schedule. The replacement of the box culvert with the "bridge" is still scheduled for 2026.

The old deteriorating BDLMD information boards at Louie's on the Lake and the Eagle Point boat launches were replaced with new signs. Although the information is basically the same as what was on the old signs, a statement about wake boats operation was added and the signs are made of more weather resistant material.

Operation of wake boats and other water craft that cause large waves continues to be a hot topic. I have been encouraged that most water craft pulling wake boarders or surfers are staying out in the deeper and more center part of the lake. An organization in the Milwaukee area is actively promoting legislation at the State level that would limit wake boat operation in WI waters. Some of the proposed limitations are no wake boats on lakes smaller than 1500 acres, a requirement that the boats stay 500 to 700 feet from shorelines, and that the wake boats when creating waves for surfing are in at least 20 feet of water. There is a lot of information on the internet under Wake Boat legislation. One site can be found by entering "Big Cedar lake, wake boat". As I mentioned last year, as a safety precaution, I urge watercraft operators pulling skiers, knee boarders, tubers and wake boarders to refrain from making turns in the area north of the "No Wake" buoys on the east end of the lake near the beach area. I also recommend that skiers and wake boarders that have fallen and tubers that left the tube(s), etc. raise their arm(s) when in the water to assure the driver that they are okay and to make themselves more noticeable to other watercraft operators.

At the beginning of this letter I covered the challenges over the past year with having an orderly transition in leadership of the BDLMD. It makes it easy for me to consider another year as President with the continued strong support of the BDLMD Commissioners and volunteers such as Joe'l Brenny (website Admin.) and Lake Monitors (Chip Niebuhr and Jim Tempesta and Nancy Bentz). Chris Kemper and Tom Goldsmith continue to place the various informational buoys at the Narrows and the "no wake" buoys by the sand bar between Rabbit and Williams Bay and by the City beach. The continued assistance from the City of Cumberland Mayor, City Administrator and staff, the Utility Manager and employees, plus various contractors certainly makes tending to Lake matters much easier. I want to thank all those that I haven't specifically mentioned for your patience, trust and continued support over the past year.

Please visit the BDLMD website at beaverdamlake.org Don't forget this year's Annual Meeting will be held at the Cumberland Middle School Commons on Sat. August 3th starting at 9:30 AM. Doors will open at 9:00 a.m. Hope to see you there!

Tom Schroeder, President

Brief History of Library Lake Restoration

In 2008, a committee was formed by the BDLMD commissioners to create a Library Lake – Lake Management Plan that would address the many aspects of Restoring Library Lake to what the lake was 60 or more years ago. The Management Plan was approved in Jan. 2010 and on Oct. 25, 2010 the plan was presented to the community. An advisory referendum vote of those present to authorize continuing forward with a 2.4 million dollars Build America bond failed by over 3 "no" to 1 "yes" vote. The committee needed to rethink and re-imagine the plan, to gain acceptance from the voters before continuing the restoration project.

For the past 14 years the Restoration of Library Lake has been systematically and meticulously progressing with over $1.5 million dollars in Grants from the WDNR to address the 11 storm water outfalls going into the Lake. Eliminating the direct runoff of storm water into Library Lake was a prerequisite before the WDNR would even consider removing/dredging the invasive cattails and sediment from the lake. With the pending completion of the SE Storm water Park, the last of the large storm water outfalls entering the Library Lake, the BDLMD was positioned to apply for a Dredging permit.

Since 2021 the Lake District has been working with the WDNR to obtain the necessary permits to dredge areas of Library Lake. On Feb. 5, 2024 the final permit was obtained that allows for removal of the Cattail and sediment from the South shoreline and sediment from along the north shoreline of Library Lake. During late Sept. 2024 a dam will be built blocking the channel under the Grove Street Bridge. By Oct. 1st, Library Lake will be lowered about 5 ft. in preparation for the dredging during the winter months of 2025.

Opting not to use tax dollars to cover the cost of the dredging, the BDLMD Board approved forming a Library Lake Restoration/Dredging fund raising committee. The Committee's responsibility is to explore, develop and execute the necessary means to raise the estimated $550,000 cost to remove the permitted cattail and sediment from the Lake.

Besides several public sponsored events, a raffle was developed and is being promoted, an appropriate Recognition Board for large donations was designed, a Banner drawing attention to the Restoring Library Lake was designed, constructed and placed around Cumberland, and a "handout" was created to help inform the community.

For additional information, please refer to the April 10, 2024 "a View from the Lake" article, last year's Annual Letter and at the BDLMD website *beaverdamlake.org.* Please donate now in person at Cumberland Federal Bank, by mail to BDLMD, P.O.Box 232, Cumberland, WI. 54829, or through Venmo. Venmo can be accessed through the Venmo app, or by using your cell phone camera and pointing at the QR Code.

GET ON BOARD!

Donate to the Library Lake Restoration Fund by purchasing a fish!
Have your name proudly displayed on the Donor's Board, permanently located by Library Lake Park.

Sturgeon $100,000 Plus		Trout $10,000	
Musky $100,000		Bass $5,000	
Pike $50,000		Crappie $1,000	
Walleye $25,000		Mighty Minnow $500	

REGISTRATION FORM

Name of donor:
Please type the name you would like to have displayed on the Donor Board

Address:

Please make checks payable to:
Beaver Dam Lake Management District
MEMO: Library Lake

Donation amount:

All donations are tax deductible. Donors will receive a letter from the Library Lake Board for their records.

Mail to: **Cumberland Federal Bank**
1390 2nd Ave
Cumberland, WI 54829

Beaver Dam Lake
Management District
P.O. Box 232
Cumberland, WI 54829

Or Current Resident

Upcoming Events:
August 3 9:30 AM
Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing of
Beaver Dam Lake Management District
See agenda inside.
CUMBERLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Beaver Dam Lake Management District 33nd Annual Meeting

Saturday August 3, 2024
Cumberland Middle School
Cumberland, Wisconsin 54829
Doors open at 9:00 AM, Meeting begins at 9:30 AM

1. Welcome and Introductions – Tom Schroeder
2. Approval of 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes – Tom Schroeder
3. Annual Treasurer's Report – Dr. Alan Carlson
4. Audit Report – submitted by Mary Biros Rogers, presented by Dr. Carlson
5. Jay Michels – EOR, update on SE Storm Water Pond and creating a Beaver Dam Lake Management Plan
6. Present Budget for 2024-2025, discussion, approval – Dr. Alan Carlson
7. Election of Commissioners – Dr. Alan Carlson
8. Review of District Activities – Tom Schroeder
9. Other discussion as needed
10. Adjourn

(proposed budget over)

Insert

Proposed Budget 2024-2025

Revenues		Expenses	
Tax Levy	$210,723	Mailings, Notices, Mtgs.	$3,000
Grants Remaining		Grant Matches	
LPT 80532 SE Lib Lk Storm Constr 2	50,000	LPT 80532 SE Lib Lk Storm Constr 2	6,200
LPT 73422 Lib Lk Prot/Reveg	50,000	LPL 73422 Lib Lk Prot/Reveg	61,020
LPT 84424 Lib Lk Storm Constr 3	126,188	LPT 84424 Lib LK Storm Constr 3	168,251
Cash Savings	91,341	Milfoil/CLP Control with Plant Surveys	175,000
Total Revenues	**$528,252**	Aquatic Plant Mgmt. Plan-ongoing	5,000
		Insurance	6,500
		Boat Landing Monitors	3,000
		Fireworks	1,500
		Water Safety	1,500
		Website Updates	300
		Shoreline Restoration Site	2,500
		Wickre Channel Plan	1,500
		Storm Water Pond Maintenance	20,000
		Hwy 63 Bridge Stonework (Non lapsable)	15,000
		BDLMD Lake Planning Project.	57,981
		Total Expenses	**$528,252**

Tom Schroeder – President; Alan Carlson MD – Treasurer; John Bavier – Secretary; Tim Defoe, John Peterson – Commissioners; Doris Laursen – City of Cumberland Rep.; Craig Turcott - Barron County Rep.

Approximately 15 minutes following the adjournment of the Annual Meeting the BDLMD will hold a brief Board meeting with the following agenda.

1. Approve minutes.
2. Treasurer's Report – Dr. Alan Carlson
3. Election of officers
4. Set next meeting date
5. Adjourn

Note: additional agenda items may be added up to 24 hours in advance of the meeting. The new agenda will be posted on the BDLMD Website, City Hall, Nielsen's and the City Library.

(meeting agenda over)

insert