

# Otter Lake Water Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2024

Chairman Jake Rettberg with all Commissioners present except, David Skinner and Mike McCarthy convened the regular meeting of the Otter Lake Water Commission at 5:00 pm. Others present included Joe Hogan, Denzel Jines, Dennis Ross, Shannon Collins, and Laura Sommerfeld.

## **MINUTES:**

Hank Sutton made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on July 9, 2024. Terry Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 4-0-2 vote, with John Gudgel and John Ulery voting present.

## **AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:**

Scott Hunt, Katie Bohrman, and BJ Czech with WHKS Engineering came to give an update on the Route 104 Water Main Replacement Project. All easements that were needed have been acquired and recorded. A tentative schedule has been laid out with bid opening set for October 2024, and construction to begin March 2025 with the completion to be done by March 2026. Estimated project costs and requested loan funding will be \$5,690,800,000, depending on what we see from the bid opening.

## **BILL LIST:**

John Ulery made a motion to approve the bills totaling \$241,709.19 for payment. John Gudgel seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

## **RECREATION:**

Park Financial Report:

Total income for July was \$29,722.84 with a year to date of \$343,860.89.

The total expense Otter Lake Park owes the Water Commission for July is \$32,445.77. With a total owed to date of \$97,932.13.

## **PARK MANAGER`S REPORT:**

Dennis Ross and Shannon Collins reported:

- At the time of writing this report we have 2 open sites. Currently there are 151 names on the waiting list. We have 1 covered boat slip open with a lift for a pontoon.
- Congratulations to Adrienne Adams, the new Miss Girard and one of our best bait shop attendants.
- We had the cardboard boat and kayak races, and our annual fireworks display on July 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The north side campers hosted their annual shrimp boil on July 6<sup>th</sup> with over 150 in attendance.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday would not be complete without handing out free ice cream to the kids, definitely the best part of any holiday weekend.
- Tonight makes my 320<sup>th</sup> or so board meeting, it has been a fantastic 27 years and the support of this board is a huge part of that. We have accomplished many things and each of you should be proud of the improvements we have made. I couldn't be more pleased to pass this operation on to Joe, Denzel

and Shannon. My last day of employment will be August 31<sup>st</sup>, thank you for the best years of my career.

- The camper appreciation party will be on August 24<sup>th</sup>. This will serve the additional purpose as my official retirement party. Dinner will be at 6:00 and the band will play from 7:00 to 11:00. The Commission will provide fried chicken and dinnerware, campers are asked to bring a covered dish. Of course, the board and all employees are invited to attend.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None to report

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Ordinance 2024-03- An Ordinance Establishing User Fees for the Otter Lake Area, Macoupin County, Illinois was presented to the Board with the fee changes as discussed in the July meeting. John Gudgel made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-03 as presented. John Ulery seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Joe Hogan reported:

- **Thayer Tank**- LC United should be on site this week to finish punch list items and to recoat and blend the bottom part of the exterior bowl. The tank will be offline during this time. Once everything is complete, we will disinfect the tank, take bacteriological samples, and then put the tank back online.
- **Tovey Billing**- We have assisted the Village of Tovey with their billing for years, but they have never fully utilized our services. Laura and I met with their water board to discuss consolidating all billing services to Otter Lake as well as generating services orders for them. These additional services will help the billing process run more efficiently and establish better communication for all involved.

#### **OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**

Denzel Jines reported:

- **Water Quality**- July 2024 saw an average lake temp of 78 degrees and an average Ph of 8.1. The lake level was recorded at 620'. Full pool. MIB and Geosmin sample results are listed below. We were operating the UV system in DIS mode only.  
**MIB and Geosmin Sample Results**  
July 8, 2024, Raw Geosmin 6.5ng/L and finished Geosmin <2.0 ng/L  
July 8, 2024, Raw MIB 7.3 ng/L and finished MIB 5.4 ng/L
- **Operator Training**- Several operators and I attended a training course on locating hosted by the Central Illinois Water Plant Operators Association. We were updated on several law changes made to JULIE going into effect January 1, 2025, and we got hands on training with our locator.
- **Lake Dredging**- The crew continued dredging operations. We are still targeting 3 days a week. The crew dredged a total of 12 days for the month of July.

- **Distribution System**- We had two water main breaks in July. The first was July 8<sup>th</sup>. The 10" CI main had a blowout. The crew was able to make the repair with a clamp. The second break occurred July 29<sup>th</sup> on Rt104 on our 10" CI main. The crew had to cut in a repair.
- **Abandoned Service**- The crew abandoned an unused service at 667 Covered Bridge. The crew has abandoned all known unused services. We'll abandon any unused services in the future as we become aware of them.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

We are hosting the annual CIWPOA Golf Outing on September 25, 2024. We also will have plant and lake tours if any Commissioner is interested.

At 6:05 PM John Gudgel made a motion to adjourn. John Ulery seconded the motion. With no further business to discuss the meeting was unanimously adjourned. The next Commission Meeting will be at the Commission Office - 6475 W Montgomery Road in Virden on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 5:00 PM

*Laura Sommerfeld*

***Minutes approved by Board on September 10, 2024***