

Otter Lake Water Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2024

Vice Chairman Terry Davis with all Commissioners present except, Chairman Jake Rettberg, convened the regular meeting of the Otter Lake Water Commission at 5:00 pm. Others present included Joe Hogan, Denzel Jines, Dennis Ross, and Meghan Theel.

MINUTES:

Larry Mouser made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on April 9, 2024. Terry Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote with Skinner, McCarthy, and Gudgel voting present.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:

None present.

BILL LIST:

Dave Skinner made a motion to approve the bills totaling \$679,187.13 for payment. Mike McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

RECREATION:

Park Financial Report:

Total income for April was \$141,133.48 with a year to date of \$27,432.08.

The total expense Otter Lake Park owes the Water Commission for April is \$27,732.08. With a total owed to date of \$27,432.08.

PARK MANAGER`S REPORT:

Dennis Ross reported:

- **Open Lots** - At the time of writing this report we have 8 open sites. Currently there are 147 names on the waiting list.
- **Bait Shop** - Bait shop hours will be 7- 7 beginning May 17th, 7 days a week.
- **North Shower House** - The North shower house project is complete. The Northside campers are very happy with the new facilities. The Southeast shower house should be the next capital project.
- **Lot Leases** - Invoices for the second installment have for the most part have been satisfied. With only one invoice remaining unpaid at the time this report was prepared. There is a \$15 per day late fee.
- **Septic System** - The septic system at the second south campground shower house has not been replaced due to the wet weather. We are hoping to have this project completed soon.
- **Camper Incident** - On April 22nd there was a confrontation between a long-term overnight camper and one of the maintenance staff. The overnight camper was removed from the premises with the assistance of the Macoupin County Sheriff's Department. He was not given a refund for the remainder of the nights he had reserved.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a brief discussion on the proposed new power plant in Pawnee. The discussion was centered around who and how water to the power plant would be supplied.

NEW BUSINESS:

None to report

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

Joe Hogan reported:

- **Route 104 Project Update**- The IEPA has notified us that they are reviewing our loan application. Once they have reviewed it, Scott Hunt and I will meet with them to go over any items that need added or revised. We have all easements, but one. The one left is supposed to come to our office and sign it soon.
- **Thayer Tank Pay Request**- As shown in the bill list, LC United has requested payment for partial work done on the tank. This amount is \$319,599 out of the project total of \$420,420. Our project manager from Dixon Engineering has verified all work within the requested amount has been completed per the project's specifications. The remaining ~\$100,000 is for recoating the discolored part of the tank's bowl and finishing up a few punch list items that need corrected.
- **Park Manager Position**- I am currently finalizing a job description for the position. When that is complete, we will post it and let it run for about one month. I anticipate in June we will set an interview committee, consisting of the current Park Manager, Board Chairman, one other Board Member, and myself. We will then hold interviews in July. Ideally, we will have a new manager selected by the beginning of August, leaving the rest of the month for training before Dennis fully retires.

OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Denzel Jines reported:

- **Water Quality**- April 2024 saw an average lake temp of 58 degrees and an average Ph of 8.5. The lake level was recorded at 620.4'. Full pool. MIB and Geosmin sample results are listed below. We are operating the UV system in disinfection mode only.
 - MIB and Geosmin Sample Results**
 - April 8, 2024, Raw Geosmin 9.0 ng/L and finished Geosmin 2.6 ng/L
 - April 8, 2024, Raw MIB 2.4 ng/L and finished MIB <2.0 ng/L
 - April 29, 2024, Raw Geosmin 17.0 ng/L and finished Geosmin 3.6 ng/L
 - April 29, 2024, Raw MIB 17.0 ng/L and finished MIB 13 ng/L
- **GPS Locator**- We've procured a Juniper Systems GPS locator known as geode. The locator can locate a physical point down to 3" of accuracy and is compatible with Diamond Maps. We've begun using the locator on our system with the end goal being the complete capture of our distribution system. We have started with the valves in the system and will move on to the meters after that. We'll physically locate the water mains when the crops are out of the fields and at any time that we have the main exposed.

- **Source and Supply**- The drive cables and dredge were set up April 9, 2024. The crew has been operating the dredge as weather permitted. We've been able to get all our newer operators trained in operating the dredge.
- **Treatment Plant**- The crew had to replace ballast #2 on train 2. As we exercised the equipment at 100% power train 2 would fault due to an alarm. After much troubleshooting we had to replace the ballast. The ballast was not serviceable.
- **Distribution System**- We were notified on April 4, 2024, by Auburn of a suspected water main leak on Kennedy Rd. Our crew exposed the site and found a broken tile. The main was also exposed so that we could confirm it was not leaking. It was found to be intact.
- **Crew Training**- I sent several of our operators to a free IDOT training class on flagging for traffic control. The crew now has a better understanding of how to run a traffic control point.
- **Watercon**- I attended ILAWWA's Watercon April 15th-17th in Peoria.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Nothing to Report.

At 5:55P pm John Ulery made a motion to adjourn. Mike McCarthy 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, June 11, 2024, at 5:00 PM

Meghan Theel

APPROVED BY BOARD ON 6/11/2024