**Annual Budget Meeting**

**August 4, 2018, 12:30p**

FLILPARD chair, Tim Meekma, explained the budget process and the new line items. He explained that new line items included a plant survey and watershed projects. The harvesting budget is not included in the budget but is a special charge. He opened the floor to questions.

John Frey questioned the carp fund. Tim explained that there was once a carp issue and professional carp harvesters came in. At one time in the past, $10,000 was moved to weed cutting (which at that time was funded thru the tax levy).

Ed Benter made a motion to approve the FLILPARD budget. John Frey seconded. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

General Questions were asked.

Arline Runkel asked what is the condition of our sewer system. Tim went through the equipment list which will be replaced and pointed out there is a document from MCO which provides further detail and work that took place the last year and work that is projected for the remainder of 2018 and 2019. MCO has increased their costs by 3%.

Tim explained that a small engineering budget of $5,000 is allotted to MSA as needs arise.

Tim further explained that the City is not connected to our District lines.

Dale Sunday asked if there are seasonal issues for the sewer. Tim explained it was dependent on storms in summer and winter freezing. He also explained that the District has three less DUEs than in previous years due to buildings being razed and not being replaced.

Tim explained that the Lake Management was up 43%. He then provided examples of how home values would be affected by the 43%.

At 12:57p, Cheri made a motion to adjourn the budget meeting. Dennis VanderWerff seconded.

**Annual Meeting**

**August 4, 2018, 1p**

Tim Meekma FLILPARD Chair, called the meeting to order. He introduced the Commissioners and Mike Cypert. He thanked Kathy Rydquist for her years of service.

Mark Brieman made a motion to approve the 2017 Annual Meeting minutes. Arlene Runkel seconded.

FLILPARD Treasurer, Cherie Witkowski read the Connor, Wells & Vandermuth statement that FLILPARD has adhered to accounting principles.

Dennis VanderWerff made a motion to accept the treasurer’s audit report. JoAnne Salzman seconded.

FLILPARD Chair explained that there was an election of one commissioner, Tim Meekma. Joanne Salzman and Dennis VanderWerff counted ballots. 24 ballots were for Tim Meekma. Paul Roscoe made a motion to approve the election and to destroy the ballots. Charlie Nelson seconded.

Mark Bremen made a motion that The Beaver Dam Citizen be the official newspaper for FLILPARD. Charlie Nelson seconded the motion.

Dale Sunday asked where Inland District members could learn more information. Colleen Crane explained that the District has a new website and encouraged district members to opt-in for email blasts that are FLILPARD specific. Tim also added the importance of reading the FLILPARD quarterly newsletter.

Paul Roscoe asked who governs FLILPARD. Tim Meekma explained the following. According to Chapter 33 bylaws, there are five commissioners: two are appointed and three are elected. The commissioners meet monthly, the second Thursday of each month. It is a self-governing entity.

Dr. Neal O’Reilly then made his presentation on the status of the lake and the Fox Lake Watershed management. He explained that April is a key month for the lake. If April has limited rain, the lake will be clear and will have more weeds. If there are rains in April, the water may be turbid and algae dominated. He explained that Fox Lake teeters between these two states.

Dr. Neal explained the need to be flexible as the challenges are dependent if the water is clear or turbid. He then explained the challenges the Harvester has with five loading/unloading sites and the equipment’s limitation of 3 feet.

A discussion took place regarding water lilies in the ‘jug.’ Neal explained possible options including herbicide by air boat, manually remove lilies from roots, and the creation of a channel for boat navigation. He explained the DNR’s position of property owner’s have the right to access water. Which method works best? Arlene Runkel stated that it’s an incorrect perception that all the jug is shallow. Julie Flemming asked if it is possible that the water lilies in the jug are mutations as they are very large. Dr. Neal explained that the leaf and stem generates in the spring. Perhaps cut now? To get the roots out is a lot of work. Tim noted that in the Aquatic Plant Management document, pages 2-5, water lilies are evident some years, but not evident other years.

Dr. Neal then explained the District’s request for $30,000 for watershed projects. He explained that 38,778 acres drain into the lake. 76% of those acres is agriculture. He noted that farmers are not the enemy. He explained the Healthy Soil Healthy Waters Alliance where farmers are teaching farmers conservation practices.

He noted that in the past, the District has not had money in the budget to partner with others. The $30,000 line item would be a segregated account where funds would be designated for cover crops, nutrient management, tile management, buffer strips, wetland filters, shoreline stabilization, and education. Dr. Neal is hopeful that we can leverage our watershed project dollars for state and federal grants; that every $1 will bring in $2-$3.

A discussion then took place. John Frey asked about dredging. Dr. Neal explained that dredging is very expensive. Vicki Schmidt asked how to prevent the ‘jug’ from filling in with sediment. Arlene Runkel agreed that sediment is building up in the ‘jug’ and that cattails are now growing fifteen feet out.

Vicki also asked about tiling in Wedge’s Bay and what can be done about that. She also asked about repurposing manure.

FLILPARD commissioner, Dale Malcheel responded saying tile lines release nutrients; surface run-off release sediments. Also projects are underway regarding repurposing manure.

Dr. Neal explained that the Fox Lake watershed has karst topography and the DNR permits may be changing. Dale Malcheel. noted that karst maps are underway right now.

Paul Roscoe asked who is being accountable for weed harvesting and is GPS being used to plot the location of weeds. Dr. Neal explained that all data is correlated thru GPS.

Julie Flemming announced that there is a new bird on the lake, Terns.

There was then a discussion about the Lake Management budget. Tim explained there is a 43% increase due to the requested 30,000 watershed project line item and the Healthy Soil Healthy Water contribution of $1500. Tim explained that Mike and Dr. Neal have met with Badger Industries and that Badger Industries is very open to working with FLILPARD.

Cherie Witkowski explained that Drew Creek is impaired. A general discussion took place and included the following.

Dennis Buren: What assurances do we have that the Prison Farm will honor an agreement? Dr. Neal explained that a legal contract would be in place.

Dale Sunday: Who is receiving the money? Neal explained that there would be inspections and that no one would be receiving the money directly.

Julie Flemming: What is the first watershed project? Dr. Neal explained a tile valve and cover crops would be part of the first initiative.

Karen Alderden: When will we see an improvement in the water quality once the drain tile valve is in place? Colleen Crane explained that it would probably be in two years.

John Frey suggested that we take the money from the carp account and use that towards the $30,000.

Kathy Rydquist explained that the lawyer said such money could only be reallocated at the annual meeting.

John Frey made a motion to move $12,939.64 from the carp account to the new watershed project account. Caroline McBride seconded. No further discussion. No opposed.

The new amount for the former $30,000 watershed projects is now $17,100.

Arlene Runkel made a motion to approve $1500 for the Healthy Soil Healthy Waters initiative. Karen Alderman seconded. No opposed.

Tim then asked for discussion on replenishing the weed harvesting special charge. It was suggested that we use language that is not exclusive to weed cutting.

Joanne Salzman made a motion to replenish the balance to $70,000 and to rename the fund to aquatic plant harvesting/management fund. Ann Tepp seconded. No opposed.

Mark Bremen made a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting. Dennis VanderWerff seconded. No opposed.