Chairman Timothy Meekma called the Regular Meeting of the Fox Lake Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioners to order on December 10th, 2020 at 9:00 AM.

**Roll call:**

Present: Timothy Meekma, Cheryl Witkowski, Colleen Crane, Ed Benter, and Dale Macheel. Also present: Rob Franck (MCO) and Tracy Zemlo, Executive Director.

**Correspondence:** None

**Audience Participation:** None

**Minutes/Agenda:**

Motion by C. Witkowski, second by E. Benter, to approve the minutes of November 12th and the agenda for December 10th, 2020. All yes. Motion carried.

**Financial Statement:**

Motion by C. Witkowski. second by D. Macheel, to approve the financial statements of November 30th, 2020. All yes. Motion Carried. T. Zemlo has finalized the financial audit process with CPA Laura H.

**Operator Report:**

See Operations Report attached that Rob reported on. There were two after-hours calls in November, LS 16 & GS 6. GS 35A – After the pump, piping and valves were replaced, there is a stream of groundwater entering the wet well around the newly installed force main piping. Due to the high groundwater and soil conditions around the wet well, the sealing cement did not fully seal. Visusewer provided a proposal to inject a grout around the piping area. Although it is costly and the results of this process can’t be guaranteed, it seems this will be the better process for this leak. This would be completed on a time and material basis and the expected cost is approximately $3,500. T. Zemlo ordered two parts for two of the grinder station heaters through Heatline. Pump pulled at GS 6 due to debris caught in the impeller. Televised the private lateral on GS 48 and found unexpected flow from the cabin on the point, the owner was notified and turned off the water until the issue is resolved. All stations have been winterized. Made repairs on the vacuum pump reed valves for Pump 1 at LS 2.

**WCC Report:**

C. Witkowski reports there was no copper report for November. MSA contract to resurface concrete around structure approx. $9000.00. 24 hours of construction approximately. WCC had their audit and it was completed.

**Executive Director Report:**

Cover Crop Program Update: T. Zemlo reached out to Bill S. on 11/25/20 regarding our upcoming cover crop payments to our local farmers. In hopes of staying on task according to our initial letter to farmers, payments would/should be dispensed in December 2020. In wanting to display our organizational skills and accountability for the Inland Lake District I also wanted to ask his opinion regarding the funds that Fox Lake Inland Lake District had set aside for the Hammer Farm project. I know we touched slightly on it in our meeting last month that due to the project’s success at this point, could the $6000.00 perhaps be utilized in other areas of our current projects? Cover crop reimbursement perhaps? Or incentives to the prison farm collaboration? Fox Lake Prison Farm Update: T Zemlo has reached out to Bill S. to see if he has been in touch with Corey F. the prison farm manager as was discussed in the November Board meeting. Lake Management Plan Grant: T. Zemlo and T. Meekma attended the 2020 Drainage Research Forum. With the University of Minnesota, Iowa State University, South Dakota State University and the Iowa Soybean Association. WI Water Week: T. Zemlo will be doing a 15-20 minute presentation discussing the cover crop program and successes asked by Michelle Scarpace. Would like to have a farmer speak on the partnership between the farmers group and the Lake District. Perhaps Dale Macheel would be a good fit for this. Dale are you interested? Discussed the Alto Creek Weir.

**County Report:**

D. Macheel reports the Dodge County did not meet in November. HSHW board meeting will be sending out post cards for February conference, will be in-person and virtual. There will be a 200 capacity limit. HSHW group grant application for 2021 grant was accepted for $39,000. Rich Clark will be the speaker for HSHW conference in Feb.

**Alliance Report:**

C. Crane reported C. Nelson was asked to put together a meeting regarding merging the cover crop program county wide. After great discussion it was determined this can’t be duplicated at a county wide level. A lake protection grant could be a possibility of bringing it county wide. General Mills is a possible partner? Alliance communications has been launched. You may go to the website and opt in for emails; you can choose what kind of news you want to receive. E Newsletter will be launching before the end of the year. C. Crane will be sending website link to BOD members. D. Condon will be doing some video production in the future. T. Meekma and T. Zemlo will do a video cameo of their relation to the Lake District, as well as D, Macheel, E. Benter and C. Witkowski. Alliance has opportunity to partner with the Town and FLPO to review Cambra Creek. W. Kok has some land up to Cambra Creek and he is willing to monitor. Walk with W. Kok and C. Nelson to review the land. This could be a good project for the Rock River Coalition monitoring.

**Town Report:**

Internet tower was funded through the CARES act. The tower is going up at the Town Hall and Randolph water tower. Tower should be up with service available by the end of 2020. Bertram Communications is the vendor. Due to lack of snow thus far, the finances are in great shape and the Town is under budget so looking to spend that towards culvert repairs.

**Old business:**

1] Discussion/action High nitrates in surface/groundwater Alto Creek weir repair discussion

2] Discussion/action Lake Management Plan see above

3] Discussion/Action 2020 Fox Lake Cover Crop Program update/DOC contact see above

**New business:**
1] Discussion/Action 2021 Cover Crop. Cap? NMP? Phosphorus reduction? T. Zemlo will be issuing the checks to area farmers. Motion made by C. Crane, second by E. Benter. All in favor, yes.

 2] Discussion/Action DOC letter to Legislators. T. Zemlo has drafted waiting to see if Bill S. touched base with prison farm.

 3] Discussion/Action Grinder Pump Probe Grouting see operators report above.

Motion by C. Witkowski, Second by D. Macheel, to pay the District’s bills. All yes. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be January 14th, 2021 at 9am.

Suggestions for next meeting

Motion by C. Witkowski, second by E. Benter, to adjourn. All yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Zemlo/Executive Director