Chairman Timothy Meekma called the Regular Meeting of the Fox Lake Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioners to order on July 12th, 2018 at 9:00am at the District Town Hall office.

**Roll call:**

Present; Timothy Meekma, Cheryl Witkowski, Colleen Crane, Dale Macheel, and Edwin Benter

Also present: Julie Flemming, Caroline McBride, John and Kathy Frey, Charles Nelson, Neal O’Reilley, Rob Franck, MCO; Kip Elliot, Operator; and Michael Cypert, Manager/Coordinator.

**Correspondence:** None

**Audience Participation:**

Julie Flemming presented information concerning the lake’s abundance of water lilies. Julie stated the DNR defines “innocuous weeds” as having “bad effects” on the lake. Julie also stated removal of water lilies would require a DNR Permit and an excavator. The Board of Commissioners advised Julie Dr. Neal O’Reilly would be present at the Annual Meeting and could provide an expert’s perspective at that time. The Board thanked Julie for her time and concern.

At this time Dr. Neal O’Reilly was contacted by telephone to discuss plans for implementing a bio-filter on FLCI’s property in the Drew Creek Watershed. Dr. O’Reilly advised the bio-filter is still the best course of action because Drew Creek has some of the highest nitrate levels in the state, its water is twice the level of what meets the threshold for safe drinking water, the bio-filter would address both nitrate and phosphorus, and the prison is completely drained by a single tile. Alternative methods are not as ideal because a saturated buffer would hold too much water and would kill its trees, and alternative cropping, i.e. inter-seeding for corn, would be difficult because it requires expensive, special equipment and an additional, mid-summer planting. Dr. O’Reilly advised the bio-filter and drainage system could close off the tile in the winter and summer to raise water levels and conversely open it in the spring and fall to lower water levels. Dr. O’Reilly has also continued reaching out to graduate students to conduct an Aquatic Plant Survey. The Board thanked Dr. O’Reilly at this time for his professional advice.

**Minutes/Agenda/Financial Statement:**

Motion by C. Witkowski, second D. Macheel, to approve the minutes of June 14, 2018 and the agenda for July 12, 2018. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by C. Witkowski, second E. Benter, to approve the financial statement of June 30, 2018 subject to audit. All yes. Motion carried.

**Operators Report: attached**

Kip Elliot reports no after hour alarm calls. Kip installed 2 riser rings on manhole #46 along Howard Drive due to road construction. Jeff’s Pumping Service pumped out nine air release manholes and lift station #17. Kip then refilled the air release manholes with clear water. M. Cypert sent out letters to the residents that are on lift station #17 (DelBern acres area) due to a lot of feminine products and abnormal grease build up. Kip test-ran the district generator at lift station #19. Kip replaced pipes, valves, gate valve, and hardware in grinder stations #24 due to deterioration, while replacing the old gate valve, the tool that he uses got stuck in the piping and could not get it out. Kip had J.F. Ahern come to remove the tool from the pipe. The Dutch Finger tool was badly damaged, and Kip is trying to get a replacement. Energenecs came out for lift station #10. Kip also reported a DelBern acres homeowner capping off their lateral. All other maintenance is up to date.

(related to New Business agenda item #1) Motion by C. Witkowski, second C. Crane, to approve MCO renewal contract. All yes. Motion carried.

**WCC Report:**

C. Witkowski reports metal levels up.

**Manager/Coordinator Report:**

M. Cypert reports the herbicide treatment has taken place. Refund checks for those who were denied treatment have been written and will be mailed this week. Harvesting is put on hold until weeds are more abundant. Mike has retrieved paperwork for the new bank savings accounts. Approximately 25 people attended the Jaimie Patton event. Mike sent MCO contract to Richard’s Insurance who said it was OK. The District received its annual insurance renewal policy. Mike will ask for the value of the District televising camera to be insured for a higher replacement value. (related to New Business Item #3) Motion by C. Witkowski, second C Crane, to approve insurance renewal contact pending an increase to the replacement value of the District televising camera to $20,000. All yes. Motion Carried.

T. Meekma would like to thank M Cypert for organizing the Jamie Patton event.

**Town Report:**

E. Benter reports the Town approved to revise the boat launch violation fee from $10 to $50.

**County Report:**

D. Macheel reports the County will give recommendations for well-testing. The County has a tour of the quarry, wind farm, Horicon marsh, Jung greenhouse, and farmer interseeding cover crops on October 1st. The County also discovered a manure pit was built without a permit in Clyman.

**Old business:**

1] Discussion/action re high nitrates in surface/groundwater/Runoff Protocol – discussed. M. Cypert will contact Wesley Ray about obtaining an easement.

2] Discussion/action re Lake weeds/weed advisory committee – C. Witkowski reports lake O2 levels are very low. This topic will be discussed during annual meeting.

3] Discussion/action Bill Schmidt update – Their attorney has the deed, and they simply need to get it to the District.

4] Discussion/action Aquatic Plant Survey – Discussed with Neal O’Reilly.

5] Discussion/action Reconditioning manholes and MCO Project List – Control panel for Lift Station #15 will be installed in the fall. Smith and Loveless stations will need check valves replaced. Lift stations #2 and #16 will need an engineer to see pump and replacement  
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6] Discussion/action 2018-19 annual Budget/committee – Annual budget hearing will take place August 4th at 12:30 PM.

**New business:**

1] Discussion/action MCO renewal contract – Discussed.

2] Discussion/action new tires for District truck – The District truck is an approved budged line item with enough funds to purchase new tires. Board of Commissioners is OK with Kip purchasing new tires.

3] Discussion/action Insurance renewal contract – Discussed.

4] Discussion/action Send letter to Dodge providing support to keep Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing – C. Crane will write letter to James Mielke and County Board advocating for Agricultural Agent position.

C. Witkowski motion, second C. Crane, to pay the District’s bills. All yes. Motion carried.

Suggestions for the next agenda – Old business topics 1 and 2, Easement with FLCI, and appoint board positions.

The next regular meeting will be August 4th , 2018 after the Annual Meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Cypert

Manager/Coordinator