

MINUTES OF MEETING

Lake Onalaska Protection & Rehabilitation District
December 4, 1975 - Courthouse

This was the initial meeting of the newly appointed Lake District Commissioners. Members present included: Charles Pierce, Route 1, Onalaska; Harold Lynch, 3529 Lakeshore Drive, La Crosse; Richard Hawkins, 2823 Bayshore Drive, La Crosse; And Donald Verthein, Route 2, Box 234 D, Onalaska. Members absent: W. G. Wassmandorf, 217 South 15th Street, La Crosse. Others in attendance were: Ken Brown, Jim Cropper, Dick Williams and Elizabeth Gundersen.

Lynch, Hawkins, Wassmandorf and Pierce were appointed to the Commission by the La Crosse County Board and Verthein by the Township of Onalaska. Mrs. Gundersen outlined some of the responsibilities of the Commission and requested it use the assistance of the Dept. of Natural Resources, Extension Office, Regional Planning Commission and other state and federal agencies in operating the affairs of the District.

Mr. Lynch moved that Mr. Hawkins be the Chairman of the Commission. Seconded by Pierce and passed. Mr. Pierce moved that Mr. Lynch be the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission. Mr. Lynch declined. Mr. Lynch moved that Mr. Pierce be the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission. By acclamation Mr. Pierce was elected.

An attempt will be made by Hawkins and Verthein to secure donations from several District members to provide operational funding until the first annual meeting in July.

The following names were added to the meeting notice mailing list. Steve Taff, Dick Williams, Jim Cropper, Dale Erlandson. The U. S. Corps of Engineers, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the UW-La Crosse River Studies Group are to be asked to name representatives to attend the District meetings and supply assistance.

Mr. Pierce moved the Onalaska State Bank become the official depository for the District funds. Seconded by Lynch and passed.

Mr. Williams was instructed to check what other districts are doing to provide legal protection for District officers.

It was decided that the minutes of District meetings should be mailed to the commissioners along with the next meeting notice. Williams is to contact as many other agencies as possible to find out what studies have been done on the Lake in order that an application to the State can be made for designing a feasibility study.

The next meeting was scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on December 11, 1975.

Minutes of Meeting
Lake Onalaska Protection & Rehabilitation District
~~December~~ November 11, 1975
La Crosse County Courthouse

Guests Present:

Dale Simon -
DNR

Peter Smith -
USFWS

Steve Taff -
MRRPC, UWEX

Chris Burt -
WLCX News

Clarence Reed -
Property owner

Jim Cropper -
SCS

Carl Pospiehal -
Fish & Wildlife

Dick Williams -
UWEX

Meeting called to order by Chariman Hawkins. District Commissioners present: Richard Hawkins, Donald Verthein, Charles Pierce, W. G. Wassmandorf.

Chairman Hawkins asked for comments from the agency people present relating to our request for data to support the District's application to DNR for technical assistance.

Dale Simon - Will be doing an extensive survey on aquatic life. A fish habitat vegetation study will be available later this year.

Mark Riebau - GREAT has no present data on L. O. Pool 8 and 5 now being studied.

→ Tom Claflin - Pool 7 E.I.S. now available showing aquatic vegetation. Sediment rate study available. Nutrient release by vegetation study available. Vegetation of dredged material study available in Spring of 1976. Black River water current study, survey 1968, available. Airport runway study on dredging available. A comprehensive study of Pool 8 is in progress.

Ken Butz - Peak population counts available on wild fowl. Aerial photo studies of vegetation available from U.S.F.W.S. Remote Sensing Lab, College of Forestry, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Sediment studies of Mississippi tributaries, including Black River, available.

Hawkins asked about chemical or mechanical weed control regulations. DNR and U.S.F.W.S. and EPA have regulations. Williams requested to check out.

Hawkins asked for information about history of Lake management efforts. No agencies present claimed knowledge of management effort other than hunting and fishing regulations.

Other information that would be available:

1. Brown (Flowage) Surveys from 1930 - Top. maps of Lake before flooding. U. S. Corps.
2. 1965 aerial photos during flood peak.
3. GREAT 1975 aerial photos.

Tom Claflin and Ken Butz requested they be added to the District mailing list.

→ Don Verthein moved the District submit a technical assistance application to D.N.R. Seconded by Wassmandorf and passed. Williams instructed to forward application to Hawkins for signing.

Charles Pierce moved the minutes of the previous meeting be approved. Seconded by Verthein and passed. Minutes to be mailed to E. Gundersen, Vern Dale, and J. Hoeschler.

The do's and don'ts of property owners are to be ~~circulated~~ to the agencies for comment. Meeting adjourned.