The meeting of the Lake Improvement Board for Walled Lake was held at the Novi Police Training Center at 45125 W. 10 Mile Road on September 28, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Dave Galloway, Chairman, at 7:02 p.m.

Present: William Burke, City of Walled Lake
Brian Coburn, Secretary-Treasurer, City of Novi
Dave Galloway, Chairman and Riparian Representative
Karen Warren, Oakland County Water Resource Commissioner’s Office
Philip Weipert, Oakland County Board of Commissioners Representative

Also
Present: Mark Roberts, Attorney, Secrest Wardle

Chairman Galloway opened the meeting and then asked for Public Comment.

At Public Comment, Jeff Rooke and Ken Holmes agreed that the lake was in better shape than last year but felt that the harvesting machine, which chopped and then stirred up the weeds, was not as preferable as the chemical application. Public Comment was then closed.

Moved by Coburn, Supported by Warren; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the Minutes of November 18, 2010.

Secretary-Treasurer Coburn stated that the City is required to review and certify the delinquent assessments as required by the statute. He stated that the City of Walled Lake had 76 parcels that were delinquent and the City of Novi had 50 parcels that were delinquent, totaling $5,282.17 and $5,699.70, respectively, which included a six percent interest penalty.

Moved by Coburn, Supported by Weipert; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To certify the delinquent amounts, plus interest, to the City Assessor for each City for presentation to each City Council for placement on the winter tax roll for collection.

Secretary-Treasurer Coburn presented correspondence, including a letter from the Novi Assessor regarding the Arthur & Ruby Giessler property (50-22-03-326-002) with a GIS mapping error, and a letter from Roger Curtis requesting that a clerical error be corrected.

Moved by Weipert, Supported by Coburn; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To revise the assessment roll to address a clerical error caused by an error in the mapping used to develop the roll to reduce the units of benefit for parcel 50-22-03-326-002 from 1-1/2 units of benefit to 1 unit of benefit on the Giessler property.
Moved by Weipert, Supported by Warren; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To refund the overpayment of the assessment on the Giessler property.

The Board discussed the correspondence from Mr. Curtis and requested that the Secretary get more clarification on the lake access rights of parcel 50-22-03-204-007. There was also a request for a review and recommendation by the City of Novi Assessor.

Moved by Weipert; supported by Coburn; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To postpone discussion regarding the request by Roger Curtis for correction of a clerical error on the assessment roll related to parcel 50-22-03-204-007.

Chairperson Galloway presented an overview of the 2011 treatment program, which included both scheduled herbicide treatments (30 acres) but only one of the two scheduled mechanical harvestings (120 acres), due to issues with the contractor such as mechanical breakdowns and scheduling problems. He believed that the treatments were effective in reducing the weed growth on the lake. The Board also received two letters and heard from two members of the public that agreed that there was overall reduction in the number of weeds in the lake for the year.

The Board then discussed treatment for 2012. The herbicide treatments were believed to be more effective by the Board, and one resident in attendance who had been opposed to herbicide treatment also agreed that increasing the herbicide treatment area would make the program more effective. Since only one mechanical treatment was done, there remained $34,200 in the budget for the year. The original recommended budget in the engineering study recommended a lake management consultant for $1,500 each year.

Moved by Warren; supported by Weipert; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To authorize the Secretary to seek proposals for a lake management consultant to assist the Board in developing a plan for 2012 and to review the effectiveness of the treatments; to authorize the Secretary to seek bids for 100 acres of herbicide treatment and 70 acres of mechanical harvesting.

At Public Comment, Ken Holmes commended Chairperson Galloway for his suggestion to reduce the harvesting and also suggested that the company hired to do the herbicide treatment assess the effectiveness of the treatments. Jeff Rooke said he would prefer to have a separate consultant.

Moved by Coburn; supported by Burke; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To schedule a meeting for November 9, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. to review bids received from the herbicide and mechanical contractors and to discuss proposals from lake management consultants.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Lake Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Brian Coburn, Secretary-Treasurer