

# CRESCENT LAKE DISTRICT

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## Regular Commissioners Meeting – 10/28/24

A regular meeting for the Crescent Lake District (CLD) Commissioners was called to order at 6:01 p.m. The meeting notices were posted as required. Attendance included Commissioners Tim Kilgore, Jim Solinsky, Dave Schwanz, Suzanne Mooney, Dennis Southworth, and Maria Rudesill. The Oneida County representative, Linnaea Newman, was not present. Terry Goldbach was present as the CLD AIS Response Team Coordinator.

Motion to approve the agenda with the addition of DASH boat update as part of #15 was made by Dennis, Dave seconded the motion. Motion PASSED.

Motion to approve the minutes from August 5, 2024 was made by Tim. Jim seconded the motion. Motion PASSED.

There was no public comment.

Tim welcomed the new Commissioners. Tim asked the commissioners their thoughts on emailing meeting notices to owners. It was decided to send an email with the meeting notices in addition to the current postings. A question was raised as to how to handle questions or comments that the public might want to make on agenda topics that are outside of the Public Comment section. It was noted that at the Town Meetings, there is 15 minutes allotted for Public Comment and speakers have up to three minutes each. Tim expressed his desire for all of the Commissioners to be on the same page regarding topics so that if approached by owners, each Commissioner feels confident in answering questions as a representative of the CLD.

Jim gave the Treasurer's report. He reviewed the deposits and disbursements that have occurred and noted a few items that are still outstanding, which would leave our estimated end-of-year total around \$180,000.00. Jim also shared the actual assessment of the District properties from the state. The 2024 value is \$113,855,217.00 which results in a mil rate of 0.461. This is a 53.2% reduction from 2023. The 2023 value was \$102,914,881.00 with a mil rate of 1.02.

Linnaea was not present to do the Oneida County Report.

The Commissioners reviewed the Annual Meeting minutes for accuracy. No changes were recommended. Those minutes will be approved at the next Annual Meeting.

All agreed that the Annual Meeting went smoothly. Dennis stated that he had heard all good comments from participants. Tim commented that outsourcing the mailing was worth the money even though the printed copy wasn't all that great. A recommendation was made to put the 2025 Annual Meeting letter on the CLD Letterhead. Letterhead was also recommended for the emailed components as well. It was decided to continue scheduling the Annual Meeting for the Labor Day weekend as many people are already at their lake homes.

The Commissioners reviewed the Public Comments made at the Annual Meeting to determine next steps. Tim will work with Ryan to get the Legislator's contact information on the website for

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interested owners.

Tim reminded the Commissioners of their purpose as a District. The mission and intent of the CLD is AIS, but it is recognized that wake surf boats are a potential threat to the lake. The Town of Crescent is already considering movement, but it is unsure at this time what they will do. The Crescent Lake Association is already taking an educational approach to the issue for their members. Tim recommended that we support the CLA and we stay focused on AIS. Dave stated his desire for a statement on controlling wake surf boats. Dennis stated that we shouldn't go away from the AIS focus. Tim said that controlling wake surf boats is also a way to protect the shoreline, but it isn't specifically our reason for existing. The Commissioners agreed that it is something that could be added to next year's Annual Meeting agenda if a concerned owner wished to do so. Maria suggested a statement of concern that redirected interested parties to the CLA where they would be able to access the education components. Jim reminded the group that while it is okay to be non-positional, making a decision will become inevitable. Tim will draft a statement of concern and encouraged Commissioners to send him their ideas.

Terry shared that the current plan from the AIS Response Team is to request a permit to treat 31 acres, which could include around the island. Adding the island does require more chemical as it is open water and harder for the chemical to stay in place. If the permit request is not approved, they recommend we do DASH in the general area. We won't get our money's worth as DASH is less effective, but we have to do something. He reminded us that any DASH work reduces the amount of EWM that will show up in Fall 2025. A question was raised about waiting for later in the spring and doing a spring survey like in 2024. Terry answered that we would do the permit request in January using the Fall data, as barring explosive growth, the May survey won't be helpful. Tim asked about switching vendors from Whitewater to Onterra and if that would impact the decision-making of the DNR. Terry said no, that both vendors take it seriously and there wouldn't be much difference. Jim suggested considering a second opinion if the DNR rejects the 2025 permit request as two companies saying the same thing may make the argument stronger. Suzanne agreed on waiting to see what the Spring decision is before deciding to switch vendors. Terry shared that he is trying to set up a meeting with Mike from the Mole Lake Fisheries. This will help the CLD understand why permits are getting denied, as they seem to be using the walleye minnow issue to deny treatment. There is also a native plant study that counters the DNR idea that treatment adversely impacts native plants. Tim asked if there was anything the CLD could do to improve the relationship with the DNR. Terry responded that there have been many attempts through surveys and studies to improve that relationship and it doesn't seem to work. Terry also stated that he is working to set up a face-to-face meeting with Swearingen and Felzkowski to discuss these issues.

The DASH boat is still for sale. There have been a dozen inquires but not any serious buyers. Two Lake Districts considered the boat but ended up purchasing newer larger boats. Discussion turned to parting out the boat, scrapping it for its cash value, selling the engine, etc.

Dave is stepping down from leadership of the Clean Boats Clean Waters grant, but will finish the 2024 paperwork. Ryan applied for 2025 CBCW funding. If we have a strong coordinator, there isn't much for the overseeing Commissioner to do. Tim expressed the desire for things like the volunteer gifts to sit fully on the CLD instead of shared with the CLA. Kaylee, the coordinator from 2024 is interested in 2025. Tim will reach out. There is a pay cap of \$2,500.00 for the coordinator, but other funds can be used to pay other inspectors. We can also contribute funds

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for paid inspectors from the regular CLD budget. The max amount for the CBCW grant is \$4,000.00.

There are no scheduled upcoming CLD meetings.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by Maria Rudesill, CLD Secretary (11/07/24)

Approved by the CLD Board (TBD)

DRAFT