



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAKE LANSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Townhall Room
Tuesday, August 8, 2023 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Chair, Curt Armbruster (tier1); Roger Taylor (tier 1); Susan Andrews (tier1);
Larry Wagenknecht (tier2); Steve Culling (tier 2)

STAFF/

TOWNSHIP: Younes Ishraidi

COUNTY: Coe Emens (ICP); Paul Pratt (ICDC)

ABSENT: Ron Rowe (tier 1)

OTHERS: Jim Folkening

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Armbruster called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following agenda items were approved unanimously:

- A. APPROVAL OF JULY MEETING MINUTES
- B. PROJECTS UPDATE
- C. DAM PROJECT UPDATE
- D. PARK MAMANGER'S REPORT

3A. Approval of Minutes

The draft July minutes were discussed, and then were unanimously approved with few corrections.

3B. PROJECTS UPDATE

Aquatic Plant Control: The harvesting was completed and went very well, in large part due to the second access newly constructed at the south end of the lake.

Educational sign for natural shoreline project: The committee reviewed a revised diagram of the shoreline project. The revised drawing is more representative of the actual construction, and therefore will be used with educational sign.

Natural shoreline project: Younes informed the committee that the project area looks good, except for the plant plugs on top of the coir logs which the contractor will need to replace. It was noted that the turbidity curtain and the silt fence should be removed now that the project has been completed and the plants have taken.

3C. DAM PROJECT UPDATE

Deputy Drain Commissioner Paul Pratt discussed a memo his office sent to the County Board of Commissioners recommending award of professional engineering services, for the dam improvement project. The Ingham County Drain Commissioner (ICDC) recommended that a contract be awarded to Spicer Group, Inc. for a cost not to exceed \$44,900. The contract will be for providing detailed investigation of the deficiencies identified in the last Dam Inspection Report; preparation of a conceptual design satisfying ICDC and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) requirements; preparation of an engineer’s preliminary estimate of construction costs. It was pointed out that the contract does not include completion of final design plans.

The committee then discussed funding of the construction project. Paul stated that the funding will be done by re-establishing the Dam District. The district could include an at large assessment to the Township, and the “Pine Lake Intercounty” drain district. (He added that the intercounty district has three board members: ICDC, Clinton County Drain Commissioner (CCDC), and the state Department of Agriculture). They would need to vote to approve the dam assessment if they were to be included in the Dam district.

When asked about the boundary of the Dam District, Paul stated that they will start by looking at the 2005 District, which only involved costs for the gauge and establishing the lake levels but no construction cost. He added that the new Dam District will involve three items: 1) Establish lake levels based on the current NAVD datum; 2) repair the by-pass valve; 3) repair the sheet piling. He noted that the lake levels’ establishment will require a new court order to address two deficiencies in the current court order, as follows: 1) Provide a datum for the lake level; 2) allow for flexibility such as dealing with low levels. Paul noted that the new Dam District has already accrued \$134,000 for work completed after the expiration of the last Dam District. When adding the consultant’s contract, the new Dam District will at present have a balance of approximately \$189,000.

With respect to other funding sources, Paul expressed his concern that Lake Lansing would not qualify for hazardous dam grants as defined under part 315 (Dam Safety) of the NREPA, PA 451 of 1994.

Susan informed the committee that the LLPOA dam sub-committee had prepared a fact sheet to share with legislators, and public officials. She added that they are looking for volunteers to advocate for other funding sources of this project.

3D. PARK MANAGER’S REPORT

Manager Emens shared with the committee that he still does not have the software update for the CD3 vac unit. The unit is working but cannot collect data.

He also discussed plans for the boat launch parking area, which will include additional spaces for kayaks.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Armbruster adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.