

**MINUTES OF 2006 ANNUAL MEETING OF
HOGBACK PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

The 2006 annual meeting of the Hogback Lake Property Owners Association was held at the Rose Lake Township Hall, Leroy, Michigan on Saturday, July 1, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. pursuant to Notice of Meeting mailed to all known members and as posted on the Rose Lake Township Hall on Monday, May 29, 2006.

The following officers were present:

Greg Conlin, Chairperson
Diane Brady, Vice-Chairperson
Clorinda Starlin, Secretary
Joanne Piechocki, Treasurer

and approximately 21 members.

Chairperson, Greg Conlin called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

The minutes of the 2005 annual meeting and 2005 Treasurer's Report were read with no objections or corrections and were accepted as read.

The Treasurer reported a new checking account for the new association was opened at Citizen's Bank on August 16, 2005 with an initial deposit of \$870.01; there were three disbursements made: one to A-1 Agency for \$165.00 for insurance; one to Professional Lake Management for \$300.00 for a lake evaluation study; and one to City Redi-Mix for access repair in the amount of \$270.08; 2005 and 2006 dues were paid and several members have paid 2007 dues, totaling \$1,220.00, with a balance on hand in the checking account on July 15, 2006 in the amount of \$1,354.93. A copy of the Treasurer's report is attached.

The Chairperson gave an overview of what the Board of Directors has done since the last annual meeting in 2005; the board has met several times; sent out a newsletter. We would like to send out more than one a year and will try to do that and hopefully will have another one ready to go out this fall.

The boat launch at the south end of the lake has been improved and we would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped with that.

The Board purchased a liability insurance policy for \$165.00 from A-1 Insurance Agency in Lake City that runs from September of 2005 to September of 2006.

There was some additional discussion about the lake level. Ott gave a report with respect to the level. Ott indicated we've had 17-1/2" of rain since 3-11-06; that's why we are high right now. Also, there was a sign put up by Little Hog, asking that the dam not be taken out to keep the water up in big Hogback Lake. There are actually two different

sections of drainage pipe that we have to maintain. They are both fine and running good as of today.

Next item of business was the fish planting program. Ott has been taking care of the fish planting for many years. The issue was raised as to whether the board should take over the responsibility of planting the fish or continue as we have in the past. The majority feeling is that Ott is doing a great job and as long as he wants to continue to do that, we are more than happy to have him continue to do that. **A big “thank you” to Ott for volunteering his time and gas money (as his contribution to the fish program) to get the fish and plant them.**

There was mention that members should use caution if anyone other than Ott is planting fish in the lake to make sure they are compatible with the other fish in the lake. The Chairperson then indicated we have three potential locations for boat launch areas on the lake. Would the membership be interested in the board doing some improvements as to the second boat launch on the south side of the lake. The general consensus was that that would be something we could look into.

The Chairperson then indicated the issue of whether or not a problem really exists as far as weeds at this time. We did have a feasibility study done by Professional Lake Management. The reason why we used them is because the other companies that were contacted wanted major money commitments to just do a study. Professional Lake Management came in and did a study for \$300.00. Everyone will be sent a copy of the evaluation and copies are available at the meeting today. Anyone using the lake can see an increase in growth of weeds. We have some algae. Basically, we have some problems. People who cut the weeds need to make sure they are getting rid of them and not just leaving them to float in the water, but picked up and discarded. The lake is not in critical condition where we must do something today. At this point, we don't have the asian milfoil problem. However, it is in Rose Lake and McCoy. Because of the small size of Hogback Lake, one acre can be affected in a year and in a year and a half, it can grow to 40 acres. We need to keep an eye on the lake. For the most part, all of the weeds presently in the lake are supposed to be there. We would like to see some kind of monitoring. Professional Lake Management would either harvest or spray, depending on what the majority of the members agree to. They work from the shoreline to 100 feet or so from the shore line out to a maximum of 100 feet and get control of the weeds in that area. Professional Lake Management has made a recommendation of combined harvesting and spraying. The spray they use is very high controlled by the DNR and the DEQ and they have to be approved before that is done. They are recommending both because the harvester cuts a maximum of 5 feet down into the lake. The spraying takes the vegetation down to 5 or 6 feet in the water and stops the growth. We don't want to get rid of all of the weeds in the lake, just control the problem ones.

Roger Brady asked whether there is any way to make sure the Asian milfoil doesn't get into our lake. The only way is to make sure any boats, jet skies, etc. that come into the lake are clean before they come in. If you invite friends, relatives, etc. in, make sure their lake equipment is clean before it goes on the lake. It's just a matter of

time before it gets onto our lake. When it does, it will be a very costly problem. We will have to take immediate action on it. If we have a regular maintenance program, it will be less costly. Greg indicated what we are all looking for is a good, clean lake that we can all enjoy for boating, skiing, fishing, swimming and we need to keep it that way for generations to come. We have to make a decision as to what to do.

The board is inquiring as to whether there is enough interest to set up a special assessment district to fund the lake management/weed control. If there is enough interest, the board will pursue the steps necessary to see if we can accomplish that. There was much additional discussion regarding the cost, etc.

There was additional discussion about the companies who bid, the job Professional Lake Management has done or not done. There was discussion about septic tanks adding to the problem as well as fertilizer that people use. We must have 51% agree to the special assessment or we can't take it any further.

After much additional discussion, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried that the board would take the steps necessary to inquire into a special assessment district for lake management.

A petition will be sent out to each member with a copy of Professional Lake Management's study and we will take whatever course the majority of members decide.

Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clorinda Starlin, Secretary