# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT Thursday, July 6, 2023

#### 1. Call to Order

President Schmaltz called the July 6, 2023, special board meeting to order at 1:05p.m. at the Comfort Lake Forest Lake office, 44 Lake Street South, and via online video conference.

#### **Managers Present:**

12 Steve Schmaltz, President

Christopher Loth, Vice President (virtually)

14 Dave Bakke, Secretary (virtually)

Jackie Anderson, Treasurer

Douglas Toavs, Assistant Treasurer

#### Staff Present:

Bobbie Law, Office Manager

Garrett Miller, AIS Program Coordinator

#### Others Present:

Chuck Holtman, Smith Partners

## 2. 2023 Funding Support Agreement for Aquatic Invasive Species and Lake Management Activities on Forest Lake

President Schmaltz introduced the agreement, noting that it contains the same terms as last year's agreement, with the addition, at section 6, of a requirement that a party hold in reserve any committed funds that it has not spent, to be spent subsequently on the described management activities. This provision, in particular, protects unspent City of Forest Lake funds from being returned to the general fund. Manager Anderson noted that she now understands why the agreement is framed this way. She explained that the reserve funds may build up to \$63,750. She suggested that this constrains the board's prerogative to budget in future years, and that there isn't a similar agreement with any other of the lake associations in the District, or with respect to any other District lake.

Managers discussed the value of retaining their prerogative to direct budget dollars to where they are needed the most. Manager Bakke noted that other District lakes are not benefiting from this type of reserve fund. President Schmaltz noted that the issue with the City is its lack of spending dollars that are originally assigned to lakes. Manager Loth explained that he would like to see other lake associations utilize this agreement as a

template and to see the District set up agreements similar to the one among CLFLWD, FLLA, and the City of Forest Lake. Managers discussed involvement of the cities in the Comfort Lake subwatershed. Manager Anderson noted that she doesn't agree with the idea of needing an agreement in place with the Clty of Forest Lake to have it act, as a partner, in good faith. Manager Loth mentioned that the District will always act in an appropriate way of spending funds to take care of needs consistent with the 10-year plan. He noted that this opportunity is available to any District lake or any city. President Schmaltz noted that this agreement was set up to ensure that funding is spent on lake matters.

Mr. Holtman observed that the reserve clause does not commit the District to spend any more funds than it already has committed, under the agreement, to spending in the fiscal year. He also noted that if this agreement continues to be renewed on a yearly basis, the managers will have the opportunity each year to consider whether the reserve provision is operating in a satisfactory way. He noted that, in short, the District is not at risk of having budgeting decisions taken out of its hands.

President Schmaltz asked Mr. Miller what the 2023 budget is for Forest Lake management. Mr. Miller estimated that the watercraft inspections budget is about \$50,000 and the total for the lake is likely \$100,000. Mr. Miller explained that costs are down due to the economies of treating curly-leaf pondweed with diquat, but future price fluctuations could impact the budget significantly.

Manager Toavs moved to authorize the District Administrator to execute the 2023 Forest Lake Cooperative Agreement, on advice of counsel and with any final, non-substantive changes. Seconded by Manager Loth. Manager Bakke spoke to his interest in ensuring equity across all the lakes. He explained that he would like similar agreements in place for Bone and Comfort Lakes. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-1 (Manager Anderson opposed).

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	Χ			
Christopher Loth	Χ			
Doug Toavs	Χ			
Jackie Anderson		Х		
Stephen Schmaltz	Χ			

President Schmaltz requested that Mr. Kinney write to the City and the FLLA, to advise them that the District Board of Managers approved the agreement at a special meeting.

Mr. Miller, after further review, clarified that \$113,000 is budgeted for Forest Lake aquatic invasive species management in 2023. With grants, the District intends to spend roughly \$150,000.

### 3. Adjourn

#### a) Next regular board meeting – July 13, 2023, 6:30 pm

Manager Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	Χ			
Christopher Loth	Χ			
Doug Toavs	Χ			
Jackie Anderson	Χ			
Stephen Schmaltz	Χ			

Dave Bakke, Secretary	
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