



MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

MEETING NOTES OF THE COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE Tuesday, November 14th, 2023

Present: Randy Schumacher, Ted Hansen, Tom Furey, Jerry Grundtner

Others: Manager Stephen Schmaltz, Rich Johnson, Aidan Read

1. Watershed Update

The watershed update was provided by Aidan Read, Land Management Specialist. The update included information about the successful alum treatment on Forest Lake, fall maintenance, and project updates. Questions from the committee included additional details about the Bone Lake South Wetland project, and the Judicial Ditch 6 project. Mr. Read also gave an update on hiring for open positions with the District.

2. CAC Schedule

The 2024 meeting schedule was approved as presented to the Board of Managers at the October 26th Board meeting. Committee members were reminded that their appointments will be discussed by the Board of Managers at the January 11th Board meeting.

3. CAC Planning and Goal Setting

Mr. Read introduced the topic of planning and goal setting for next year and gave an overview of the International Association for Public Participation's spectrum of public participation. The Committee was encouraged to consider their desired level of participation as they discussed topics of interest for 2024, and administrative changes to the Committee.

Jerry Grundtner expressed his interest in providing a better framing of District goals, objectives, and ongoing programs and projects. Having a better framing of ongoing initiatives would allow the CAC to be more proactive in its work and better set its agenda. Ted Hansen added that keeping the Committee informed on budget items would be beneficial in building engagement. One example that was brought up is the ongoing office space discussion. The Committee requested that they be better informed on the search for office space and be offered opportunities to engage on this issue. Manager Schmaltz brought the point that the District has largely been working out of the public eye as large projects have been completed, and significant progress has been made towards District goals. Now that the District's focus is



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changing to more high visibility projects that require more direct public engagement, the role of the CAC may increase in importance.

Mr. Read mentioned he would like assistance with recruiting additional members to the CAC, and different methods of recruiting were discussed. Members agreed to bring the topic to their respective lake associations for discussion. Specific efforts that the CAC may choose to focus on were also discussed, such as the emerging topic of wake boat impacts.

4. Closing & Election of Chair

It was agreed that the December CAC meeting would be cancelled, and an informational email sent out instead. The Committee will reconvene on January 16th, 2024.