

# Cormorant Lakes Watershed District

## Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2017

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The regular meeting of the Cormorant Lakes Watershed District (CLWD) Board of Managers was held at the Cormorant Town Hall/Community Center, District Office, 10929 County Highway #5, Cormorant, MN at 7:00 p.m.

Those present were Managers: Ellis Peterson, Gene Olson, Barbs Hansen, Jeff Moritz & Sam Blattenbauer; Liz Larson, Administrator and Sheldon Struble & Cy Abel, Inspector. Guests: Samuel Rufer, Pemberton Law Firm, Cody Mathees, Mathees Tree Care & Moriyah Rufer, RMB Labs.

Chairperson Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The regular business meeting on December 4, 2017 has been rescheduled for December 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cormorant Town Hall/Community Center. The managers and staff will be attending the Minnesota Association of Watershed District's annual meeting in Alexandria at the Arrowwood Resort over November 30 thru December 2. A quorum will be present and notices are posted at the Cormorant Community Center.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the October business meeting were distributed to the managers. The minutes are available for inspection at the District Office and will be posted on the website.

**Treasurer's Report:** The financial report was presented and is on file.

**Inspectors Report:** Sheldon Struble & Cy Abel presented information regarding recent inspections of the watershed district:

1. Ness Beach-beavers
2. Bejou Lake-new addition on home
3. Ulrich Beach-some fill, no issues
4. New House on Upper Cormorant Lake
5. Johnson beach by YMCA-silt fence needed where remodeling cabins

**Permits:**

- a. Donna Hammond
  - i. Wermager Beach, Big Cormorant Lake

- ii. Fill in large area around stump; prevent erosion on shoreline; ice heave repairs; rip rap on shoreline.

**Old Business:**

1. RMB Labs-Follow up
  - a. Quote from RMB Laboratories for 2018 lakes survey in the amount of \$3,920
    - i. Motion to accept proposal from RMB Laboratories in the amount of \$3,920 from Jeff Moritz. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gene Olson. All in favor.
  - b. Discussion of volunteer lake monitors
  - c. Discussion of Late fall/pre-winter inspections
  - d. Tree insert mailer idea
2. No updates on Swanies Bay regarding channel.

**New Business:**

1. Attorney Sam Rufer Interview-Pemberton Law Firm, Detroit Lakes, MN
  - a. Presented background information. Mr. Rufer's legal expertise includes areas in civil litigation & real estate.
  - b. No conflicts of interests appear between Mr. Rufer & CLWD.
  - c. The Board will make a decision at an upcoming meeting as to retaining Mr. Rufer.
2. Cody Mathees-Mathees Tree Care
  - a. Background included being a licensed arborist, current student at NDSU with anticipated graduation in 2018, and also owns and operates Mathees Tree Care .
  - b. Discussion regarding retention of Mr. Mathee's services on behalf of the watershed on a consultation basis regarding the following areas:
    - i. Reforestation program especially along lakeshores in the District.
    - ii. Erosion control areas
    - iii. Replacement of damaged trees
    - iv. In conjunction with our current tree program

- c. Jeff Moritz mentioned possibly working up to a 3 tree per parcel program in the District.
  - d. Sam Blattenbauer made a motion to hire Cody Mathees as a consultant for the CLWD. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gene Olson. All in favor.
3. Upcoming Hearings:
- a. Craig Irwin & Dianne Hankla
  - b. Dennis Martin
    - i. Discussion of the accuracy of the OHW on the hearing notice documentation. Update: Sheldon Struble verified the OHW following the November business meeting. A letter was sent to the Becker County Planning & Zoning notifying them that the CLWD opposes any buildings with the 50' shore impact zone.
4. Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Annual Meeting
- a. Notice of upcoming annual meeting for Nov 30-Dec 2, 2017
5. Pay Increase
- a. Discussion of Administrator's pay increase. Jeff Moritz recused himself from the discussion.
  - b. Gene Olson motioned to increase the Inspector's, Administrator's, and Manager's pay to \$25 an hour. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sam Blattenbauer.
6. Discussion of no DNR aquatic invasive species grants for 2018.
7. The following bills were submitted for payment to the Board of Managers. Motion to pay bills by Barbs Hansen; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Moritz

<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Total</b>
11/06/2017	Benson-Leitheiser-Soberg	30.46
11/06/2017	Steve Olson	195.00
11/06/2017	RMB Labs	88.00
11/06/2017	Gene Olson	320.00
11/06/2017	MAWD	1,895.00
11/06/2017	Houston Engineering	799.80

Motion to Adjourn by Sam Blattenbauer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Moritz at 9:00 p.m.  
 Meeting Minutes Submitted respectfully by Jeff Moritz, Secretary; prepared by Liz Larson, CLWD Administrator.