

Half Moon Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District
Annual Meeting - Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2021

Bud Ericksen called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. The meeting was held at the public beach on Half Moon Lake.

Board members present:

Bud Ericksen
Ellen Butler
Mike Dau
Jim Benike
Doug Ebling
Bob Cutshall

- I. Approval of the meeting agenda
 - A. John Misner made a motion to approve the agenda as prepared by Bud Ericksen.
 - B. Chris Schneider seconded the motion.
 - C. The motion passed unanimously.
- II. Bud Ericksen gave a brief review of the Wisconsin boating regulations and encouraged everyone to become familiar with them and follow them.
- III. Bob Cutshall presented the meeting minutes from the 2020 annual meeting and asked if there should be any corrections made to them. None were offered.
 - A. Doug Ebling made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted.
 - B. Steve Minn seconded the motion.
 - C. The motion was unanimously approved.
- IV. Vote for board members
 - A. Bud Ericksen's term is expiring this year but he is willing to continue serving on the board.
 - B. John Misner nominated Bud for the open position. There were no other nominations.
 - C. Steve Minn seconded the nomination.
 - D. Bud was unanimously elected to serve an additional three year term.
- V. Ellen Butler presented the Treasurer's report dated July 11, 2021.
 - A. The budget for 2022 will be the same as the one for 2021. There will be no increase in the tax levy.
 - B. Dale Kastner made a motion to accept the report and approve the 2022 budget.
 - C. Doris Christoffersen seconded the motion.
 - D. The motion was approved unanimously.

VI. New boat ramp at the public landing

A. Because of Covid and other issues this did not get completed this past year.

B. Reese Bracken made the following motion:

1. "The board shall be authorized to continue working with the Wisconsin DNR, the Village of Milltown and Milltown Township to design and fund the construction of a replacement boat ramp. The board shall further be authorized to enter into agreements to pay for the new ramp subject to the following conditions:

a) The district's contribution shall not exceed one third of the net cost of the new ramp and dock (after receiving the DNR grant).

b) In no event shall the district be authorized to spend in excess of \$30,000 for the design and construction of the new ramp and dock."

C. Herb Townsend seconded the motion.

D. The motion passed unanimously.

E. A question was raised regarding the use of a temporary ramp during construction of the new one. Bud Ericksen will look into this matter.

VII. Mike Dau gave the Township report that dealt with boating accidents, road and culvert work, public access at the south end of the lake and Covid relief funds that Polk County has received from the federal government.

VIII. Jim Benike gave the loon report

A. There are two pairs of loons on the lake. The pair on the south end has two chicks and the pair on the north has none.

IX. Invasive species

A. Jim Benike gave a report on the treatment of yellow iris (invasive) on the lake. The contractor we hired treated all of the plants that were identified on the DNR permit, but the iris has spread considerably beyond these limits. We will do this again next year and hopefully be able to treat most of the remaining plants on the lake. We also plan to hire Barr Engineering to do another invasive plant study not later than 2023.

B. Jim also stated that property owners can legally treat yellow iris that is on their property. Please contact Jim directly if you are interested in doing this. You do not need to get a permit, but still must follow DNR regulations. Jim's contact information is: (507) 254-1063 or jimb@benike.com.

C. Jim also discussed dealing with buckthorn issues. Anyone interested in eradicating buckthorn on your property should contact Jim about this matter also.

D. There was a long discussion about the use of funds that the district has set aside to deal with any invasive species issues that might arise. The district has been putting \$10,000 per year into a capital fund. Its current balance is approximately \$133,650. In order to clarify the board's authority to use these funds, the following motion was made by Chris Schneider:

1. "The board shall (upon unanimous approval of all board members) be permitted to spend money in the Capital Fund for the investigation, prevention, containment or treatment of invasive species (plant or animal) that may affect or are affecting the lake without a specific authorization at an annual meeting."
 2. Reese Bracken seconded the motion.
 3. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Doug Ebling gave the fishing report
1. The Wisconsin DNR will stock the lake with 5,790 walleye fingerlings (6" to 8" long) in the fall of 2021. This is considerably more than they have done in the past.
 2. Doug also noted that the DNR will be doing a fish study in a number of Wisconsin lakes and Half Moon Lake will included in this study.
- F. Ellen Butler gave a summary of the 4th of July activities.
1. The cost of the fireworks this year was \$4,400. This is entirely paid for from advertising revenue generated from the Loon Lines newsletter.
- G. Loon Lines
1. Dave Balestri has taken over this responsibility from Kim Butler.
 2. Dave encouraged lake property owner's to submit photos and human interest stories to him for publication in the newsletter.
- H. Clean boats/clean waters
1. Dan Leh stated that we have increased our "in person" monitoring from 8 hours per day up to 10 hours. While our personnel at the landing do still encounter some resistance to having their boats checked, the vast majority of people visiting the lake understand the need for this and are cooperative.
 2. Our camera operates 24 hours per day and we do contact the DNR when boats enter the lake that are not in compliance with DNR regulations.
 3. An average of 35 boats per day come into the lake.
- I. Half Moon Lake website
1. Joe Lonski maintains the website and stated that we had over 2,400 site visits this past year.
 2. The website is HalfMoonLake.net.
- J. Boat cleaning station
1. Doug Ebling noted that the boat cleaning station was another casualty of the Covid problem this past year.
 2. The current cost of this equipment is just under \$35,000. And there is DNR grant money available to pay for part of this.
 3. Dan Leh made a motion to authorize the board to spend up to \$25,000 on this equipment.
 4. John Weber seconded the motion.
 5. The motion passed unanimously.

K. Goose round up

1. This effort began two years ago. Last year there was not problem with geese on the lake, so nothing was done.
2. This year the geese were back in large numbers, especially near the public landing. Bud Ericksen stated that the Dep't. of Agriculture (DOA) was able to capture and remove 21 geese this year.
3. A special thanks to Angela Misner who helped coordinate this year's roundup with the DOA.

L. Change to the district's bylaws

1. The district's bylaws were adopted in 1994 and, to the best of our knowledge, have not been amended since then. Article III, Section 7 of the bylaws permits the board to spend up to \$5,000 at its discretion without prior approval at an annual meeting. The board would like this amount raised to \$10,000 (primarily as a result of inflation).
2. There was a vote on this matter that was approved but it was pointed out that we hadn't followed the correct procedure to do this as stated in the bylaws. The board forgot to give legal notice of this proposed change prior to the meeting. The board will present this request again next year but with prior notice being given.

M. Meeting adjournment

1. John Weber made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
2. Steve Minn seconded the motion.
3. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Subsequent to the adjournment of the annual meeting, the board met briefly to elect officers for the coming year. The following individuals were elected unanimously.

Chairman - Bud Ericksen

Secretary - Bob Cutshall

Treasurer - Ellen Butler

Submitted by,

Bob Cutshall

Secretary

**Half Moon Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District
HMLPRD**

Finance Report
As of 7-11-2021

Royal Credit Union bank (RCU)

*RCU Bank checking account		
Royal Advantage Plus ...5669		\$ 22,625.18
RCU Business 12 month Certificate		
Matures 12/15/21 ...6048		\$123,502.36
Business Money Market ...6311		\$ 10,154.81
Savings account ...7985		\$ 5.14
TOTAL		\$156,287.49

*RCU Fireworks account		
Royal Advantage checking ...7175		\$ 879.86

The Boothill Pyrotechnics fireworks show this year cost 4,400.00 plus 200 for Milltown fire brush truck. The Loon Lines newsletter ad revenue pays for this.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Butler, Treasurer

**Half Moon Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District
Finance Report (7-12-20 to 7-11-21)**

Accounts overview as of July 11, 2021
Accounts held at Royal Credit Union (RCU)

RCU business 12 month Certificate of Deposit maturity 12-15-2021	123,502.36	capital fund
Business money market checking	10,154.81	capital fund
Royal Advantage Plus checking	22,625.18	
Business savings account	5.14	

BALANCE **156,287.49**

Fireworks account- RCU checking 879.86

REVENUE SOURCES

Taxes collected in 2020-21	32,655.88
Polk County lottery	392.86
Bank Interest	19.74
Total	33,068.48

EXPENSES AND TRANSFER

Lake management- Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) (1,296 hours)	15,553.00
and ILIDS camera at beach	2,256.00
Transfer to Capital Fund for AIS (aquatic invasive species treatment)	10,000
Newsletter-2 issues plus postcard	5,206
Annual meeting	2,220
Administration	195
Total	35,430

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Butler, Treasurer