

QUARTERLY MEETING FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2005  
GEORGE LAKE REHABILITATION DISTRICT

1. Call to order—All Board members present, 12 citizens, Jeffrey Thornton of SEWRPC
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approve minutes of February 7, 2005—Rich Gossling abstained; Motion by Fred Ekornaas/Bob Chudy; approved
4. Approve Treasurer report—Motion by Fred Ekornaas/Bob Chudy; approved
5. Approve bills paid and pending bills—Motion by Fred Ekornaas/Steve Kuksa; approved
6. Approve purchase of Dissolved Oxygen Meter and related accessories—Ernie Chiodo stated that an additional \$40 each year will be necessary for probes and any other expenses that might be added: Motion by Rich Gossling/Jeff Coultrip; approved
7. Vote on vendor bids submitted to administer herbicide treatment—Jeff Coultrip read the 3 bids: Biological Services LLC at \$1.40 linear foot; Marine Biochemists at \$1.42 linear foot; Aquatic Biologists, Inc at \$1.44 linear foot. Biological Services LLC was less than other 2 bids and we did use this company last year. Motion to accept the lowest bid by Fred Ekornaas/ Jeff Coultrip; approved
8. Grant Update—Jeffrey Thornton of SEWRPC handed out preliminary information and said the draft will be ready for the Fall meeting. The Board will then have time to review the document and it will go to “press” and be finalized by the end of the year. Coontail, milfoil and curly leaf are most prevalent. Suggest need for aquatic plant control to continue. Native plants give benefit to the lake, milfoil is impossible to get out completely. Example is Potters Lake. SEWRPC staff came out to count the number of boats around the lake. There were 50 to 60 boats and he concludes that the main use for boats is pleasure boating as well as fishing. Continue to use sound planning. Agricultural life in Bristol is diminishing and in 20 years will have little presence. Because of new developments, there is a need to treat storm water and pollutant run off. Need to review site plans and adhere to requirements and state law. Continue to monitor lake and keep track of what is going on. Trend is to seek causes rather than turn clock back. Great that we now have public boating access so we can check fish populations. George Lake still needs aquatic plants to provide fish habitat. Lake front homeowners should use buffer techniques. Do not fertilize down by the lake. There should be 10 feet to 10 meters for buffer to intercept fertilizer from the lawn. Also a buffer provides habitat as well as a natural goose fence along your property. He advises to continue to use harvesting and aquatic herbicides techniques. Harvest in large areas and herbicides in smaller areas. Other products are not suggested. Manual harvesting is his preferred option but herbicides can be effectively used. Milfoil does shade out good plants. Harvester and boats create fragments which do create more growth. Jeff did like the new boat launch and it opens the door for additional grants. Education programs should be conducted through meetings and school programs. We need to involve the community and schools and give hands on experiences. Jeff Coultrip asked about wetlands and woodlands. Jeff Thornton said this will be addressed in the final plan. Jeff Coultrip discussed that the Dutch Gap receives outflow from the lake. Would new development between C and Hwy 45 address needs of the Dutch gap in this plan? Jeff Thornton explained that new development will be required to comply. Jeff will have some information available at the Annual meeting and would provide a copy to the Town Hall for anyone interested and on the website after the final draft.
9. Committee reports
  - a. Weed Control—Carrie Miner stated that both harvester drivers from last year will be employed again this year. Rich Gossling said that the harvester should be in the water by next weekend, May 15, 2005. The hull was sandblasted and repainted and looks like new. Cutting could begin on Monday after putting the cutter in the water.
  - b. Watershed—Jeff Coultrip stated that the Carp Derby is this weekend.

He is looking into clean up in the watershed areas to recreate waterfowl use and reduce sediments.

- c. Grants—Pearl Seavitte stated there is no report.
- d. Lake Monitoring—Ernie Chiodo stated he will begin May 16 or May 17 depending on the weather. Bob Chudy will test for ecoli in July.
- e. Dredging—Carrie Miner had no report. Jeff Thornton was asked to check if dredging was possible on George Lake. Jeff will also consider dredging in the Lake study. He stated that the main issues regarding dredging is removing the material and finding a place to deposit it. Jeff Thornton was asked how long does he estimate that George Lake will fill up from sediments? Jeff said he will not be able to estimate but will include some discussion of the potential for dredging and will measure accumulated sediments in the Lake now. Sam Seavitte asked if it could be possible to open up some of the springs in the lake. Jeff Thornton said it was possible and the DNR does have permits for limited dredging like that. Jeff stated that the DNR believes that it is the nature of lakes to become shallow over time and we need to live with this belief. Christine Perona asked about the problem of the weeds going to bottom after the harvester cuts and begins to grow. Jeff Thornton stated this cutting is less of a problem than herbicides because the dead weed after herbicides add new matter to the bottom. Therefore, in his opinion he feels the harvester is a better option. Pearl Seavitte stated that it is only the first year that there is a large amount of milfoil going to the bottom. The following years there is very little to go to the bottom because there are less and less weeds....probably less than the harvester and these are dead milfoil that will not begin to grow like fragments from the weed cutter! Jeff Thornton did agree that if herbicides were done yearly there will be fewer plants on the bottom.
10. Old Business-- Ernie Chiodo still has not received a letter requested from the Special Projects Committee.
11. New Business-- Bob and Bev Chudy attended the WAAL convention and found it very interesting. Milfoil in our district is very similar to other districts. Many districts are using harvesting along with 2-4-D. Sonar is becoming very popular and is made by Dow Chemical. Sonar can be used in 50 degree water but unlike 2-4-D there is no record when it totally decomposes.
12. Any other business allowed by law—None
13. Citizens comments—Geese are a problem. What can be done? Bob Chudy said that there is a goose repellent but it is costly at \$275/gallon. He might get it to try. Fred Ekornaas said the Highway and Parks Committee is working on this problem. They have tried dogs but this a very expensive method. One thing that can be done is to find the nest and put oil on the eggs or a pin hole in the egg. A very effective way is to plant buffers on the shoreline. Christine Perona stated we need to target beach areas for the safety of the children. Put a sign up DO NOT FEED THE GEESE. Rich Gossling suggested a dog demonstration for the main beach. Fred Ekornaas said it is not as easy as it sounds. Rich Gossling suggested putting string on property near the shore. Rich Gossling said that the Town Development Committee is conscious of erosion control. There is an Erosion Bond in effect. The Town is always working on storm water management. Rich Gossling recently talked with representatives in the legislature and we all should keep an eye on DNR presenting legislation about needing to move piers, after removal, 75 feet from the water. Julie Serritella asked that a beaver dam near her home be taken care of before any harvesting or treatment. Rich Gossling stated that the beaver can be trapped and relocated. Julie will get together with Rich and discuss this matter. Rich Gossling read the sample ordinance for phosphorus fertilizer and stated that enforcement will be almost impossible. The main reason for the ordinance will be for Education!! It would benefit the entire community. He suggested sending out information to the lakefront owners.....but this information has been put in the last 2 newsletters...the newsletters will continue to print information about fertilizers. An ordinance, however, would send a message to all Bristol residents. Rich Gossling will bring this matter before the Town Board.
14. Set date for next Quarterly Meeting—August 5, 2005. Motion by Fred Ekornaas/Bob Chudy; approved  
Annual Meeting-----August 26, 2005
15. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 9 pm by Fred Ekornaas/Bob Chudy; approved

Pearl Seavitte, Secretary