

Minutes for the  
*Rock-Koshkonong Lake District*

Date of Meeting: June 15, 1999

Location: Red Apple Restaurant, Newville, Wisconsin

Commissioners  
Attending: Linn Duesterbeck, Jim Folk, Jerry Richardson, Kerry Hull,  
Dick Towns,

Others Attending: John Torsveit, Gordon Millard, Don Bush, James Leverance,  
Kay O'Connel, Frank Micale, Ed Smith, Dan Geise

The meeting was called to order about 9:00 AM.. First order of business was electing officers.

Jim Folk was elected Chairman, Jerry Richardson, Treasurer and Linn Duesterbeck, Secretary.

*New Business.*

- 1) Prioritize goals. Issues of somewhat immediate concern discussed were rough fish removal, water levels and Indianford Dam status. Suggestion to have advisory committees on each of these issues. Suggested advisory committees would be rough fish, Indianford Dam, wetland and shoreline restoration and boating and water safety.
- 2) Rough fish removal. Methods of removal were discussed which included mechanical, chemical treatment or electrical shocking. Advisory committee will be formed on this matter.
- 3) Planning Grant was discussed. Jim Folk said we had \$10,000 available for such a grant to study the watershed in the district. The district will pay for 25% or \$3333 of the grant. At least three engineering firms who conduct such grants are being considered, including RSV in Jefferson.
- 4) Indianford Dam issue was a major topic. Jefferson, Dane and Rock County have yet to have any discussions together. There are no grants for repairing dams for lake districts.
- 5) Water level issue. Consensus seems to be more stable water conditions and possible elimination of winter drawn down. A change in the operating orders would be required. ( Editors note; Water levels on Lake Koshkonong have been a 125+ year old issue that has never been solved with any majority in content. It is suggested that this issue not be a major priority during the first year, to eliminate major controversy right away within the district).

6) Annual meeting was discussed. Location will be the Fort Atkinson High School. The cost will be \$40. Tentative scheduled meeting will be Saturday, August 21, 1999..

7) Jim Folk suggested bylaws be implemented before the first meeting so they can be voted upon at the first meeting. Included within the bylaws will be automatic date for the annual meeting to be held a weekend in August, voting for board members(an increase from 3 to 5 owner members within the board) and only 1 eligible vote per parcel owner.

8) James Leverance, DNR, provided information about the grants available. Grants for lake district projects deadlines are August and February 1. Eligibility for each grant will be based upon needs and documentation of needs. Leverance suggested that Don Bush could help us with some of these grant applications. Lake districts can have more than one grant.

Jim Folk inquired about the district taking over the rough fish removal from the current contracted crew. Don Bush never provided a clear answer to this issue, only saying that the contract was for 5 years and there are 3 years left. The contract calls for only removing 500,000 pounds annually, which the district commissioners consider far inadequate.

Leverance indicated that Section 22 of the Corps of Engineers has grants for shoreline and water level problems. There are also possible lake protection grants available for this problem, but must show impact on water quality. Leverance will follow up on this issue.

Shallow water lake grants are currently not available but may be available in the foreseeable future.

Leverance suggested at the first annual lake meeting, break into small groups and discuss major issues and set in priority. (Editor's note; this worked well at the Koshkonong Marsh meeting in 1990). Try and get diversified interest groups. He also said that the consulting firms used for the Lake Planning Grants will help us with many of the grants and grant process.

Leverance suggested not to expect too many things too soon. Try and do the most important things that will have the greatest impact on water quality right away. It was agreed that rough fish reduction would definitely have the greatest impact.

Other projects done by other lake districts were discussed. These were Lake Ripley(non-point pollution) and it's purchase of a 100 acre wetland. Fox Lake did drawdown(but did not work very well, likely poor timing), Big Lake Muskego, which included drawdown and rough fish removal.

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Rock Lake, a shoreline protection grant.

Section 206 was discussed. Possible funding through this program. Again available through the Corps of Engineers. Possible funding up to \$5 million on a certain project. Dorrie Bohlman 309-794-5590, at Rock Island, Ill., is the contact. Again, Jim Leverance will follow up on this issue.

There is a possible \$20,000 annual grant for rough fish removal, similar to what Beaver Dam and Puckaway Lake receives. Don Bush will provide us information later on this. Districts are paying about \$.15 per pound subsidy currently.

Don Bush was inquired about methods to remove rough fish. He indicated electrical shocking was not effective. Puckaway Lake was spending about \$30,000 a year on chemical treatment.

Fish ladder on Indianford Dam was discussed. Issue will be settled in July. Bush is working on a study relative to this matter. Members questioned the merits of a fish ladder on the Indianford Dam and were concerned that it would likely make power generation not economically feasible. Jim Folk asked for a study to justify the cost of the fish ladder. Bush was not able to provide such. He did say however that every dam is not being required to install a fish ladder.

Leverance indicated that the consulting firm hired by the lake district will likely be contacting himself about grants.

Our lake district is the now the largest lake district in the state.

Lake district commissioners will meet on July 14 at the Red Apple in Newville at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linn Dueterbeck, Secretary