

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Alan Sweeney

Chair

Supervisor Rock County Board
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Mark Meyer

Treasurer

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Secretary

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Commissioner

Bill Burlingame

Commissioner

(414) 379-2795

Mike Shumaker

Commissioner

(608) 444-1071

Supervisor Kerry Hull

Fulton Township

(608) 290-9045

Board of Commissioners Meetings

All meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. The public is welcome to attend all meetings.

www.rkld.org

Letter from the Chair

Despite the challenges that the 2020 pandemic brought, the first half of 2021 has been filled with accomplishing projects approved by the electors at the 2020 annual meeting.

After completing the required supporting documents for the Indianford Dam Water Control Project, a WDNR operating order directive, the RKLD Board of Commissioners submitted the WDNR approved project specifications to United States Army Corp of Engineers. The Wisconsin Historical Society performed a historical review and insurance review was completed. The insurance review required adjustments and additional revisions will be needed after the project is completed. At the time of this newsletter, we are approaching the contractor bid deadline for the water control project at Indianford Dam. The intent is to award a contract for the project after WDNR and engineering review of bid accuracy prior to the annual meeting.

As mentioned in the spring and summer notes, the Commissioners have been able to effectively eliminate the high maintenance trash racks in lieu of an improved large debris screening system. A modified trash rack originally mandated by WDNR would have to be designed, engineered, and installed with an expensive cleaning system mounted to the Indianford Dam Powerhouse, also design-build. The updated screening system using existing hardware along with new hardware will be reconfigured to flow debris over the spillway. This vital feature of the gate project is supported with a \$2500.00 donation by the Lake Koshkonong Wetland Association.

Investment in navigation and danger buoys along with channel markers on bridges are making your lake and river safer. Applications for grants for partial reimbursement of those navigation buoys are being made with the help of WDNR officials. A new epoch of cooperation with WDNR has led to advancement of projects. Additionally, both the RKLD and the Lake Koshkonong Wetlands Association requested the WDNR to complete the wetlands study that was postponed in 2020 to make a determination on the water levels. The WDNR has scheduled an internal meeting for mid-August to review and determine when to complete this study regarding the additional 2.5 inches of water.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Chair Alan Sweeney

Indianford Dam Operating Orders

WDNR Water Level Order
(in feet above sea level)
Lake Koshkonong near Newville

785.12 Flood of 2008
780.00 Flood Stage
778.00 Slow/No Wake Rock River

Summer

776.55 Max (June 15-October 15)
775.73 Min (June 15-October 15)

Winter

776.00 Max (October 15 – June 14)
775.5 Min (October 15 – June 14)

775.27 Spillway Crest

2021-2022 RKLD Board of Commissioners Election

During the annual meeting, one board member will be elected. This is a three-year term. The board is always looking for new district people to bring in their ideas.

If you are interested in running, please contact Chair any board member or use the email form on the RKLD website. Nominations may also be made at the meeting.

2021 Landings and Lake Access

In 2021, the Board of Commissioners discussed landings and lake access at length during the monthly meetings. The Department of Natural Resources conducted a landing and parking study for Lake Koshkonong. The study revealed there is a need for increased landings and parking access. The Rock River was not included in the study. The majority of landings and parking lots in the district are owned and operated by the state, county, or private entities.

Two potential landing projects were presented to the Board of Commissioners.

A financial request was made to purchase land that would be used to construct a parking and landing located within the Town of Albion, which would require elector approval and a financial commitment of dollars via borrowing.

The WDNR study provided a proposal that came with an estimated of costs along with WDNR grants but would require 100% investment also from borrowing for grant eligibility. This site would not require a land purchase for parking.

District members expressed concern about constructing a parking lot in a residential neighborhood. The RKLD Board is looking for direction from electors on this issue.

2021 Annual Meeting

August 28, 2021 10:00 AM Racetrack Park, Edgerton, WI

- Please follow CDC guidelines as directed to ensure your safety.
- Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, pens, writing surface and hand sanitizer
- Voter Check-In Process has changed to improve efficiency and accurateness.
 1. For all eligible voters, a voter certification form is needed. The form will be available at the meeting. Per state statute, absentee or proxy voting is not allowed.
 2. Eligible voters include any lake district resident or landowner who is 18 years or older and a US Citizen. You must be a resident within the district for 28 days.
 3. Electors may have one vote per person. Business entities that also have a residence within the District may appoint a representative to cast a ballot on their behalf. Appointees are not required to live within the District.

RKLD recommends attendees take all precautions if attending the annual meeting. Attendees should understand they are attending of their own choosing and shall hold harmless the Rock Koshkonong Lake District and its commissioners for damages from attendance.