

11 August 2019

TO: Morrison County Commissioners

FROM: Dan Seanger  
Chairperson, Crookneck Lake Improvement District

SUBJ: Annual Report to Commissioners on 20 August 2019

This past year has been a challenging year for the Crookneck Lake Improvement District (CLID). During September 2018, we were notified by a resident of possible Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) infestation in the lake. This was confirmed by the DNR during October, in addition to the presence of a pair of adult Zebra Mussels at the lake access. No additional Zebra Mussels were reported by homeowners or a dock removal contractor. This past May, the CLID was faced with a potential budget busting infestation of Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) while dealing with an unknown EWM infestation. High-water levels continues to be of concern and has resulted in a “No Wake” posting once again this year.

1. CLID 2019 Financial Overview: The CLID’s beginning balance was \$44,551 and has a projected ending balance of \$49,645. Expenses totaled \$9,901. Receipt of an AIS Grant (\$6,955) and our ability to participate in a treatment study which significantly reduced treatment costs contributed to an increase in the bottom line. **(ATCH #1)**
2. CLID 2019 Performance Work Plan **(ATCH #2)**
  - a. Survey for Aquatic Invasive Species: Two aquatic vegetation surveys have been performed to date. The spring survey delineated Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) for treatment. A second survey was performed to determine the effectiveness of the alternative herbicide utilized on the CLP and its impact on the native weed populations. A third survey will be performed late summer (Sep/Oct) to further delineate the extent of EWM infestation. Two surveys for Zebra Mussel (veliger stage) and Spiny Water Flea were collected with results being negative. This may be indicative of either a very early infestation or weather impacted the Zebra Mussel (veliger) population.
  - b. Treat invasive species: **(ATCH 3)** During May, two zones of CLP were identified for treatment at a cost of \$12,895 and \$9,910 respectively, totaling \$22,805. The average cost for treatment between 2014 and 2018 was \$4,763 per year. Treating both zones, with the unknown expense associated with treating the new EWM infestation placed the CLID in financial risk during 2020 due to the collection cycle of future assessment revenues. After consulting with the DNR AIS treatment approval coordinators we entered into a study to evaluate an alternative herbicide. The downside to the study was a limitation on treating only one zone while the second served as a control area for the study. The study demonstrated the alternative herbicide was effective on knocking out the CLP while have minimal to no effect on the native species. The cost for the alternative herbicide to treat 7.0 acres of CLP was \$1,331 representing a significant savings. Use of the alternative herbicide in the future is unknown at this time. To date \$2,743 has been spent to treat 1.65 acres of EWM.

- c. Monitor the quality of the lake water: Following a three year lapse in testing, results for 2018 demonstrate no significant trends exist when compared statistically to the data ranging back to 2006 for Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll-a, and Secchi depth. Although no significant trends can be determined from one year's set of data points it is noted that the clarity (Secchi Disk) readings have increased. Coupled with the 2018 Morrison County Soil and Water Conservation District survey of shoreline conservation practices around the lake a preliminary conclusion may be drawn that the efforts of lake owners to control runoff into the lake may be contributing to the increased clarity. The lake continues to be in a Mesotrophic trophic state which is considered healthy.
  - d. Management of the CLID: All mandated filings, reports, and deadlines were met since the 2018 annual meeting.
  - e. Updating/revising the CLID Establishment Order: No action has been taken.
- 3. 2020 CLID Performance Plan: The approved plan is the same as the 2019 Performance Plan: Survey for AIS, Treat AIS, Perform Water Quality Studies' Manage the CLID, and Update/Revise the CLID Establishment Order.
  - 4. 2020 CLID Performance Plan Budget: **(ATCH #4)** The CLID membership approved a significant increase over previous years based predominately on future unknown cost of treating two AIS infestation.
  - 5. 2020 CLID Annual Levy: The CLID Board of Directors approved unanimously a levy "user charge" for calendar year 2020 of \$160. The CLID Board of Directors request the County Commissioners concur with this amount.

Items of interest:

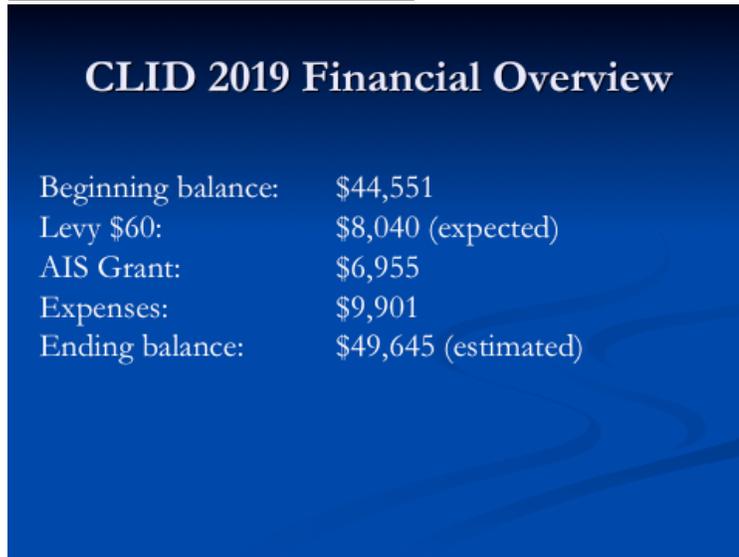
- 1. Lake-Level Analysis: This graph compares Crookneck and Shamineau water levels averaging the first and last readings recorded values each year and determining the delta from the Ordinary High Water level as posted on the DNR Lake Finder web. This graph clearly shows a correlation between the two lakes with Crookneck averaging ~8 inches above Shamineau. **(ATCH #5)**
- 2. A complete set of the annual meetings minutes is attached as a reference for the information included in this report. **(ATCH #6)**

Hopefully this information provides an overview of the CLIDs 2019 activities and what is what is planned for 2020. I look forward to our annual meeting and answering any questions you may have.

Dan Seanger  
Chairperson, CLID  
(218) 575-2333

ATTACHMENTS:

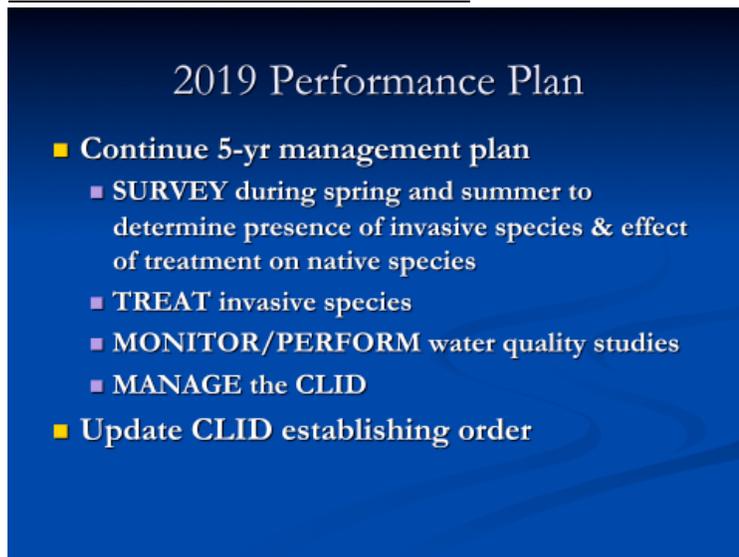
1. CLID 2019 Financial Overview



The slide features a dark blue background with a light blue wavy pattern at the bottom. The title 'CLID 2019 Financial Overview' is centered at the top in white. Below the title, a table lists financial items and their corresponding dollar amounts.

Beginning balance:	\$44,551
Levy \$60:	\$8,040 (expected)
AIS Grant:	\$6,955
Expenses:	\$9,901
Ending balance:	\$49,645 (estimated)

2. CLID 2019 Performance Work Plan



The slide features a dark blue background with a light blue wavy pattern at the bottom. The title '2019 Performance Plan' is centered at the top in white. Below the title, a bulleted list outlines the performance goals for 2019.

2019 Performance Plan	
■ Continue 5-yr management plan	
■ SURVEY during spring and summer to determine presence of invasive species & effect of treatment on native species	
■ TREAT invasive species	
■ MONITOR/PERFORM water quality studies	
■ MANAGE the CLID	
■ Update CLID establishing order	

### 3. 2019 Treatment Map and Costs



### 4. 2020 CLID Performance Work Plan

#### 2020 Performance Plan (Approved)

- Continue 5-yr management plan
  - SURVEY during spring and summer to determine presence of invasive species & effect of treatment on native species
  - TREAT invasive species
  - MONITOR/PERFORM water quality studies
  - MANAGE the CLID
- Update CLID establishing order

5. 2020 Work Plan Budget Approved

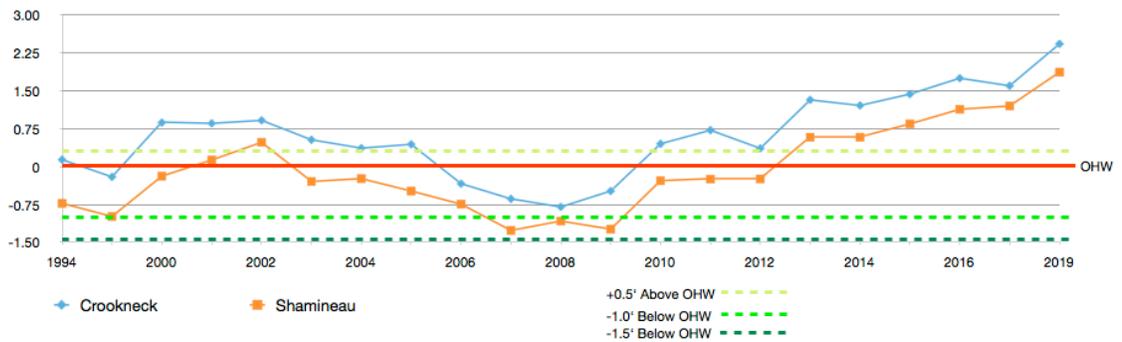
### 2020 Performance Work Plan Budget (Approved)

Operating Expense	Proposed 2020	2019 Actual Cost	2019 Actual Paid	2018	2017
Legal Fees	\$15,000**	\$15,000**	\$15,000**		
Survey	\$4,000	\$3,300	\$4,050 (\$3,300)*	\$2,415*	\$1,753
Weed Treatment	\$25,500	\$25,548	\$4,073 (\$3,655)*	\$2,452	\$3,157
Insurance	\$900	\$819	\$819	\$1,253	\$1,416
Admin Costs	\$400	\$385	\$385	\$194	\$279
Water Quality	\$575	\$575	\$575	\$580	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,375</b>	<b>\$30,377</b>	<b>\$ 9,652</b>	<b>\$6,894</b>	<b>\$6,605</b>

\* Note 2018 / 2019 expenditures included in the AIS Grant paid for (\*) \*\* Funded from reserve if required

6. Lake-Level Analysis

Delta from Ordinary High Water Mark



## 7. CLID 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes

### Crookneck Lake Improvement District Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting of the Crookneck Lake Improvement District (CLID) was held on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Scandia Valley Town Hall.

Dan Seanger, CLID Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M., introduced the Board of Directors and reviewed the agenda. Attached to these minutes is the power point presentation used throughout the meeting and contains additional information.

Dan began the meeting with a snapshot review of the past year. During September 2018, we were notified by a resident of possible Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) in the lake. This was confirmed by the DNR during October, in addition to the presence of a pair of adult Zebra Mussels at the lake access. No additional Zebra Mussels have been reported by homeowners or a dock removal contractor. More on EWM during the meeting.

#### Standard Agenda Items

Seanger turned to the standard agenda items beginning with the secretary's report as an example of the documents located on the CrookneckLake.com website under the heading "CLID", stating the 2018 annual meeting minutes were approved by the board, submitted to the county commissioners as part of our annual report, and then stored on the website.

Next Seanger reviewed the origins of the Crookneck Lake 5-Year Management Plan which serves as a historical repository for both CLID and Lake Crookneck Improvement Association (LCIA) reports and documents. Dan stated we are in our second year of the plan and that it is organized into the major domains for establishing a LID, for example, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) management. This lead into a discussion on "Establishment Orders" contrasting what we can and cannot do based on our current order.

Next Seanger reviewed the status of the "2019 Performance Work Plan" approved at the 2018 annual CLID meeting. Dan began by drawing everyone's attention to the last bullet which stated "Update CLID Establishment Order". He explained that once again this year no action was taken on this item as the CLID continues to function as originally designed. However at some time we may need to revise and/or update the document and inclusion in the Performance Plan is the Board's way to notify the members of this possible action.

1. Survey the lake for invasive species: Two aquatic vegetation surveys have been performed to date. The spring survey delineated Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) and Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) for treatment. A second survey was performed to determine the effectiveness of the alternative herbicide (Diquat) utilized on the CLP and its impact on the native weed populations. A third survey will be performed late summer (Sep/Oct) to further delineate the extent of EWM infestation. Two surveys for Zebra Mussel (veliger stage) and Spiny Water Flea were collected with results being negative. This may be indicative of either a very early infestation or weather impacting the Zebra Mussel "veliger" population.

2. Treat invasive species: During May, two zones of CLP were identified for treatment at a cost of \$12,895 and \$9,910 respectively. The average cost for treatment between 2014 and 2018 was \$4,763 per year. Treating both zones, with the unknown expense associated with treating the new EWM infestation had the potential to significantly consume the CLID reserve and place the CLID in financial risk during 2020 due to the collection cycle of future assessment revenues. After consulting with the DNR AIS treatment approval coordinators we entered into a study to evaluate an alternative herbicide. The down side to the study was a limitation on treating only one zone while the second served as a control area for the study. Historically we have treated all CLP permitted. The study demonstrated the alternative herbicide was effective on knocking out the CLP while having minimal to no effect on the native species. The cost for the alternative herbicide to treat 7.0 acres of CLP \$1,331 representing a significant savings. Use of the alternative herbicide (Diquat) in the future is unknown at this time as it is a herbicide which DNR Fisheries does not favor the use of. To date \$2,743 has been spent to treat 1.65 acres of EWM.
3. Monitor the quality of the lake water: Following a three year lapse in testing, results for 2018 demonstrate no significant trends exist when compared statistically to the data ranging back to 2006 for Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll-a, and Secchi depth. Although no significant trends can be determined from one year's set of data points it is noted that the clarity (Secchi Disk) readings have increased. Coupled with the 2018 Morrison County Soil and Water Conservation District survey of shoreline conservation practices around the lake a preliminary conclusion may be drawn that the efforts of lake owners to control runoff into the lake may be contributing to the increased clarity. Dan lauded these accomplishments and referred members to the full report on the website. The lake continues to be in a Mesotrophic state which is considered healthy.
4. Management of the CLID: Seanger reported all mandated filings, reports, and deadlines were met since the 2018 annual meeting.

Treasurers Report: JJ Parker, Treasurer, presented a recap of the Treasurers Report. Parker stated our beginning balance was \$44,551 and projected ending balance is \$49,645. Expenses totaled \$9,901. JJ reviewed our income statement and account transactions noting that the CLID benefited from receipt of AIS Grant (\$6,955), ability to participate in a treatment study and volunteer services that resulted in a slight uptick in the bottom line. The 2019 Treasurers Report is posted on "CrookneckLake.com" under "CLID".

Seanger then turned to 2020 and reviewed the Proposed 2020 Performance Plan stating the plan is identical to the 2019 Performance Plan.

JJ Parker then reviewed the Proposed 2020 Performance Plan Budget detailing the rationale the board used in developing it; in particular the following unknowns: future availability of AIS grants, ability to use the alternative herbicide, extent of EWM infestation, high treatment cost due to high water, and the two year funding cycle considerations (levy/assessment collections).

Seanger asked for a motion from floor to approve the 2020 Performance Plan. Leo Dombrowski made the motion, seconded by Adolph Rabe. Subject opened for discussion. No discussion ensued. Motion passed by voice vote.

Seanger asked for a motion from floor to approve the 2020 Performance Plan Budget. John Marsh made the motion, John Gurney seconded. JJ Parker led the discussion to explain the proposed 2020 budget. The budget represents a significant increase over the previous 5 years. JJ reviewed a chart which depicted 2017, 2018 and 2019 actual cost by line item and what the 2019 cost would have been had we not received an AIS grant or entered into a special CLP alternative herbicide study which significantly saved the CLID funds during 2019. Also depicted was the budget proposed by the board that was developed assuming we would not receive an AIS grant or approval for alternative CLP herbicide usage. Further it was explained that the “legal fee” line item would be funded from the reserve, as required to defend our interests as Lake Shamineau pursues lowering their lake levels. JJ also indicated that approving a budget of this amount, if funded in full by board by the 2020 levy, would result in a levy of \$240 for 2020 compared to \$60 for this year. Following a review of our funding stream (set levy during one year and then receive funds from county middle of following year) and a concern the CLID may find itself financially limited to execute its entire Management Plan during subsequent years, the 2020 Performance Plan Budget motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Seanger asked for a motion from the floor to authorize the annual CLID meeting to be held in any weekend during 2020. Brad Vierkant made motion, Greg Kloss seconded. During discussion Seanger explained the reason for this request is that state statute specifies that unless approved during the previous annual meeting, the annual meeting must be held during specific summer months. Motion passed by voice vote.

The Board then convened to set the 2020 Levy that will be recommended to the Morrison County Commissioners for approval. Seanger voiced his concern with today’s unknowns reviewed during the treatment and budget discussion concluding that a reserve of \$40,000 would be more appropriate than the current \$30,000 considering the lake now has two treatable AIS infestations; EWM and CLP. John Parker and Dave Gurney voiced concern with not having adequate funds to manage the approved 2020 performance plan and budget considering no guarantee of future AIS grants, alternative CLP herbicide usage, increased cost of treating in deeper water, an unknown infestation of EWM and the potential for having to utilize the reserve to fund up to \$15,000 for legal fees. An additional comment was made that this was an unusual year for the CLID for managing the CLP population. The alternative herbicide treatment study limited the total area of CLP treated compared to our historical objective dating back to 2001 to treat all CLP permitted, and this should be our goal once again. There being no further discussion Dave Gurney made a motion that the levy for 2020 be set at \$160, John Parker seconded. JJ Parker stated a \$160 levy collected from 134 members would result in an income of approximately \$21,440 with a projected reserve of approximately \$40,000 considering the approved 2020 budget. Motion passed by voice vote.

Election of Board of Directors: Seanger asked if all members present had cast their ballots, and took a brief break to certify the vote count while JJ Parker provided an LCIA update. Dan announced the vote: thirty votes were cast (7 by mail, 1 by email, 24 at the meeting) via a secret

ballot. Donald Johnson (homestead/resident), April Powell (homestead/resident) and JJ Parker (non-homestead/non-resident) terms on the CLID Board of Directors will run thru the 2021 election.

### Old Business

Lake Shamineau High Water Project:

1. Seanger reviewed the “Letter of Support” forwarded to Morrison County Board of Commissioners on Aug 26, 2018.
2. Seanger provided an update on the Lake Shamineau High-Water Projects.

### New Business

Ambassador Project: An overview of the Ambassador Project was provided and a request for anyone who is interested to contact a board member by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Contact Info: Notify a board member of property sales or change of addresses to ensure receipt of mailings.

The CLID Board intends to treat the lake during 2020 for the presence of any AIS identified. If you wish to opt out and not allow treatment adjacent to your property notify a board member by April 30, 2020.

First call for next year’s Board of Directors. At this time, projected 2020-2022 term board vacancies: one resident/homestead and one non-resident/non-homestead. Contact any board member for more information on responsibilities or to have your name on the ballot.

Dan thanked Teri Parker and Adolph Rabe for today’s donuts and coffee.

Dan then recognized John Parker for his countless hours of computer assistance in both making these presentations what they are but more important his management of the CrookneckLake.com website which has essentially resulted in a library of critical historical documents of the CLID and Lake Crookneck Improvement Association.

Dan opened the meeting for any additional new business, there being none, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Adolph Rabe made the motion to adjourn, Al Huber second, motion passed by voice vote at 1018.

*David Gurney*

Secretary