

High Water Forum Notes

May 27, 2020

Agenda:

- How to use Zoom and rules of the meeting
- Who is in charge of what?
- Overview of questions
- Septic / Well Contamination / Water Quality
- Shoreline Erosion / Riprap
- No-Wake / Enforcement
- Permits / Variances
- Shamineau Projects
- Water Level Options

Links:

Google Slides Presentation:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1dtGTLdmruhPwuGxkCOWw_UjLmKcXs5GPhdpR9U9Q63U/edit?usp=sharing

Recorded Meeting:

<https://youtu.be/UtSfxmVeriA>

Notes from the meeting:

7:02PM jokes about donuts not bringing all the folks to the yard...

JJ: Reason for meeting & Rulets

7:06-7:11P Who does what... LCIA/LID charter and Establishment Order Review; ideas about what to do/ideas.

7:12P Dan did some research on septic and impact on lake; will there be leakage? Dan Seanger: good news is that the septic systems were inspected in 2011 (?) and all were brought up to par at that time. The recommendation

was for tanks; let it fill and stop using until the lake goes down. If you have a tank with septic field... d/c use of septic until water goes down, but DON'T pump it.

What if there is spillage around the tank? - Report to county; if small, clean up and report. Most of our septic are far enough away from lake not to impact lake water quality. Sandpoint well can be tested if there are concerns, but the sand should filter it out.

Bottom line: d/c use of the septic. Don't pump it or it could get crushed by hydrostatic pressure.

When septic are permitted, an adequate distance is required by the county.

7:17PM:

Rip-rap is all under water and there is some concern for erosion.

Discussion of pros/cons to moving rip-rap and re-establishing a new OHW mark.

Discussion of algae/green moss growth on rocks. Dan Saenger reported the testing has been submitted and results are pending.

Call for Rip-rap recommendations: no one gave a reference. "Hilltop" (Mark Piper?) was given as a possible referral. He can lift heavy rocks.

7:27pm: No WAKE; Sheriff posted a no-wake within 300 ft. from shore line. In some parts of the lake, this surpasses the center.

Options for no-wake parameter enforcement. Discussion of how to lobby for no-wake zone. Would want to make sure that it was sunsetted and non-permanent and it might require re-permitting to allow wake in future.

Discussion of no-wake awareness flyers. How was traction last year? Positive response to this idea.

7:40 talked about enforcement of no-wake [our connection cut out.]

More awareness at landing could help.

7:41pm Permits and variances

fill/raising property: todd had a question about his underwater deck. What can we do to move and/or raise structures.

Discussion of permitting and one-variance rule vs. permitting.

7:50p Shamineau Project and Trench project. Culvert on Friendly Inn/Hwy 10. Trench water is all stagnant. It is not "flowing" in.

2 projects by ind groups in shamineau: pumping project in permitting and studies and 2.) watershed studies; limiting water that flows into Shamineau.

Discussion of Red Oak Lane and what to do. The Township has told some citizens they won't do anything.

Timing on Shamineau project? Bob Koll spoke; timing is TBD.

How are the lake levels correlated? Bob Koll spoke: several engineers have evaluated and have had varying opinions but it appears they are closely linked. Crookneck is actually (elevation-wise) higher, and if Shamineau pumps, it is believed that Crookneck may come down. Aquatic area on the east is a main issue for water flowing in. The plan has to go through the DNR and regulatory agencies as well as approval from private property owners for permitting for ditches to be cleaned out. The jury is still out how one lake level will impact the other.

8:08p: What would be our options?

Can we pump water out the ditch by the Friendly Inn?

Dan: gave stats on OHW levels; the LID can't do a water moving project that taxed all residents. JJ asserted that this could be done, but it would not allow the tax to be divided among all the residents.

Dan: it could get expensive; plus we would need to engineer this to remove zebra mussels too. Barriers from Todd county being willing to take the water.

Fountains in the lake to evaporate water (?) - *majical*

Chat transcript from meeting:

19:05:10 From Todd H : got it
19:08:23 From michael seurer : Where can the charters be found?
19:14:33 From Emily Oberlander : So, just turn the systems off, right?
19:18:47 From bradv : yes I think that is correct emily
19:19:33 From Emily Oberlander : Thanks!
19:19:41 From Emily Oberlander : (Taking notes)
19:20:25 From Steve Andres : county will allow you to raise your current area and back fill. if you give up the space you won't get it back
19:23:18 From Todd H : and yet the water appears clearer
19:25:07 From gxkloss : yes
19:28:55 From gxkloss : boat travel speeds of less than 5 miles per hour is consider a no wake situation.
19:29:35 From Fred Comb : 300' = length of a football field

19:31:45 From bradv : if the association could provide a map on the web page and FB page that would be great

19:31:53 From April Powell : Can that map be mailed out to the remainder of the people on the lake that aren't in the LCIA and also printed and posted at the access?

19:32:59 From bradv : Briggs lake association has criteria that creates an enforcement situation

19:33:17 From michael seurer : How far away from an anchored boat does one need to keep their wake?

19:34:16 From bradv : you could set criteria for the water level

19:34:52 From bradv : so when the water drops back down to "normal" there could be a wake

19:36:17 From michael seurer : We need to be respectful of each other and encourage others to do the same when it comes to wakes.

19:36:54 From Tim : never saw the flyer

19:37:29 From Emily Oberlander : We got the flyer and saw them around

19:37:37 From Emily Oberlander : Would be in favor of doing that again

19:38:16 From Emily Oberlander : Anything for enforcement would be great; our structure has H2O up to the door so it would make a big difference

19:42:57 From Emily Oberlander : do you need a variance to go straight up?

19:44:00 From Steve Andres : requires a permit

19:48:38 From bradv : 500

19:51:11 From michael seurer : Is there a limit to the amount of fill that can be brought in? Lakeside

19:55:28 From Nora Aune : Does anyone know if there will be road repair/improvement on Red Oak Lane?

19:55:34 From bradv : can we temp. pump the water across 20th?

19:56:28 From Bruce : any idea on the timing of the sham. project?

19:57:00 From bradv : township

19:57:27 From Emily Oberlander : Is there anything we can do to leverage some action by the Township?

19:57:44 From Emily Oberlander : We are underwater at our place and will likely lose the cabin

19:57:50 From Nora Aune : We are next door and not sure if we can get in.

19:59:35 From SAMSUNG-SM-G950U : I've delt with the township about property damage from the plow guy in the winter, and have never found them to be helpful.

20:12:55 From Emily Oberlander : At a million bucks, that is \$7700 per propertyt

20:13:23 From SAMSUNG-SM-G950U : ouch!

20:14:29 From bradv : with all the dead trees the water will go down much slower that it has in the past years

20:14:45 From Emily Oberlander : Is 130 the number of properties (cabins) or lots?

20:14:47 From Emily Oberlander : we are on 3 lots

20:15:11 From JJ Parker : Emily, it's cabins

20:16:08 From Emily Oberlander To JJ Parker(privately) : thnx!

20:16:10 From Tim : so magical fountains are the solution?

20:17:02 From AJ madison : is dredging an option ?

20:17:03 From SAMSUNG-SM-G950U : large solar powered fountain in the middle of the big bay!

20:18:09 From julie_paoli-stern : Will MN offer low interest loans to repair low lying properties and roads?

20:18:25 From michael seurer : More surface area though
20:19:07 From bradv : if your property is flooded and impacted talk to the county about reduced property taxes.
20:19:26 From Rebecca Monahan : dan is muted
20:20:10 From michael seurer : Individual pumps and sprinklers
20:22:46 From Tim : if shaminaue is lowered and being so close to Crookneck would our lake drop with a lower water table?
20:23:00 From bradv : 2021
20:23:13 From bradv : reduced by 90%
20:23:26 From SAMSUNG-SM-G950U : Tim, I believe it would.
20:23:42 From michael seurer : The county charges more for sandbags than what you can purchase them for privately
20:25:07 From michael seurer : Tanks yes
20:27:26 From Tim : thank you all for the meeting
20:27:57 From Todd H : thanks JJ

Survey Results from Homeowners:

What concerns do you have about the high water?

Water quality/pollution from septic systems. What is the green/brown slime on our rip-rap, and brown stinky sludge? it smells like septic. Has the water quality been tested/is it safe? Erosion and property damage.

Anyone have experience or recommendation on shoreline rip rap repair company?

water quality, loss of lake shore, impedance on land, loss of recreation on lake

We are at the bottom of the hill on white pine drive water is pushing up underneath our house from the lake and also our lake shore is eroding. One very large pine is half in the water and as the soil is eroded this tree will become a hazard. Just last weekend I witnessed boaters fighting over the no wake zone and some other people disregarding it and lake surfing. Can we get the sheriff out to enforce the no wake zone. Can we take the un used bouy and slap some no wake zone signs and throw it in the middle of the lake.

Further/additional building, land, and property damage. The overall health of the Lake- dead trees all around the lake, shoreline erosion, flooded properties that may become abandoned, excess nutrients into the lake causing algae blooms, additional weed growth and reduced water clarity. Reduced overall lake quality.

Concerned about impact of flooded septic systems. Will the lake be swimmable? How about drinking water from shallow standpoints?

Property and shore destruction.

My lakeshore yard is now under 10 inches of water. What was green grass for the last 15 years, is now a swamp that the baby ducks enjoy, but I don't!. All of this extra water is obviously caused by Mother Nature. I recorded about 12 inches of rain last October. Mother Nature has caused the damage. Waves from a boat did not do this.

I realize many properties are worse off than I am. I'm sure that most lakeshore owners have sustained shoreline damage to some extent. I'm glad we are having this meeting/discussion. Immediately, excessive boating speed, wakes. How to enforce?

The inability to access our driveway as the road leading to it, Red Oak Lane, is currently underwater. Shore erosion, extremely high water table and we are on a very low spot on the lake and our property is getting flooded.

We used to have a little bit of beach sand and some grassy area to walk on in front of our our lower platform. The high waters have now come up to our retaining wall and has washed away the grassy area. We have been fortunate that the high waters have not caused problems for our cabin.

What can/should we do about the high water?

No wake on entire lake until the water level goes back down. temporary pumping if possible.

Pump it out. Enforce no wake zone

Can the board obtain a permit to lower the water level or pump it somewhere? If not can we help/back/stand behind the Lake Sham. Project?

Well, don't pray for rain is about all I've got at this point.

I don't have the answer for this but I hope someone does. I don't know the lake and surrounding area well enough to know how the water might exit our lake. I hear of a culvert under Ct Rd 203 that goes to ???. Maybe we can get our lake to drain into the ditch cleaned out over winter south of Ct Rd 203? Maybe we could pump lake water into this ditch.

Maybe we have to hire someone with water management knowledge to consult on our problem. We don't want to open up a ditch and have more water flow into our lake!

At the very least, wake enforcement by Sheriff's Office.

Would like to have water pumped out.

The E to W ditch south of 203 isn't flowing much, and may have a blockage under the road 20 th ave that connects to west Shamineau drive. I doubt it will help at all.

I don't know what the options are. Should this be the new normal.

What damage/repair have you had because of the high water?

extensive sandbagging, erosion fabric, rock, and countless hours of labor for the past 10 years. If the water goes any higher, our shed will need to be removed, and the higher hill will need work to prevent erosion.

Significant shoreline erosion

loss of lake shore, loss of boulders/grass and "beach area", loss of docks, shed destroyed
Water coming up under the cabin entire drive way washed out

Structure/building water damage, shoreline erosion, flooded land, foundation damage, driveway damage and multiple dead trees

Water has infiltrated building (house) structure and damaged shoreline.

My flooded shoreline and lakeshore yard is under 10 inches of water
Lower level of cabin and storage shed severely damaged, expenses of pumping water.

Possible flooding in our garage.

Standing water on much of our property. Extreme shore line erosion.

We have brought in big rocks to hold the beach in place.

Any other questions or comments?

Just listening...

the lake is so high, our dock and boatlift are un-usable. It would be nice to see the lake get back to a level where is it usable without damaging the shoreline, properties, and compromising water quality.
What is being done by the DNR? Why does the water continue to rise?

What is the boards plan going forward to address the high water? Can the board do something to help further promote slow/no wake to limit erosion? What can we do? Driving around the lake it appears almost every property owner has been impacted in some way or another (dead trees, shoreline erosion, flooded structures, damaged foundations, and flooded land). There are cabins that cannot even be accessed without driving through water on the road.

Where does the DNR, Soil and Water conservation, Morrison County, State of Minnesota, and any other "we are here for you until we are not" agency or governmental body stand on this?

I'm thankful we have having this discussion and look forward to any positive results. I'm not sure I'll be on this ZOOM meeting because I will probably be at the cabin.

How many properties are currently affected? (Thanks to all who are helping others!!)

Are there any plans to build up/complete improvements to Red Oak Lane for cabins that are currently inaccessible?

Are there any plans to pump water out of the lake and enough to make a difference. People need to be made aware of the NO WAKE policy on the lake. There were boaters arguing in front of our dock when a boat was going way too fast.

Is pumping happening at Shaminaeu and will that affect Crookneck.

I see that a channel has been dug at Cty 203 and Hwy 10. Is that part of the Shamineau or Crookneck lake drainage project.