

CITY OF TONKA BAY ITEM NO. 6B

Lake Minnetonka Conservation District (LMCD)
Board of Directors
Update to Tonka Bay City Council
January 27, 2015

September 24 – December 31, 2014

The Board approved Bean's Greenwood Marina's request to reconfigure their dock use area (DUA) under their existing approved variance. The reconfigured DUA maintains the same number of boat storage units (BSUs) and reduces the total BSU square footage. The reconfigured facility will provide more convenient and safer access.

The Board approved Brown's Bay Marina (Site 2)'s request for a new 2014 multiple dock license and variance and to reconfigure their DUA. A public hearing was conducted where many expressed their concern. The reconfigured DUA maintains the same number of BSUs and square footage and meets the requirements for a legal, non-conforming facility. On December 26, 2014, the LMCD received a Petition for Writ of Certiorari which has been filed with the Minnesota Court of Appeals by several property owners with lakeshore on Tanager Lake. There is no resolution to date.

Following several incidents and concerns expressed to the LMCD, the Board agreed to pursue discussions regarding managing litter on and around the lake.

The Board received Open Meeting Law training. The Board also conducted a workshop to begin reviewing and updating the LMCD Strategic Plan. A new plan will be developed in the months ahead.

The LMCD continued their Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) harvesting program in 2014. Over seven weeks ending on August 28 there were 391 acres harvested, compared to 267 acres in 2013. Harvested areas included Echo, Old Channel and Lafayette Bays in Tonka Bay. LMCD worked with the Lake Minnetonka Association (LMA) to coordinate harvesting within bays that they treated with herbicides. The primary goal of the harvesting program is to maintain boat navigation.

The LMCD 2014 Shoreline Boat Storage Count totaled 10,174 (6,329 watercraft in residential storage and 3,845 in multiple dock storage facilities), a modest decrease from the previous survey in 2012.

The Board held a well-publicized and well-attended public hearing on a petition to establish a Quiet Water Area (QWA) from the north Seton Channel area to the east end of Deering Island (parts of Harrison and West Arm Bays.) The Board considered all stakeholder concerns and a report from the Hennepin County Water Patrol and reviewed the previously approved "Policy for Establishment of Quiet Waters Area on Lake Minnetonka." The Board denied the request

for a QWA in the east/west channel and referred the north/south channel (west of Deering Island) portion of the petitioned QWA to the LMCD Public Safety Committee for further study.

The Board approved a dock length variance request from Berta Kvamme on Smiths Bay. The Board found the request justified by the shallow water in the DUA.

The Board received an update on the 2014 Proactive Code Enforcement Program concerning watercraft storage ordinances on Lake Minnetonka. Specifically, the survey identifies sites storing 1) five or more restricted watercraft that do not have an approved multiple dock license or 2) three or four larger, restricted watercraft that do not comply with the one boat/50 feet of shoreline rule. Ten complaints are currently being processed from 2014.

LMCD Profit and Loss Statement

	<u>YTD Nov 2014</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Administrative		
Income	\$362,564.39	\$438,805.00
Expense	<u>368,926.89</u>	<u>463,805.00</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ -6,363.50</u>	<u>\$ -25,000.00</u>
AIS Management/Prevention		
Income	\$ 72,357.80	\$152,979.00
Expense	<u>132,070.56</u>	<u>142,595.00</u>
Net Income	<u>\$-59,712.76</u>	<u>\$ 10,384.00</u>
Save the Lake		
Income	\$ 24,576.57	\$ 44,100.00
Expense	<u>24,790.69</u>	<u>44,100.00</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ -214.12</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

Submitted by Gregg Thomas
January 14, 2015