# Phantom Lakes Management District Newsletter

(Bring this newsletter with you to the meeting)

# 2022 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022 @ 7:00PM MUKWONAGO TOWN HALL (W320S8315 BEULAH RD. MUKWONAGO, WI)

1.	Call	to	Order

- 2. Open Meeting Notice
- 3. Approval of Minutes from September 22, 2021 Annual Meeting
- 4. Fisheries Management/Stocking
- 5. Harvesting Report
- 6. Lake Plant Survey (as required by Wi DNR)
- 7. Equipment Condition Update and Replacement
- 8. USDA Goose Round Up and Landowners Permissions
- 9. Items from the Floor
- 10. Approval of 2022 Audit Report
- 11. Adoption of 2023 Proposed Budget
- 12. Approval of Resolution 2022-01: Levy for 2023
- 13. Election of Commissioners for 2022-2025
- 14. Set 2023 Annual Meeting Date
- 15. Adjournment

# 2022 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

TIME: IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ANNUAL MEETING

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Board of Commissioners Roll Call
- 3. Election of Officers
- 4. Secretary's Report
- 5. Treasurer's Report
- 6. Adjournment

#### ELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS

An election for commissioners will be held at the annual meeting to fill

• One (1) expiring 3-year term

Contact Colleen Mutchler at 262-565-3212 or email at *gonefishing@phantomlakes.us* to be listed on the ballot by 9/15/2022. Nominations also will be taken from the floor on 9/28/2022.

# PLMD PHONE NUMBERS

## **COMMISSIONERS**

Joe Graczyk	262-716-9891
(Chairman)	

Adam Miller ......414-406-1994 (Treasurer)

Jake Jagmin ......414-350-7670 (Secretary)

Joanne Tlachac-Hehn ..... 262-352-0568

Joe Kirchner ......414-852-0730

David Dubey ...... 414-588-2004 (Town Representative)

Darlene Johnson ......414-916-3876 (County Supervisor)

# **HARVESTING MANAGER**

Dawn Couillard ......262-414-1475

## CONNECT WITH US

Join our resident email list to keep current with PLMD.

Email us to sign up: gonefishing@phantomlakes.us

# PHANTOM LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT PROPOSED 2023 BUDGET

	GENERAL OPERATING FUND - GOF	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Actual 2022 (8-25)	Estimated 2022	Budget 2023
2	GOF Beginning Balance	48,732	52,155	60,423	60,423	61,043
3	REVENUES:					
4	Interest	50	50	50	50	50
5	Storage	0	0	0	0	0
6	Grants:					
7	Clean Boats Clean Waters 2018	0	0	0	0	0
8	Lake Surface Water Grant	0	0	0	0	0
9	Harvester Grant	0	68,642	56,775	88,864	
10	Donations:					
11	Fish Stocking	500	0	1,300	1,300	500
12	Town Mukwonago	3000	3,000	3,000	3000	3,000
13	Village Mukwonago	2,100	2,00	2100	2,100	2,100
14	State of W9iComp Aid	0	0	0	0	0
15	Levy	107,875	132,902	132,902	132,909	150,000
16	TOTAL REVENUES	113,525	206,694	196,127	228,216	155,650
17	Transfer in from Equipment Reserve Fund:	47,890	49,470	49,470	49,470	0
18	New/Refurbished Equipment	0	0	,	0	0
19	Transfer in from Lake Protection Fund:	Ŭ	Ü	ŭ	· ·	ŭ
20	Well Study (2014 Offset for 2013 Expenditure)	0	0	0	0	0
21	Lake Study	0	0		0	0
22	Total Revenues + Fund Transfers In	161,415	256,164		277,686	155,650
		- , -		-,	,	
23	Total Revenues + Transfers In + Beginning Balance	210,147	308,319	306,020	338,109	216,693
24	EXPENDITURES:					
25	Operating Costs:					
26	Administrative:					
27	Accounting Expense	0	2,500	0	2,500	2,500
28	Conventions	0	0	0	0	0
29	Assistant	2,784	8,000	2,465	4,000	6,000
30	Harvesting Manager	2,000	3,000	0	3,000	3,000
31	Miscellaneous	174	500	766	500	500
32	Newsletters/Notices & Web Site	2,278	5,000	3,249	4,500	2,500
33	Office Expense	1,659	500	336	400	500
34	Publications Legal	0	0	0	0	0
35	All other Account Expenses	0	0		0	0
36	Total Administrative	8,895	19,500	6,817	14,900	15,000
37	Other:					
38	Commissioner Pay	3,200	3,200		3,200	3,200
39	Contingency Fund	0	7,369		0	1,000
40	Fish Stocking	5,430	5,100		6,470	6,000
41	Insurance	4,323	5,900		5,301	5,200
42	Lake Safety	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,250
43	Aquatic Plant Management Plan	0	6,000		8,000	10,200
44	Legal Fees/Consultant/Well Study	1	1		1	1
45	Water Monitoring and Lab	0	350		0	0
46	Fireworks	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	6,500
47						
47 48	Goose Round-Up  Total Other	0 18,954	33,920	0	0 28,972	3,500 <b>36,851</b>

49	GENERAL OPERATING FUND - GOF	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Actual 2022 (8-25)	Estimated 2022	Budget 2023
50	Harvesting:					
51	Fuel and Oil	2,419	5,000	4,630	6,500	7,500
52	Harvesting Permit	2,419	3,000	•	0,500	2,500
53	Labor	37,282	50,000		40,000	55,000
54	Remove/Put in Harvesters/Storage/Winterization	1,620	4,000		1,500	1,500
55	Repairs and Maintenance	15,372	20,000		20,000	20,000
56	Other Harvesting/Land Rental		20,000		20,000	
	Contractor Channel Harvesting**	1				1
57 58	New Harvester Purchase	47,890	12,000 111,743		3,355 129,838	0
59	Total Funcación	104,584	202,744		201,194	86,501
60	Total Expenditures	132,433	256,164	180,991	245,066	138,352
61	GOF Fund Transfers to:					
62	Equipment Reserve Fund (savings)*	12,000	32,000	32,000	32,000	28,691
63	Lake Protection Fund (savings)	0	0	,	0	0
64	Total Fund Transfers Out	12,000	32,000		32,000	28,691
65	Total Operating Costs (including fund transfers out)	144,433	288,164	212,991	277,066	167,043
66	Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	28,982	0	64,606	32,620	17,298
67	GOF Ending Balance	60,423	20,155	93,029	61,043	49,650
68	EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND (savings)	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Actual 2022 (7/22)	Estimated 2022	Budget 2023
69	Beginning Balance	83,449	47,634	42,306	42,306	32,100
70	REVENUES:					
71	Transfer from GOF	12,000	32,000	32,000	32,000	28,691
72	Interest	75	75	100	100	75
73	EXPENDITURES:					
74	Transfer to GOF -New/Refurbished Equipment	47,890	47,470	42,306	42,306	0
75	Transfer to GOF -Repair & Maintenance	0	0		0	0
76	Ending Balance	47,634	30,239	32,100	32,100	60,866
77	LAKE PROTECTION FUND (savings)	Actual 2020	Budget 2021	Actual 2021	Estimated 2021	Budget 2022
78	Beginning Balance	4,255	4,252	4,255	4,255	4,256
79	REVENUES:					
80	Transfer from GOF	0	0	0	0	0
81	Interest	12	12	1	1	1
82	EXPENDITURES:					
		_			0	0
83	Transfer to GOF	0	0	0	U	U
83 84	Transfer to GOF Ending Balance	0 <b>4,267</b>	4,264		<b>4,256</b>	4,257

# **UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

# ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

#### UNAPPROVED

#### Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM by Chairman Joe Graczyk.

#### **Open Meeting Notice:**

The meeting was noticed and posted according to law.

# Approval of Minutes from September 26, 2020 Annual

Mary Heuver motioned to approve the meeting minutes from 9-26-2020, seconded by Kathy Verduyn. Motion carried (unanimous).

#### Fisheries Management/Stocking:

- Steve Verduyn provided an update. The permit was approved by the DNR. 1300 Walleye and 1800 Bass will be stocked on 9-29-2021 at approximately 10am. The stockings will be split with half going in at the Andrews St launch and half going in at the Police access point off Shady Ln.
- Jack Fiene had concerns with Walleye being stocked on Lower Phantom lake due to the shallow nature of the lake and higher water temperatures. Dave Schmalzer said that he has successfully caught Walleye on upper and lower phantom lakes and stocking has been successful in addition to keeping the pan fish population in check.

#### **Harvesting Report:**

- Harvesting Manager, Dawn Couillard, provided an update. There was a slow start to the season this year due to engine problems with the harvester and weather delays preventing the launch. Low water levels also made harvesting difficult at times. The harvesting crew/employees have been working out well. The dump truck is in good shape, although the harvester is rough shape and has a leaking hydraulic pump and a leaking hydraulic motor for one of the cutters. PLMD will investigate having these issues resolved during the off season. The harvester is scheduled to be removed 10-6-2021.
- Bill Morris is a contractor with a special (smaller) 5ft harvester and was hired by PLMD. Bill was on the lake 3 times during the 2021 season, for approximately 7 days total. His crew removed aquatic plants in the shallow water areas specified in the DNR harvesting permit that only permit a smaller machine. PLMD plans to continue this for the 2022 season.
- Jack Fiene commented that Mike Eastlund cannot get his boat out from his shoreline. Jake Jagmin responded indicating PLMD is not permitted to harvest in that area currently and the DNR will not revise the harvesting permit until it expires in 2024 and a plant survey is completed.

## Lake Plant Survey (as required by Wi DNR):

- Joanne Tlachac-Hehn presented the current harvesting map as permitted by the DNR and advised that it expires on 12-31-2023. There are requirements that must be satisfied in order to renew and/or modify the harvesting permit, including having a plant survey preformed.
- PLMD intends to hire a contractor or company, an expert in this field, to perform this survey and interact with the DNR on behalf of PLMD to help obtain PLMD's harvesting goals.

- PLMD can apply for a grant to cover some of the costs involved with having the plant survey preformed.
- Joanne Tlachac-Hehn motions to accept the resolution to process the lake plant survey grant application. Jack Fiene seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

#### New 7' Harvester Acquisition:

- Adam Miller said PLMD received an DNR grant to cover 43% of the purchase price of a new harvester. Darlene Johnson thanked Adam Miller for completing the grant process on PLMD's behalf.
- Jake Jagmin brought up lead-times on some replacement parts for the current 10' harvester, such as the main hydraulic pumps that are leaking are up to 14 weeks and recommends PLMD operates two harvesters.
- Joe Graczyk motioned to purchase a new 7' harvester from Inland Lake Harvesters in the amount not to exceed \$167,002 including the grant funds. Jack Fiene seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

#### Items from the Floor:

- Jack Fiene and Christine Pawlak had concerns that the sanctioned boat races are spreading aquatic plans on lower Phantom, are excessively loud and are harmful to wildlife and the lake in general. Dave Dubey said that the Town of Mukwonago permits the races and not PLMD.
- Jack Fiene also had concerns that some buoys were too small.

  Adam Miller responded that the buoys placed by the Town for navigation purposes are 36".
- Dave Johnson questioned if Lake Patrol is utilizing DNR grants for funding. Dave Dubey said he believes they are, and the Town Police Dept applies for these grants.

#### Treasurer's/Secretary's Assistant Open position:

- Colleen Mutchler submitted her resume and cover letter PLMD. She was the sole applicant to fill this vacant role.
- Jake Jagmin motioned to hire Colleen Mutchler as a contractor to assist PLMD with treasurer and secretary duties at a rate of \$20/hr effective immediately. Adam Miller seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

# Approval of 2021 Audit Report:

Item is tabled due to the 2021 audit report not yet being available.

# Adoption of 2022 Proposed Budget:

- Steve Verduyn had concerns that the levy was being increased while funds were available in the GOF account. If these funds are intended to be used for equipment purchases, they should be allocated into the equipment reserve fund.
- Jake Jagmin motioned to approve the budget as presented with an additional \$10,000 being transferred from GOF to equipment reserves resulting in the following modifications:

Line 71 updated to \$32,000

Line 67 updated to \$22,155 (Continued on page 5)

# UNAPPROVED MINUTES CON'T

Line 62 updated to \$32,000

Steve Verduyn seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

Approval of Resolution 2021-01: Levy for 2022:

Dave Schmalzer motioned to approve the levy at \$132,902 (line 15 of the budget) for calendar year 2022. Tim Rutenbeck seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

**Election of Commissioners for 2021-2024:** 

There are two open seats. Joe Graczyk and Joanne Tlachac-Hehn placed their names on the ballots.

33 ballots were cast with 33 votes for Joe Graczyk, 33 votes for Joanne Tlachac-Hehn and zero write ins. PLMD welcomes Joe Graczyk and Joanne Tlachac-Hehn to serve on the PLMD board for the appointed 3-year terms.

Set 2022 Annual Meeting Date:

Jake Jagmin motioned to have the PLMD annual meeting on Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at 7:00PM. Seconded by Joe Graczyk. Motion carried (unanimous).

**Adjournment:** 

Jake Jagmin made a motion to adjourn at 8:59PM. Joe Graczyk seconded. Motion carried (unanimous).

## FIREWORKS OVER PHANTOM LAKES

# BY JAKE JAGMIN

Phantom Lakes Management District celebrated this year's Independence Day with a public firework display on July 3rd, 2022. The fireworks were launched over the water from Phantom Glen Park, adjacent to the Andrews Street boat launch at approximately 9:30pm. Although the park was closed during the show, spectators had spectacular views from the water and the surrounding area including Indianhead Park.

The fireworks were well received by residents and visitors alike. A huge **Thank you** to: Five Star Fireworks Corp, Mukwonago Fire Dept., the **Village of Mukwonago** for their donation, Village DPW, Village Police, Town Police and Lake Patrol, the Village Parks Dept and PLMD Board for coordinating to make this event happen.



(Left) 2022 Fireworks debris clean up volunteers at Phantom Glen Park: [Left to Right] Secretary Jake Jagmin, Town of Mukwonago Representative Dave Dubey, Waukesha County Supervisor Darlene Johnson, Caroline Jagmin, Leanne Eastlund, Board Member Joe Kirchner, Adeline Kirchner, Peter Kirchner, Gary Eastlund, Chelsea Hilgert, Jason Hilgert, Assistant Colleen Mutchler, Treasurer Adam Miller, Harvesting Manager Dawn Couillard, Chairman Joe Graczyk, Gary and Kate Graczyk. Photo credit Tommy Wilson



After applying and receiving a grant awarded by Wisconsin Waterways Commission our new harvester is here. Residents, board members and friends inspected and test drove PLMD's new 7ft ILH450 harvester from Inland Lake Harvesters during the 7/19/2022 commissioning ceremony. The new machine features a 13 compartment stainless steel hull, customizable dual proportional joystick control, 7" HMI Touch screen with digital instrumentation for fuel, rpm, hydraulic oil temp and pressure, engine oil, engine hours, operational hours, cutting hours, harvesting maps and more. The ergonomic seat rotates 180 degrees with the flip of a lever that simultaneously and automatically reverses the joystick with respect to the new operator position. Real time load balance instrumentation is incorporated for safety. The hydraulic wash down pump for cleaning debris can be operated via digital or manual controls.



# WEBSITE REDESIGN COMING SOON! HTTPS://WWW.PHANTOMLAKES.US

The redesigned website will be debuting soon with a cleaner look. You may have experienced issues trying to find the site in the past, search engine optimization will make the site more visible on search engines. The website has all our upcoming and past meeting information, lake news and updates. Many photos were provided by Dave Immel Photography. There will also be a 'Birds of Phantom' and 'Fish of Phantom' page for photo submissions. We strive to have open lanes of communication between the constituents of Phantom Lakes Management District and the board. Any feedback is welcome at gonefishing@phantomlakes.us

Apove: Craig Polka holding his winning bass

# FISHING THE PHANTOMS

BY STEVE VERDUYN

Fishing pressure continues to be high on the lakes. Panfishing remains consistent, but you'll need to sort through a lot of small ones. Early and late in the day are best. The weekly bass tournament is again being run out of Castaways this year. So far this year, both numbers of bass coming in and overall size is up from last year. The fish are very healthy looking this year. So far, three bass over 20" have come in, with several more over 19". All fish caught and brought in for the Wednesday night tournament are be released back into the lake alive immediately after they are measured for the contest. The Phantom Lakes Management District will continue its fish stocking efforts this fall. As of right now, the PLMD hasn't yet determined which species will be stocked. Keep an eye on the PLMD website (www.phantomlakes.us) for updates on stocking. A special "THANK YOU" goes out to the private donations made to the PLMD for fish stocking. Contact any PLMD Board member if you'd interested in making a donation, 100% of donations made for fish stocking are spent on fish stocking only. Please consider catch and release, especially for any gamefish you may catch. Larger sized gamefish are critical to keeping panfish populations in check. Our lakes get a lot of fishing pressure, so releasing gamefish is especially helpful on lakes like ours. Reminder: the legal-size limit is now 18" for walleye, and the possession limit is three (3). Bass must be 14" to keep.

## LETTER FROM SUPERVISOR DARLENE JOHNSON

Letter from Supervisor Darlene Johnson

As your 25th District Waukesha County Supervisor, I wish to extend greetings to all at this Annual Phantom Lakes meeting, and I appreciate being your elected representative. Your Phantom Lakes Board has been doing a great job on behalf of residents of upper and lower Phantom Lakes. Our Harvest Manager, Dawn Couillard, works tirelessly, always monitoring the harvesting of weeds as well as personnel on the Harvesters. Speaking of Harvesters, we are pleased with our new 7 foot Harvester that the crew nicknamed "Baby Blue"! With delays in harvesting at times due to the 10 foot machine needing repairs, or extraordinary windy weather, there is hope to catch up on weed cutting now with the new Harvester to fight the growth of those nasty weeds. Lastly, PLMD Board was so pleased with the success of our 2nd Annual Fireworks event on July 3rd, set off from Phantom Glen Park. This was a wonderful, positive celebration for all of our community, especially Phantom Lakes residents.

Thank you all, and please contact me with any concerns. Darlene M Johnson, Waukesha County Supervisor dmjohnson1@waukeshacountv.gov

(414) 916-3876

7 September 2022

# Lake News

Many repairs to our 10ft 1994 harvester have been an issue this year, downtime and supply chain issues have made scheduling very difficult. Repairs to the conveyer, conveyor clips, belting and knife blade and grease line have been completed this year. Seeking a consensus on what to do with the 1994 10ft harvester (sell/replace, continue to maintain, backup).

Low water levels and high winds disrupted our harvesting schedule and efficiency this year leaving the operators in a constant state of catch up. We have posted maps of our cutting permit lanes at both the Town and Village launches so boaters can avoid the cutting lanes when the harvesters are out.

In late August you may have seen a boat performing a point intercept survey. This survey was performed at over 700 points on our lakes to better understand the species we host and prepare for our next harvesting permit with the DNR. This has been an ongoing effort; we did not receive funds from the grant we applied for last season.

The Natural Resource Board is ruling on legislature for NR107 and NR109 that would affect the cost of yearly permits and licenses to harvest our lakes. This legislature would increase the permit price to \$2,500 for PLMD's mechanical harvesting application and then \$1,750 for the remaining four years of the permit. The current fee is \$300 for the application and then \$150 for the remaining four years of the permit. These fees have not been changed since 2003.

If anyone Mukwonago would like to receive a FREE load of cut weeds which are high in phosphorus and make excellent fertilizer, please contact Dawn at gonefishing@phantomlakes.us for details and requirements.



Above: Current Lower Phantom Lake harvesting map as permitted by Wisconsin DNR

# PROPOSED 2023 CANADA GOOSE ROUND-UP

- Canadian Geese provide some aesthetic and recreational value but also contribute to nuisance and human health and safety concerns.
- **Did you know?** Each goose leaves behind a pound of feces per day which results in fouled property, sanitary concerns, increased algae blooms, and higher E. coli levels at beaches.
- To mitigate this issue, the DNR promotes strict usage of USDA Wildlife Services, to conduct "round-ups" of geese. USDA Wildlife Services has an endorsed, sustainable method of capturing these geese and donating them ALL as animal food, at a current fee of \$3,500. This cost has been budgeted within the (unapproved) 2023 PLMD budget.
- <u>Note</u>: Round-ups are only permitted between June 15<sup>th</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup>. Geese are captured by herding onto land, surrounding with netted panels, and transferring them into ventilated poultry crates on a trailer. Volunteers in boats may be needed to persuade the animals to land.
- DNR does not allow the birds to relocate; all birds are humanely euthanized and donated as either human or animal food.
- Goose round-ups generally remove the primary breeding birds from a site thereby maintaining lower populations for several years following a round-up.

Phantom Lakes Management district is investigating coordinating a 2023 goose round-up, with assistance from the USDA. The decision to move forward with a 2023 round-up will be made during the 9/28/2022 annual meeting, based on feedback from residents.

Although the round-up is currently unapproved, PLMD has provided the private property permissions form now to avoid additional costs associated with mailing additional flyers to residents, should the round-up be approved.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Permission form allowing USDA-Wildlife Services access to private property.

I authorize representatives from the United States Department of Agriculture - Wildlife Services to access the property listed below for the purposes of goose management (egg oiling and/or round-up). This permission form has no expiration date and remains in effect unless you request to be removed from the approved site list. Decisions on goose management will be made on an annual basis. Please notify PLMD if you wish to be removed from the list, have problems with geese on your property, know of a nest, or have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your assistance.

Printed Name:		
Lake Address:		
Phone:		
Email (Optional):		
I would like my email address included with PLMD lake news email blast updates: (circle one)	Yes	No
Signature (Mandatory):		

Please return this form no later than May 5<sup>th</sup> 2023. (Preferred) Completed forms can be scanned or photographed and emailed to: <a href="mailto:Gonefishing@phantomlakes.us">Gonefishing@phantomlakes.us</a>

Or mailed to: PO Box 391, Mukwonago WI 53149-0391

Or returned in person during the 9/28/2022 7PM Annual meeting

# Phantom Lakes Management District PO Box 391 Mukwonago, WI 53149

E-mail: gonefishing@phantomlakes.us

Website: PhantomLakes.Us



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# **Important Meeting Reminders**

- Bring this newsletter with you on September 28, 2022
- Bring a pen for ballot voting of commissioners
- Fill out goose round up permission slip and return, if desired

# LAKE PATROL CONTACTS

If you see something suspicious on the lake, please use the following numbers accordingly.

Mukwonago Town Police: 262-363-5188 Emergency: 911

Mukwonago Village Police: 262-363-6434 DNR: 1-800-TIP-WDNR

Please consider putting your address at the end of your pier for those needing to receive assistance at an exact location.

September 2022