

STAMP

LBMD
PO BOX 71
EAST TROY, WI 53120

Riparian Owner
Address
City, State, ZIP

REMEMBER TO VOTE!
Town of East Troy, WI
Town Supervisor 16
Primary: February 16
Election: April 6

Lake Beulah Management District Newsletter



Winter 2020

What is the Lake Beulah Management District?

Lake Beulah Management District is a governmental body established under chapter 33.21 of Wisconsin Statutes. *The primary goal of activity under this chapter shall be to improve or protect the quality of public inland lakes. In addition, compilation of basic scientific data on lakes of this state and assessment of experimental and innovative techniques of lake rehabilitation and protection shall be goals of the program. Districts may undertake protection and rehabilitation projects to achieve the purposes of such districts.*

To achieve these goals, the District is authorized to operate a water safety patrol; exercise sanitary powers; regulate recreational use of the lake; take on conservation of natural resource projects and lake protection; initiate and conduct research and act as liaison to governmental bodies to initiate legislation. Finally, the District has legal standing in all matters pertaining to the protection and conservation of the lake.

Most recently the Supreme Court of Wisconsin bestowed on governmental bodies including the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and our Districts the right to act to protect not only the surface water of Lake Beulah but also the aquifers and sources of water that feed Lake Beulah.

The everyday responsibilities of the District consist of harvesting aquatic plants (weeds), monitoring the health of the lake by measuring the chemistry, clarity, and cleanliness. The District has operational powers such as establishing budgets, making contracts, borrowing money, etc.

The leaders of the Lake Beulah Management District are elected by the riparian owners and the Town of East Troy and Walworth County each appoint one additional commissioner. These leaders regularly meet all year. All meetings are open to the public. Anyone can come and ask questions and hear what is happening.

2020-2021 Slate of LBMD Commissioners

Chairperson:	David Bitter
Vice Chair:	Stan Alger
Treasurer:	Chris Kubicek
Secretary:	Valerie Johnson
Commissioner:	John Becker
Town Appointed Commissioner:	Greg Thomas
Commissioner/Walworth County:	Rick Stacey
Aquatic Plant Harvesting Supervisor:	Stu Alger

Contact LBMD Commissioners through the LBMD website:

LBMD.ORG Use the "Contact Us" tab

A Message from Chairperson David Bitter

Dear Riparian Owners...

As we approach the end of 2020, I am happy to announce the LBMD will be mailing an annual newsletter. We will update you on the latest topics and programs of the District each fall. For more current information we encourage to check our website.

I would like to start this first issue with a special request. From time to time especially urgent topics of interest and or concern come up (as an example, the contemplated Hotel Beulah.) Your District representatives strive to keep up and deal with them as they come up. However quite often in today's environment it is not only necessary for us to act quickly but it is essential to get your input. **The only way we can truly keep you apprised of the situation is by email.** That is why I am asking everyone to provide us with their email addresses. We have requested this before and have a number of resident's addresses. However, we need as many as possible. I assure you those that we have, have never been sold or in any way given to a third party. We will use them only in an attempt to keep you informed of current events. Please take the time to email us at sweelis@LBMD.onmicrosoft.com

Lake Beulah Management District Annual Meeting 2020

The Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020
5:30 p.m. – East Troy Town Hall

Refer to the LBMD website: www.LBMD.org for the complete approved LBMD By-Laws for your reference.

Comments by Commissioner Valerie Johnson

The LBMD Annual Meeting is always held in August/September timeframe. The exact date for the Annual Meeting is determined at the July LBMD Regular Meeting. All Lake Beulah riparian property owners are encouraged to attend as pertinent voting occurs. For all voting, only LBMD tax levy paying Riparian Owner(s) are eligible to vote. Persons must be US Citizen, 18 years of age and meet requirements listed in LBMD By-Laws. By-Laws are published on the LBMD website for your reference.

Election of Commissioners is held annually depending on term expiration. For 2020, one commissioner's term expired – Commissioner Valerie Johnson, who was re-elected for another 3-year term expiring in 2023.

Proposed Annual Budget for the following year is presented for approval.

The Audit Committee Report for Calendar Year ending December 31st is presented.

Any changes to the LBMD By-Laws are presented for approval. Three changes were presented and approved at this year's 2020 Annual Meeting as follows:

1. Elimination of "notifying DNR and entities downstream of increased water level due to log removal"
2. Voter qualifications change per WI Statutes
3. Adding "Non-Budgeted" wording to the Signature Authority for Treasurer

Report from the Treasurer 2021 Tax Levy

Comments by Commissioner Chris Kubicek

During the 2020 Annual Meeting, the Commissioners and Electors approved a 2021 Tax levy of \$145,000, this is just below \$300 for the average property owner. This tax levy is a 34% reduction from the tax levy in 2015, made possible from our plan to eliminate district debt and partner where possible with the Town of East Troy and NGO's like LBPIA to minimize expenses.

Our expenses break down into three areas. 1. Administrative, \$53,700: includes insurance, communications, documentation fees, legal fees. 2. Plant Harvesting, \$55,783: Equipment & building expenses, wages, insurance 3. Water Control, \$32,550: Lake water quality analyses, ground water monitoring, liability insurance, DNR permit fees, Hwy J Dam costs.

Additionally, in 2021 we will be replacing our weed transporter (\$50,937, shuttles cut plants from harvester, to conveyor into truck), and using funds from our equipment funds, which brings our forecasted total expenses for the year to \$202,970.

Lake Beulah Management District 2021 Budget Summary		
	2020 Proposed Budget	+/-% vs 2019 Budget
Total Income	\$152,000	11%
Total Administrative	\$53,700	-1%
Total Plant Harvesting & Control	\$55,783	2%
Total Weed & Water Control	\$32,550	141%
Capital Purchase (Transporter)	\$50,937	-----
Contingency Fund	\$15,000	0%
Total Expense	\$202,970	48%
<i>Net Budget Variance</i>	<i>\$50,970</i>	<i>----</i>

Aquatic Plants & Harvesting

Comments by LBMD Supervisor Stu Alger

2020 will be a year to remember, and summer on Lake Beulah was not an exception, but maybe not the way you would think. While everyone was staying safe and staying at home, Lake Beulah experienced unprecedented numbers of people quarantining at their lake homes and socially distancing on their boats and PWCs with their families and quarantine crews. Most days on the lake looked like a usual weekend or the 4th of July, but it served as a needed reprieve from lack of activities available with the existing lockdowns. It is often the case that elevated lake traffic contributes to the spread of aquatic plants, and the reduction of water clarity due to turbidity caused by boat traffic. Lake Beulah is a special case and water clarity remained above reproach, and the total count of aquatic plant loads did not reflect increased plant growth. What was increased however was the attention given to the Aquatic Plant Harvesting program. One of our operators said, "I have never done so much custom cutting", referring to the attention paid by residents to our operators during operation. But we are happy to serve and answer any questions residents have about the program.

Our Aquatic Plant Management program is simple in respect to its service to the lake. Abiding by harvesting guidelines set out by the DNR, we simply make rounds around the lake cutting weeds 8am-4pm Monday through Friday. Another key feature of our program is our aquatic plant pickup program, where operators tirelessly travel around the lake searching for plant piles collected by residents and placed on their piers and shorelines. Pickups can be requested by calling 262-363-5359, however, requested plant cutting is not an option.

Some changes: this season we welcome a new operator to our ranks. Drew Koegins, a Whitewater college student, and Lift Operator at Alpine Valley Resort is our newest member of the Lake Beulah Management District team. Drew is a certified lifeguard and grew up boating and spending a lot of time on the water. Drew has been a great addition to our team.

What hasn't changed? Doug Tracy, Doug is in his 5th season as an operator and has been an essential part of our team, bringing a lifetime of lake experience to the team and an extensive knowledge of Lake Beulah, and the people who live on it. This season has brought new upgrades for the management district as we have added a new shore conveyor to our arsenal, that allows unloading of aquatic plants from the transport barge or harvester to our dump truck. We have also made moves to refurbish our 20 plus year old transport barge which will be completed and ready for next season.

As the seasons change, we remember the good times we had this summer, and look forward to feeling the warmth of the summer sun on Lake Beulah next season. Best of wishes and regards to all Lake Beulah people. See you next year!

Well # 7 Update

Comments by Commissioner John Becker

Ever since the introduction of Well #7, the Management District in conjunction with the Village of East Troy, has been monitoring the effect of the Well on ground water in the vicinity of Lake Beulah. Thanks to the Village of East Troy, they have facilitated three test sites which are monitored by the Village and the Management District. Up until recently Well #7 was used infrequently, consequently little effect was observed on the quality of lake water; however, recently pumping has increased and we are now seeing an effect on the flow of groundwater discharge into the lake. This effect is not necessarily alarming but does require close attention to the situation. Consequently, we are installing lakebed monitors in strategic parts of the lake to more precisely determine the overall effect.

In addition, we are continuing our analysis activity with the United States Geological Service (USGS) on chemical makeup of the water. Certainly, to date, all data indicates that Lake Beulah remains in excellent condition and our present diligence is directed towards keeping it that way. The USGS discretely samples multiple depths at two locations twice per year. Along with the chemical data, they provide trophic state index calculations and plots for each sampling event. These plots show that the water quality of in Lake Beulah remains very good.

Hwy J Dam

Comments by Commissioner Stan Alger

The dam and weir on Mill Lake by Hwy J were reconstructed in the summer of 2018. This was a collaborative effort between the WI DNR, Walworth County, the Town of East Troy, and Lake Beulah Management District.

A new weir was installed to allow logs to be removed to increase flow if the lake rises above the normal pool elevation of 808. LBMD is frequently checking lake levels.



A bit of History, comments by Commissioner Greg Thomas

Alexis de Tocqueville, in his early 1800s analysis of the American experiment, referred to town government as “constituted as to excite the warmest of human affections without arousing the ambitious passion of the heart of man”. His statement is just as true two centuries removed. Town officials apply common sense leadership and practical solutions to everyday local situations without the framework of bureaucratic government. In fact, town government has components of direct democracy where the people vote on decisions directly at a town meeting. Approving the tax levy, a new town hall are just two examples of the powers directly allocated to the people. This certainly impacts the fact that towns are the most frugal and efficient form of government in Wisconsin. No other form of government is as connected to the people as town government, where the people govern themselves.

Town government is created by Article IV, Section 23 of the Wisconsin Constitution. Chapter 60 of the state statutes applies specifically to towns. Unlike the organization of cities and villages, town are unincorporated and can only implement those functions specifically authorized by state law. Cities and villages have home rule power and have greater flexibility to govern themselves. Cities and Villages occur within the land area of the Towns. The Towns enter into agreements with the Cities and Villages defining the borderline between the governmental limits.

The state’s 1250 towns provide fundamental services to about 95% of Wisconsin’s geography and 30% of its population. All towns administer elections; conduct property tax assessment, dispute procedures, billing, and collection; ensure fire protection and ambulance service; provide for a recycling program; and maintain town roads. Many towns also choose to provide additional services, such as, garbage collection, land use management, economic development, law enforcement, etc.

Towns are a general-purpose unit of government, providing a broad array of services. Day to day provision of town services is governed by an elected town board, comprised of a town chairperson and two to four supervisors. The Annual Town Meeting of the Electors increased the Town of East Troy board from three to five, (1) Chairperson and (4) Supervisors. The board is supported by an elected or appointed clerk and treasurer or combined office of clerk-treasurer. In a political environment in which decision making is becoming more remote and being thrust upon citizens by far away lawmakers and bureaucrats, it is refreshing to know that grassroots local leadership remains strong in town government throughout Wisconsin.

Town of East Troy

Website: www.townofeasttroy.com
(262) 642-5386

Hours: [Monday- Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm](#)

N9330 Stewart School Road
PO Box 872
East Troy, WI 53120-0872

As to the future of the Town of East Troy, Chapter 4 of the Town’s Comprehensive Plan says it best, “In Combination, the goals and objectives seek to accommodate projected growth in the Town population and economic base in a sustainable manner- preserving what is best about the Town and minimizing any adverse impacts of growth.” That is the Town’s Mission. This includes ensuring the long-term autonomy of the Town.

2020 has been an extremely challenging year dealing with COVID and Town Board agendas. In particular, the new Town Hall/Police Department/Court project, in a Special Electors Meeting, was voted down before the public input stage was completed. This planned project needs to proceed, due to the current building’s structural integrity, ADA and other code compliance issues, and to ensure the health and safety of all those who enter the premises.

The Town Board and Town residents, working together can make 2021 a positive and productive year!

Be safe.....

Joseph S. Klarkowski
Town of East Troy Chairman



Lake Beulah Water Patrol

October 2020

LBMD would like to give a heartfelt thank you to Chief Jensen and the Lake Beulah Lake Patrol. The patrol goes above and beyond for our lake and it shows. We are happy to report, there were no reportable incidents on the lake this summer. In Summer 2019, the DNR was behind in mailing out registration stickers which resulted in stops for expired tags. There were less boats stops in 2020 than prior years. The most frequent violations are slow no wake, expired registrations, and riding on decks & gunnels.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Citations	59	48	32	28
Boat Stops	133	74	114	54
Written Warnings	139	66	23	42
SAR's & Persons Assisted	7	11	17	20
Safety Inspections	133	74	116	51

If you wish to have a boat safety inspection, please call the town of East Troy Police Department to set up a date/time: 262-642-3700



4th of July Fireworks

While the fireworks are mainly sponsored by a few lake residents, we wish to thank our community for the contributions. We all look forward to the spectacular show every summer. So much time and effort go into planning and we are especially grateful this year as it was something we were all able to enjoy during this time of COVID.



Lake Beulah Boat Launch- Wilmer's Landing

The public boat launch is located on Wilmer Grove Road. There is a cost to launch. Please refer to the signage at the boat launch for actual cost as the cost varies depending on the size of your watercraft.

The parking lot is ¼ mile from the launch.

Remember launching is limited to 28 boat trailers at a time as parking is limited.

Please do not launch boats at any other location.

Maintaining a CLEAN Lake Beulah is our top priority so be sure the thoroughly clean your boat before and after launching.



“No harm shall come to Lake Beulah or its watershed”

Booth Lake Drainage Update:

LBMD has received several emails along with personal comments regarding the Booth Lake drainage project. The overriding theme of these comments and emails was one of why does the LBMD support this project. LBMD does not support this project. From day one we have made our position clear; we will listen to the request for assistance from BLMD but we cannot give approval to the project until the project has been vetted for harm.

1. LBMD is not advocating this project. This is a project of BLMD and not Lake Beulah Management District.
2. There are several organizations that want input and they should be given a chance to give input.
3. From the content of the communications LBMD has received it appears that LBMD is being asked to defend the project. The LBMD is not the apologist for this project.
4. The District will take up the question of whether to allow this project to go forward after all the engineering and technical analysis has been done and all concern parties have given their input. I assure you Lake Beulah residents and their organization will be given ample opportunity to express their views.
5. Finally, LBMD believes this project is not going forward in the timeline they originally proposed. I encourage all parties to go to the BLMD web site and review their progress and plans and keep informed on the facts.

Proposed Lake Beulah Hotel Update:

On the evening of October 15, 2020, Walworth County Zoning Committee rejected the appeal of 1341 Beach Road LLC (the Beulah Hotel) to put a hotel on the premises of Lindey's Bar. The planning committee acted in response to the many residents who either wrote in, appeared, or testified. In the end the County was equally swayed by the Town of East Troy recommendation to deny. This is a fluid situation and will be closely monitored by LBMD.

A Message from...

LAKE BEULAH PROTECTIVE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION (LBPIA)

A Stake in the Lake

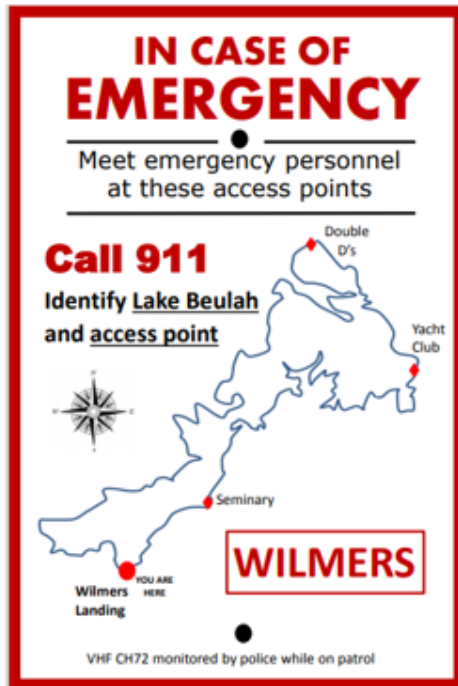
All people who enjoy Lake Beulah have a stake in the health and vitality of the lake. The Lake Beulah Protective and Improvement Association (LBPIA) was formed in 1894 to protect and preserve this natural treasure for future generations. The LBPIA is entirely funded through membership dues and donations and the Board of Directors are all volunteers. This Board invites you to join your neighbors in this effort to keep Lake Beulah beautiful.

The LBPIA has been involved with issues affecting Lake Beulah, such as protecting the sensitive areas of the lake as determined by the DNR; the effect of high capacity wells on the level of water in the aquifer and springs that feed the lake. The LBPIA has coordinated fish stocking which has increased the fun for people who love to fish. Most recently, we informed our membership about the meetings at the town and county level regarding a proposed 68 room hotel on the east shore.

Information is the key to what is going on around the lake. Our website, protectlakebeulah.org is full of current information, wonderful [photos](#) and membership forms. In addition, there are two membership meetings each year with interesting guest speakers. Each area of the lake has an Area Chairman who links members directly with the LBPIA. The LBPIA coordinates with the Lake Beulah Management District (which is taxpayer funded) on a number of issues.

We invite all persons interested in the protection and improvement of Lake Beulah to join the Lake Beulah Protective and Improvement Association. Please see our membership form on the website. Dues paid before the end of 2021 shall apply to 2021.





Emergency Rally Locations

When recreational boaters are out on the water in need of emergency assistance - **What is the quickest avenue for them to get help?**

Many of our homes' lakefront is not very accessible for emergency crews, due to narrow private roads, steep declines to get to the water, or emergency personnel may not be the best way to reach that location.

With these concerns over the emergency access to many lakefront areas, the LBMD in partnership with Chief Jensen identified 4 'Rally locations' around the lake where an emergency vehicle can meet the requestor at the immediate shoreline.

These four locations are: Wilmer's landing, Double D's, Lake Beulah Yacht Club, and the Seminary. These signs are posted at the shoreline locations, and the 911 call center knows the address of each location - so all the requestor needs to do is call 911, say they are on Lake Beulah and will meet the emergency crew at the location nearest to them.

Contact Information

For the most up to date information refer to the LBMD website: LBMD.org

LBMD Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 71
East Troy WI 53120

Aquatic Plant Management

Supervisor Stu Alger: (262) 363-5359

Leave a message for plant pick up. For raked out weeds that are placed on piers, make sure there are no sticks, stones, or muck from bottom of the lake.

Water Patrol

If there is an emergency on the water always dial 911. For safety boat checks and non-emergency situations, call the East Troy Town Hall at (262) 363-5359

Walworth County Zoning Office

Website: www.co.walworth.wi.us/547/Zoning
Code Enforcement Officer: Darrin Schwanke
dschwank@co.walworth.wi.us
Phone: 262-741-7905

Town of East Troy

Office (262) 642-5386

Town Chair: Joe Klarkowski jklarkowski@townofeasttroy.com

Town Clerk: tetclerk@townofeasttroy.com

Building Inspector (262) 366-2400

Fire/EMS: bchurch@townofeasttroy.com

Town Assessor: (800) 721-4157

To Stay in Touch with LBMD

Email your preferred email address to: sweelis@LBMD.onmicrosoft.com