



APRIL 17, 2024
MEETING AGENDA

TIME: 11 AM

LOCATION: Lake Isabella Village Hall, 1010 Clubhouse Drive, Lake Isabella, MI 48893

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call of Members:

Village

Dave Torgerson

Robert Laraway

Brent Peavey

Carol Shannon (alt)

LIPOA

John Dauffenbach

Norm Burmeister

Bill Keelean

Christine Belanger (alt)

At-Large

Todd Buchanan

Pete Dambrosio

Tracy Nelson

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Approval of Financial Report

V. Public Comments & Questions Submitted Before the Meeting

VI. Discussion with Guy Savin

VII. Public Comments

VIII. Additional Committee Discussion if Necessary

IX. Set Next Meeting

X. Adjournment



APRIL 17, 2024
MEETING AGENDA

In this month's meeting packet, you have the following items:

- Draft minutes from the last meeting.
- Updated ledger. Our account with Mercantile Bank was finalized in late March, and we transferred the balance in our first check run in April.
- A letter sent to Senator Roger Hauck requesting earmark funding in future state budgets for funds.

The purpose of this month's meeting is to allow the Committee the opportunity to have a conversation with Guy Savin of Savin Lake Services. Mr. Savin's company owns three hydraulic dredges and would like to discuss future projects with the Committee.



February 21, 2024
Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Joint Lake & River Restoration Committee was called to order at 4:01 pm by committee Chairperson Burmeister.

LIPOA Members Present: Keelean, Dauffenbach, Burmeister
Village Members Present: Peavey and Torgerson
At-Large Members Present: Buchanan and Nelson
Others Present: Village Manager Wolff, LIPOA Manager King, LIPOA President Russell, & Bruce Torgerson

Torgerson made a motion, seconded by Keelean, to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2024 meeting. VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED.

The Financial Report showing available funds of \$32,560 was accepted without objection.

Comments Submitted Before the Meeting: None

Birch Bay Restoration Project:

Wolff and King reported back on their conversation with Mr. Beutler. Based on several factors, it does not appear that the property will be an option to pursue as a site for spoils. King also reported that it is likely he will be required to close the gate and begin bringing the lake to full pond due to the conditions of the drawdown permit.

It was reported that Malley has indicated they plan to do the work in the fall, including the boat launch repairs. The Committee discussed whether any work could be done near the launch at Riviera Park while Malley was in the community for Birch Bay.

The Committee discussed the need to move forward on applying for necessary permits for the river area and Riviera Park. King stated he would inquire with the state to get feedback on whether they prefer single permits or multiple permits for the various areas around the lake.

Keelean made a motion, seconded by Dauffenbach, to award the Birch Bay dredging project to the low bid, Malley Construction of Mt. Pleasant, MI, at \$204,444 with work beginning in the fall of 2024. VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee discussed inviting the three low bidders to visit Riviera Park before the water level comes up to look at what may be possible to do from shore.

Public Comments: None

The next meeting was tentatively set for ~~March 19~~ April 17, 2024, at 4 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm.



Village of Lake Isabella

**1010 Clubhouse Drive
Lake Isabella, MI, 48893
989.644.8654
www.lakeisabellami.org**

February 20, 2024

Senator Roger Hauck
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Dear Senator Hauck,

I am writing to you today to follow up on my letter of November 2, 2022, requesting support for the lake restoration project underway at Lake Isabella. In August of 2023, voters in our community approved a 3 Mill increase in property taxes for twelve years to fund this effort. Over the life of the millage, it is estimated that roughly four million dollars will be raised to be used in restoration efforts.

When I last contacted your office on this matter, our total restoration project had an estimated cost of eight million dollars. We have just completed our first bid opening on the project and are currently projecting that the overall project cost to restore the lake fully will eventually cost around six million dollars.

Over the years, our lake has been severely impacted by sediment and nutrients entering the lake due to upstream runoff. In addition to the Chippewa River, two additional streams flow into Lake Isabella in the southwest corner of the community. All three of these areas have become heavily silted, impacting the water quality downstream in the main body of the lake. Due to the reduction of water depth in these areas, the silt and sediment reach far into the main body of the lake, also reducing water depths in a large portion of the lake.

The reduction in water depth has caused a noticeable negative impact on the health of the fisheries in these areas and reduced the portion of the lake that is available for recreational use. I highlight both of these issues as the water and fisheries are publicly owned resources of the State of Michigan and are enjoyed by citizens from around our region.

Most concerning, however, is how this reduction in water depth could impact our critical role in managing flood events. Lake Isabella sits several miles upstream of the City of Mount Pleasant on the Chippewa River. One of the driving forces behind the creation of the lake was to ensure that the largely populated area of Mount Pleasant (and now Union Township) would not experience a catastrophic flood event like we sadly saw unfold in Sanford and Midland in 2020. The presence of our lake has prevented significant flood events like 1986 and 2017 from being truly devastating for our friends downstream.

As we continue to work on this effort, I am once again requesting assistance from the State of Michigan to fund the remaining two million dollars necessary for the complete restoration of the lake and to ensure that our dam remains in optimal working condition. Based on the current cost projects from our first bid opening, this would equate to roughly a 1/3 matching grant to be used alongside the funds raised through our voter-approved millage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Wolff', written in a cursive style.

Timothy Wolff
Lake Isabella Village Manager