

Summary  
Annual Friendship Lake District  
Meeting and Budget Hearing  
September 2, 2017

The annual Friendship Lake District Meeting and Budget Hearing occurred on Saturday September 2, 2017 at 9:00am at the Adams County Community Center.

There were approximately 64 property owners in attendance along with the Friendship Lake District Board, representatives from Adams County, the Town of Adams, and Attorney Michael Hahn from the law firm Axley Brynelson.

Thank you to the newly formed Financial Advisory Committee of the Friendship Lake District. Those members are Larry Swaziek, Steve Lavalley, Chuck Spargo, Fran Schmidt, Tina Meinen, Carol Berry, as well as board members Bob Berry and Karen Pokorny. These volunteers came together in a very short time and worked hard to determine the projected budget and costs towards acquisition of the Friendship Dam.

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 was approved unanimously. A detailed copy of the budget is posted on the website for review.

A vote was held to increase the special charges and approve the board to proceed with the loan application process for borrowing purposes towards acquisition of the Friendship Lake Dam. The results were 60 to 1 in favor of increasing the special charges including the base charge and mill rate, as well as allowing the board to proceed with the loan application process. A copy of the special charge increase is also available on the website for your convenience.

Bob Berry shared that the full board of the Grand Marsh State Bank along with Mr. Michael Cummings, president, agreed to partner with the Friendship Lake District towards the acquisition of the dam. Grand Marsh will initially borrow the \$110,000.00 to the district to cover the check that accompanies the Award of Damages. Grand Marsh State Bank would also like the opportunity compete for the loan to borrow additional monies to cover projected expenses to repair and upgrade the dam, and match or offer below the State of Wisconsin interest rate.

Attorney Hahn spoke and presented the current status of the Condemnation process towards acquisition of the Friendship Lake Dam. Mr. Hahn summarized the membership authorized to proceed with Condemnation in May of 2017. The Relocation Order was served to Mr. Pheiffer on June 1, 2017, along with a copy of the appraisal showing the \$110,000.00 offer. Mr. Pheiffer had 60 from that offer to obtain his own appraisal for reimbursement by the district. Mr. Pheiffer never responded.

In early and mid August letters were served to Mr. Pheiffer to negotiate with the district and inform him that we would pay \$110,000.00 for the acquisition of the dam. Again there was no response from Mr. Pheiffer to our attempt to negotiate an agreed upon price for the dam.

Mr. Hahn explained that the next step in the Condemnation process is to issue the Jurisdictional Offer for the appraised value of \$110,000.00. That offer was signed by Friendship Lake Board Chairman, Bob Berry on September 1, 2017, and served to Mr. Pheiffer on September 5, 2017. Mr. Pheiffer has 20 days to accept that offer. If Mr. Pheiffer does not respond to our final Jurisdictional Offer of \$110,000.00, the district will file the Award of Damages along with a check in the amount of \$110,000.00 with the Adams County Clerk of Courts. After the award is processed, the Adams County Register of Deeds will transferred the deed to the Friendship Lake District. Mr. Hahn has estimated that process to be completed by the first week in October.

Mr. Pheiffer has 40 days after the Jurisdictional Offer to challenge the right to take the dam, and two years to challenge the compensation. Mr. Hahn stated that if Mr. Pheiffer chooses to challenge it does not prevent the ability to present the Award of Damages and transfer the title to the Lake District.

Linda Graf spoke from the Friends of Friendship Lake and summarized the events and fundraisers held during the past year. Linda presented a check in the amount of \$500 towards the purchase of three new laptop computers by the district to be used by the board members.

A big thank you was given the Linda Moonan whose term as treasurer ended with the annual meeting. Tina Meinen was elected as the new treasurer for the next three years. Congratulations Tina!

Future board meeting dates and the annual meeting date for 2018 are: 9/30/2018, 11/7/2017, 1/2/2018, 3/6/2018, 5/1/2018, 6/5/2018, 7/10/2018, 8/17/2018, and 11/6/2018. The next annual meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2018.

**THERE WILL BE A BOARD MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 AT 9:00AM AT THE ADAMS COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER.** This additional September meeting has been scheduled due to additional decisions the board needs to address in the acquisition of the Friendship Lake Dam.

Please feel free to contact any of the board members with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully

Karen Pokorny

Commissioner Secretary

Friendship Lake District

