

FACT SHEET FOR FRIENDSHIP LAKE DAM

FRIENDSHIP LAKE DISTRICT

- 1. Property Description:** T17N R6E Sec 5. Adams County Parcel number 126-00016-0000. 0.60 acres. According to Adams county records, this property that includes the dam and earth embankment had an assessed value of \$7,000 in 2015.
- 2. Year Built:** Dam Built under the Mill Dam Act. Year of first construction is unknown. Dam failed in 1928 and during rebuild in 1933 the coffer dam washed out. The dam powerhouse and outlet structure are approximately eighty years old.
- 3. Water Body:** Little Roche a Cri Creek. Classified as Navigable with Warm Water Sport Fish. Lake has surface area of 114 acres served by a drainage basin of 60 Sq. Miles. There was no minimum lake depth established by the WDNR as done with other dams in the State.
- 4. Dam Design Information:** Structural height of dam is 22 ft. with a hydraulic depth of 19 ft.. Dam is an Earth embankment type approximately 400 ft. long with concrete control structure /powerhouse. The embankment is made up of Wisconsin State Highway 13. Spillway is 12 ft. wide by 12 ft. high Tainter Gate. Based on the potential damaging impact downstream if the dam would fail, the WDNR has classified it as a "High Hazard" Dam.
- 5. DNR Permits and Ownership:** Wisconsin Power and Light once owned it and transferred the ownership and permit to Village of Friendship on October 23, 1964. Village of Friendship sold the dam property and water rights to Chuck Pheiffer in 1984 for \$1,000. Transfer was via Quick Claim Deed. (*The Lake District has a copy of the Quick Claim Deed.*) The DNR had no record of permit transfer to Mr. Pheiffer.
- 6. Applicable Statutes:** Wisconsin ss. Chapter 31 *Regulation of Dams and Bridges Affecting Navigable Waters* and Wisconsin Administrative Chapters NR 330 *Warning Signs and Portages for Dams*, NR 333 *Dam Design and Construction*, NR 116 *Wisconsin's Floodplain Management Program*.
- 7. Wisconsin DNR Contacts:** Joseph R. Behlen, Water Management Engineer, *Adams, Langlade, Marquette, Portage, Waupaca, Waushara and Wood Counties*. Michael D. Scott, Staff Attorney, Bureau of Legal Services.
- 8. WDNR Inspections:** An inspection was performed on June 16, 2004. The most recent inspection was performed on May 21, 2014. A copy of the 2014 Inspection may be found on the www.friendshiplake.org website.
- 9. Chronological Summary of Different Activities:**
 - March 17, 1992:** The Friendship Lake District was formed under the authority of Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 33, Public Inland Waters. There are approximately 200 members with about 110 of those members having property on the lake. Those members on the lake pay more in special charges than those off the lake - \$200 to \$300 vs. \$20 to \$30.
 - 2010:** Chuck Pheiffer offered to sell the dam, power generation equipment and water rights to the Friendship Lake District for \$250,000. The members of the Lake District elected to reject the offer as there were questions as to who "owned" the dam and uncertainty as to costs of maintaining the dam.
 - 2014:** Linda Moonan had been in contact on three occasions in the past year with a legal specialist in Madison pertaining to municipalities/ WDNR/Water issues, as well as having contact with multiple WDNR offices.
 - June 9, 2015:** A meeting initiated by Joseph R. Behlen, WDNR Water Management Engineer, to

describe the regulatory path to arrive at a dam owner who is also the permit holder was held at the Friendship Village Hall. Present were: Joe Behlen, WDNR; Michael D. Scott, WDNR; Chuck Pheiffer; Ron Doyle, Village Rep.; Kathy Pierce, Village Rep; Bob Berry, Village Rep.; Dan Wood, Village Attorney; Chuck Spargo, Village Rep.(by phone); Larry Swaziek, Lake District Rep.; Linda Moonan, Lake District Rep.; Wally Sedlar, Adams County Rep.; Bill Euclid, Town of Adams Rep.; and Matt Morrow, Town of Preston Rep.

Joe Behlen suggested that, since the dam ownership can not be transferred to a private party, Chuck transfer ownership to Adams County. Proceeding with the concept of having the County take over ownership, it was decided that Wally Sedlar of Adams County Land and Water would take the lead. Wally noted that all the costs associated with the purchase and maintenance of the dam will have to be assembled and presented to the applicable county board before any purchase may even be considered. As a first step, the appraisal and the engineering study are a priority. That work is on-going. The County does have a record of operation and maintenance costs of dams as they currently own eight. In closing Wally noted that none of the individuals at the meeting could ultimately decide the route to be taken. The decision is with the citizens and the appropriate meetings and hearings must be followed through.

June 22, 2015: Linda Moonan set up a Committee Information and Planning Meeting with Lake District members to discuss the results of the June 9th meeting and needed District action as a result of the meeting. The meeting resulted in 5 key points that were identified as steps forward: 1) Appraisal; 2) Engineering Study; 3) Government Representative Contact; 4) Public Relations; and, 5) Legal Consultation as the Lake District moves forward working with the other municipalities.

10. Anticipated Costs Associated with the Purchase of the Dam:

Expenses:

A. Purchase Price:	\$1.2 Million (<i>From June 9th Mtg.</i>)
	<i>(Chuck will knock \$200,000 if speed boats banned from lake)</i>
B. Appraisal Fees:	?
C. Attorney fees for permit and property transfer:	?
D. Dam Failure Analysis:	\$14,000
E. Engineer Evaluation of Dam:	\$ 1,500
F: Engineer Evaluation Every 2 years thereafter:	\$ 1,500
G: Cost of Repairs per Engineering Report:	?
H: Cost to Upgrade Power Generation Equipment:	\$30,000 (<i>From June 9th Mtg.</i>)
I: Monthly/Annual Maintenance	?
J: Dam Operator Costs:	?

Revenue:

A. Power Generation	\$ 1,600 per month (<i>From 9th Mtg.</i>)
B. Return on Increased Property Values with Lake	?
C: Increased Local and Tourism Dollars	?

Talking Points: Friendship Lake has served this community for 80 years. Local area businesses, and cabin rentals/hotel depend on tourist revenue. Bass Masters use this lake for their fisheriee. Families visit and move to Adams/Friendship because of this lake. Adams is the county seat and needs to maintain this lake as a landmark to be protected.

11. Contacts:

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Reg. mtgs. - 1st Tuesday of ea. Month
Ron Doyle - President

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Reg. mtgs. - 1st Monday of Ea. Month.
Jim Bays - chairperson
James Warzynski - Assessor

Town of Preston
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Matt Morrow, Chairperson
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