

**HILAND LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD  
FEBRUARY 16, 2021  
MEETING MINUTES  
HEARING ON THE PRACTICABILITY OF AN AQUATIC WEED CONTROL LAKE IMPROVEMENT  
PROJECT FOR HILAND LAKE**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Dennis Brennan at 6:08 PM. The meeting was held electronically subject to the requirements of the Open Meetings Act, as amended by 2020 PA 228, and was noticed in accordance with the Open Meetings Act (P.A. 1976. No. 267).

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dennis Brennan, Charlie Gabbard, Doug Helzerman, Brian Jonckheere, Valerie Niemiec

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Mitch Dempsey, Mark Kieser of Kieser and Associates

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**A motion was made by Niemiec and supported by Helzerman to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Gabbard, Brennan, Jonckheere, Helzerman, Niemiec. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.**

INTRODUCTION

Chair Brennan presented an overview of the work being performed by the HiLand Lake Improvement Board, the purpose of tonight's hearing.

Jonckheere discussed Part 309 Lake Improvement Board statute and process.

Mark Kieser presented a PowerPoint Feasibility Report Presentation.

PUBLIC HEARING

**A motion was made by Niemiec and supported by Jonckheere to open the *Public Hearing On The Practicability of an Aquatic Weed Control Lake Improvement Project for HiLand Lake*. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Gabbard, Jonckheere, Brennan, Helzerman, Niemiec. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.**

41 individuals/households participated in the call via Zoom. Comments/questions discussed by voice and/or submitted via Zoom Chat included treatment for Sunset Bay, what happens after 5 years, Zone 8 (Mud Lake) treatment, an offer to assist with grant writing, location of DASH, and many comments of support. One resident posted a chat message asking that the project be discontinued.

**A motion was made by Niemiec and supported by Gabbard to close the Public Hearing. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Gabbard, Brennan, Jonckheere, Niemiec, Helzerman. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.**

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH IMPROVEMENTS TO HILAND LAKE was shared on the Zoom screen and discussed by Brian Jonckheere.

**A motion was made by Niemiec and supported by Brennan to Adopt the Resolution as presented. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Jonckheere, Gabbard, Brennan, Helzerman, Niemiec. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion was made by Brennan and supported by Niemiec to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Helzerman, Brennan, Jonckheere, Gabbard, Niemiec. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.**

Submitted by: Valerie Niemiec, Secretary

**RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH IMPROVEMENTS TO HILAND LAKE**

At a meeting of the Hiland Lake Improvement Board held online using the Zoom Application on the 16th day of February, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., local time.

Hiland Lake Board Members: Doug Helzerman, Valerie Niemiec, Brian Jonckheere, Dennis Brennan, Charlie Gabbard

**PRESENT:** BRENNAN, GABBARD, HELZERMAN, JONCKHEERE, NIEMIEC

**ABSENT:** None

The following resolution was offered by member NIEMIEC and supported by member BRENNAN

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held on the improvement program that involves aquatic plant control for Hiland Lake; and

**WHEREAS**, testimony by the residents around the lake generally indicated support for lake management activities such as weed control, and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Hiland Lake Improvement Board to proceed with implementation of improvements to the lake as described in the attached Exhibit A.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Lake Board hereby determines that the proposed improvements are practical, and it confirms its intent to proceed with the improvements.
2. The Lake Board hereby approves the lake improvement plan and the estimate of costs for the improvements as shown on the attached Exhibit A.
3. This resolution shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Livingston County. The petition shall not, thereafter, be subject to attack except in an action brought in a court of competent jurisdiction within 30 days after publication.

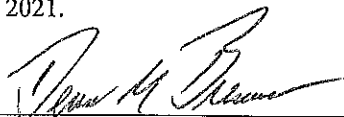
**ADOPTED:**      **AYES:** JONCKHEERE, GABBARD, BRENNAN, HELZERMAN, NIEMIEC  
**NAYS:** None  
**ABSENT:** No one

**RESOLUTION DECLARED   X   ADOPTED        NOT ADOPTED**

STATE OF MICHIGAN      )  
  ) ss  
COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON )

I, Dennis Brennan, chair of said Hiland Lake Improvement Board, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the lake improvement board at a meeting held on the 16th day of February, 2021. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan 1976, as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, this 16th day of February, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Brennan, Chairman  
Hiland Lake Improvement Board

## Exhibit A

### Proposed Annual Budget 2021 – 2025

Management Element	Annual Cost	5-Year Cost
Weed Control	\$ 43,360.00	\$ 216,800.00
Habitat Improvement	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 18,000.00
Surveys, Testing, Monitoring	\$ 15,600.00	\$ 78,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>\$ 312,800.00</b>
Project Administration (5%)	\$ 3,128.00	\$ 15,640.00
Project Contingency (10%)	\$ 6,256.00	\$ 31,280.00
Feasibility study		\$ 18,050.00
<b>Total 5-year Lake Improvement Cost</b>	<b>\$ 75,554.00</b>	<b>\$ 377,770.00</b>

**Five-year assessment total (2021 – 2025) = \$377,770.00**

**Weed Control:**

Plant control activities are proposed to be coordinated under the direction of the lake board's consultant. Proposed weed control management includes aquatic herbicide and algaecide treatments as well as implementation of Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH). A DASH program pilot study has also been recommended and is included as part of the weed control management activities during the first year of the project. The amount of herbicide use in any given year will depend on the type and distribution of plants in Hilland Lake and Michigan Department of Energy, Great Lakes, and Environment permit conditions.

**Surveys, Testing, Monitoring:** The consultant would be responsible for preparing bid documents or contract extensions for the plant control program, assisting the lake board with the selection of the plant control contractors, conducting surveys of the lake to determine the scope of work to be performed by plant control contractors, and performing follow-up inspections to ensure work is performed in a satisfactory manner. The consultant would report to the lake board regarding the performance of the plant control contractors, and would make recommendations to the lake board regarding payments to the contractors. The consultant would also be responsible for performing vegetation surveys and water quality sampling.

**Habitat Improvement:** The proposed habitat improvements include woody debris placement, fish stocking, and an on-line creel census.

**Feasibility Study:** The improvement board retained a professional consultant to prepare a feasibility study and estimate of cost of the proposed improvements in accordance with Part 309 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994.

**Administration:**

Project administration will include all costs related to meetings, postage, copies, mailings, and legal notices.

**Contingency (10%):**

In accordance with Part 309 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, a lake board may add not less than 10% or more than 15% of the total project cost for contingent expenses.