

**HILAND LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD
JANUARY 26, 2022
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Valerie Niemiec at 3:10 PM. The meeting was held with board members present in person, with electronic remote access available for the public. The meeting was held 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: Charlie Gabbard, Brian Jonckheere, Valerie Niemiec, Douglas Helzerman (excused at 4:30 PM)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chair Dennis Brennan participated in a non-voting capacity via Zoom, due to COVID exposure quarantine

ALSO PRESENT: Mitch Dempsey

ALSO PRESENT via Zoom: Mark Kieser, John Jacobson, and Jake Utrie from Kieser & Associates

CALL TO PUBLIC

Opened at 3:12 PM. No public in attendance. Closed at 3:12 PM

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Helzerman and supported by Jonckheere to approve the agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Helzerman and supported by Jonckheere to approve the September 28, 2021 minutes as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Discuss Renewal of Kieser & Associates Contract:* The board reviewed the contract deliverables and scope of work. K&A will modify the scope of work to include a) managing bid processes for herbicide treatment, DASH, and mechanical harvesting, b) designing fish hatchery solutions that residents can implement, c) proposing a hybrid plan for invasive weed management in 2022.
2. *Discuss RFP for herbicide treatments of 2022:* Herbicide treatments, formerly contracted through the HLPOA, will now be contracted directly by the HLIB. Statute mandates a competitive bid process, which can include a 3-year automatic renewal.
3. *Discuss next steps for treatment of starry stonewort, and RFP process:* The Board asked K&A to develop a hybrid approach to invasive weed control including herbicides, DASH, and harvesting. K&A will take the lead on developing bid documents, with assistance from the Drain Commission in compiling lists of service providers to include in the process.
4. *Assessment Role update:* Niemiec reported that several residents who had originally requested land combinations declined the opportunity prior to the January 20, 2022 deadline. This will result in a slight increase in assessment revenues.

5. *Next meeting:* A meeting was scheduled for February 7 at 3:00 PM to review the updated Scope of Work from K&A and to move forward with a decision regarding contract renewal. Board members are encouraged to read and comment on the extensive *Final Reporting for 2021 Hiland Lake SAD Activities* document that was distributed earlier today.

SECOND CALL TO PUBLIC

Opened and close at 5:21 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Gabbard and supported by Niemiec to adjourn at 5:23 PM. MOTION CARRIED.

Submitted by: Valerie Niemiec, Secretary