

HILAND LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD
SEPTEMBER 28, 2021
MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Dennis Brennan 3:04 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: Dennis Brennan, Charlie Gabbard, Douglas Helzerman, Drain Commission Designee Mitch Dempsey, Valerie Niemiec

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT via Zoom: Mark Kieser and John Jacobson from Kieser and Associates

CALL TO PUBLIC

Opened at 3:05 PM

No public in attendance.

Closed at 3:05 PM

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Approval of September 1, 2021 Minutes was tabled until next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. *Review of HLIB Budget:* Dempsey presented the 2021 Calendar Year Budget with a discussion of year-to-date expenses and anticipated expenses.
2. *Discuss progress of DASH Pilot:* Eco Waterway Services is encountering a much higher volume of starray in Area 1 (Turtle Bay) than they expected at the time they submitted their fix-priced bid. The entire pilot project (Areas 1 and 2) was estimated at 14 days of effort; it will take them at least an additional week to complete Area 1 alone. They have found and are unable (*due to permit*) to remove a significant presence of dormant bulbils in the sediment below their work area.
3. *Discuss possible contract modifications for the DASH pilot:* The Board discussed options available for enforcing the contract as written, or modifying the performance criteria based on the extraordinary volume of biomass. EcoWS has provided a daily service quote for Area 2 consideration: \$1500 per day, clearing approximately one-quarter acre per day.
4. **A motion was made by Helzerman and supported by Gabbard to approve Eco Waterways Services to finish Area 1 and do at least two full days of work in Area 2 for the original contract amount not to exceed \$28,000. Roll call vote: Yeas: Dempsey, Helzerman, Gabbard, Niemiec. Nays: Brennan. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **A motion was made by Niemiec and supported by Brennan to authorize Dempsey and Helzerman to contact EcoWS to discuss terms of the previous motion, and speak on behalf of the Board. Roll call vote: Yeas: Brennan, Gabbard, Dempsey, Helzerman, Niemiec. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.**
6. *Discuss Michigan Invasive Species \$3.6 million in grants available to target invasive species in Michigan:* This grant response is due November 1, 2021. **A motion was made by Dempsey and supported by Helzerman to approve Kieser and Associates to pursue this grant contingent on the scope being included in our HLIB contract. MOTION CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Brennan and supported by Helzerman to adjourn at 5:27 PM. MOTION CARRIED.

Submitted by: Valerie Niemiec, Secretary