

LAKE MINNETONKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Public Safety Committee
Meeting Report

3:30 p.m., Monday, June 6, 2011

Hennepin County Sheriff's Water Patrol Headquarters, 4141 Shoreline Drive, Spring Park, MN 55384

Committee Members: Lt. Steve Hartig, Sheriff's Water Patrol; Sgt. Andy Peterson, Sheriff's Water Patrol; Tony Brough, Hennepin County Environmental Services; Conservation Officer Aaron Kahre, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR); Chris Jewett, LMCD Board- Minnetonka; Steve Johnson, LMCD Board- Mound; Keith Kask; Greg Nybeck, Executive Director.

Non-Committee Members (LMCD Board): Dan Baasen (Wayzata), Doug Babcock (Tonka Bay), Andrew McDermott (Orono), Kelsey Page (Greenwood), Roger Swanson (Spring Park).

Non-Committee Members (Other): Renae Clark, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District; Kim Elverum, MN DNR; Deputy John Piper, Sheriff's Water Patrol; Jerry Rockvam; Jay Soule.

May 25th LMCD Board Meeting

Nybeck stated that an update was provided at this meeting on lake levels and the current "High Water Declaration". Additionally, testimony was received from a Greenwood resident on wakes and shoreline erosion that they are currently experiencing. The Board directed staff to: 1) to coordinate a special Public Safety Committee meeting to discuss this topic, and 2) to provide an update on the committee discussion (including recommendations) at the June 8th LMCD Board Meeting.

"High Water Declaration"

A summary of the topics discussed include the following:

- Feedback on compliance with the current ordinance.
- Enforcement efforts by the Sheriff's Water Patrol (since Memorial Day weekend):
 - 74 warnings for lake residents;
 - 79 warnings for non-lake residents; and
 - Additional stops by the MN DNR.
- A review of erosion concerns caused by:
 - Wakes caused by watercraft; and
 - Waves caused by wind.
- Possible ordinance changes:
 - Minimum wake speeds (entire lake);
 - Watercraft size restrictions; and
 - Repeal the current ordinance.
- A 2004 MN Report summarizing a study on wakes and waves on the Mississippi River.

Committee Recommendations

Committee recommendations included:

- No substantial changes to the current ordinance are needed, although some minor adjustments should be considered; and
- There is a need to improve public education efforts (signage, television, VHF radio messages, and social media).

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Nybeck, Executive Director