

PORTAGE LAKE HARBOR COMMISSION

November 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Jim Mrozinski at 7:06pm. Present were De, R Frank English, Chuck May, Steve Brooks and Jim Simons . With guests Dave Herweyer, King Construction Company, and Arne Johnson

The minutes of the September 19, 2019 meeting were approved with a motion by May and second by English, with all voting in favor.

Simons reported that approximately 50 acres of milfoil had been treated this year and less than 5 acres of phragmites. This is good and Lake is under control.

English had nothing new to report on the Great Lakes Basin Information.

Brooks said that he wanted to commend King Construction for their consideration for private property and for their work habits.

May reported that the House has passed house bill HR2440 which will make \$34 billion available, from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for the Great Lakes Harbor maintenance and construction. These funds will become available over the next 10 years. The Senate has a similar bill which is under consideration which we feel will pass. There is discussion regarding "multi port dredging" which will make maintenance dredging of the Great Lakes Harbors much less costly and more efficient. This new funding will enable the Corp of Engineers to repair, rebuild and dredge Great Lakes Harbors that have been in dire need of work for many years.

Mrozinski passed out the Corps latest report on the Great Lakes water levels. This report indicates that Lake Michigan levels will continue as they were last year.

Jim also commended King Construction for their work and said that we would write a letter of recommendation.

Mr. Dave Herweyer said that a third of the wave attenuator is complete and another third should be completed by Thanksgiving. They will then send the barge across Lake Michigan to get another load of stone and should have the attenuator complete by mid December. With that done the project is basically complete. Next spring there will be a small amount of painting to complete and some grass seeding. Dave also said that he would like to install brass plaques on both sides of the channel, commemorating the rebuilding of the structure, but has to get the Corps permission. He also said that the walkways, on top of the channel walls, will be accessible by vehicles for emergency situations as they have been made six (6) feet wide and extended all the way to the west end of both pier heads. Additionally King has built a fish habitat area at the east end of the south pier so the public will have a great fishing area for the future. Dave also said that some corp estimates are that they water levels will be up to 12 inches higher in July 2020 than last year.

New business.....none

Discussion.....A new group called "Cut 150" is being formed to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Portage Lake Channel opening which was May 14, 1871.

Public comment....none

Next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 8:36PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Simons