

Otter Lake Water Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2025

Chairman Jake Rettberg with all Commissioners present except John Ulery, John Gudgel and Mike McCarthy convened the regular meeting of the Otter Lake Water Commission at 5:00 pm. Others present included Joe Hogan, Denzel Jines, Shannon Collins, and Laura Sommerfeld.

MINUTES:

Dave Skinner made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on March 11, 2025. Jake Rettberg seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:

None Present

BILL LIST:

Terry Davis made a motion to approve the bills totaling \$265,180.16 for payment. Larry Mouser seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

RECREATION:

Park Financial Report:

Total income for March was \$41,397.50 with a year to date of \$47,846.38.

Total expense Otter Lake Park owes the Water Commission for March is \$18,790.84. With a total owed to date of \$160,602.15.

PARK MANAGER'S REPORT

Shannon Collins reported:

- **Waiting List** - At the time of writing this report, we have 6 open sites. Currently we have 155 names on the waiting list.
- **Covered Boat Slip** - We will have a boat slip spot open and will start the process of getting that to one of the 11 people on the waiting list. This will just be the slip itself with no lift.
- **Lot Lease Payments** - Invoices for the second installment have started to come in.
- **Campground Clean Up** - The maintenance crew has been hard at work, picking up limbs from all the high winds we have been getting, along with trees that we have taken down. They have officially started the mowing season. New sides were put on the trailer. They repainted and redone the letters on the pump truck.
- **Water** - We plan to start turning the water on the 15th of this month, weather permitting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None to report

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance 2025-01: An Ordinance Pertaining To Water Rates was brought in front of the board for approval. With our current water main replacement project being done on Route 104 the Commission is needing to make an increase to the water rates. This ordinance proposes a 43-cent increase per thousand gallons sold to satisfy the funding requirements established by the Illinois EPA's low interest loan for this project. Dave Skinner made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-01: An Ordinance Pertaining To Water Rates. Jake Rettberg seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 5-0 vote.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

Joe Hogan reported:

- **Route 104 Project Update**- We have been busy preparing for the start of the project. Petersburg began multiple exploratory digs to confirm pipe and fitting locations. Scott and I have met with many landowners and the contractor to confirm tree and vegetation trimming/removal. The project has finally started. They will be starting at the Auburn East ground storage location and working their way east.
- **ISAWWA Day at the Capitol**- On March 5th, I took part in meeting with our state elected officials to educate them on multiple water-related topics. The main topics discussed were lead service line replacements, PFAS and other microplastic regulations and removal responsibilities, and funding infrastructure projects through state and federal loan programs. Pictured is Representative Wayne Rosenthal and Senator Steve McClure.
- **ISAWWA District 3 Taste Test and Event**- On March 25th, our ISAWWA district held their annual taste test. Unfortunately, we did not win, but it was a good opportunity to meet with multiple operators from around the area. We also held a No Water No Beer fundraising event for the Section after the taste test.

OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Denzel Jines reported:

- **Water Quality**- March 2025 saw an average lake temp of 48 degrees and an average pH of 8.4. The lake level was recorded at 619'. MIB and Geosmin sample results are listed below. We were operating the UV system in DIS mode only.
 - **MIB and Geosmin Sample Results**
 - March 10, 2025, Raw Geosmin 8.3 ng/L and finished Geosmin 2.5 ng/L
 - March 10, 2025, Raw MIB 2.0 ng/L and finished MIB 2.2 ng/L
- **Fish Net**- The crew put up the fish net at the spillway. The net will be up until the end of fall this year.
- **Chatham Emergency Interconnection**- The crew swapped out an 8" meter at our emergency interconnection with Chatham. They replaced a mag meter with a turbo meter. We went with a turbo meter so we did not have to have electricity at the pit.
- **Valve Box Clean Out**- The crew used the vac trailer to go back through our valve list to clean out all the valves that had an obstruction listed. We can get onto all our valves.
- **Distribution System**- The crew went through all our residential customer meter pits. They were looking for missing lids, cracked lids, leaks, or any other problem so we could fix them. The crew did find several of the issues listed above at a few of our customer's meter pits. All those issues have been corrected. We used the vac trailer to expose a service line on Kennedy Rd to fix a leak on our side of the meter.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None to report.

At 5:41pm Jake Rettberg made a motion to adjourn. Terry Davis seconded the motion. With no further business to discuss the meeting was unanimously adjourned. The next Commission Meeting will be at the Commission Office - 6475 W Montgomery Road in Virden on Tuesday, May 13th, at 5:00pm.

Laura Sommerfeld

MINUTES APPROVED BY BOARD 5.13.2025