

**Crooked Lake Texas Association**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**5/9/19**

The meeting was called to order at 6:26 P.M. by President Jim Roberts.

The minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting were read and approved.

In his president's report, Jim noted that the rain increase was the highest on record since the late 1800's.

The township's lake zoning district isn't finished, but it is being worked on with the CLTA at the table.

As of tonight, the water is 35 inches above our high water mark.

The No Wake policy is still in effect, and signs will be put out. The policy will end when the lake is down 31 inches.

The Township Flood Task Force includes Jim and Vice-President Russ Walters. Jim praised the township for the actions it has taken to help, especially Julie VanderWiere. He encouraged residents to thank her personally.

We will need to upgrade electric service to the new pumps, and we're paying \$375,000 for a special filter that will keep zebra mussels out of Bass Lake, at the residents' insistence. The filter is on schedule and will take one day to set up. Maps are available from the township that show the flow of water downstream.

Trish Roberts reported on the monitoring program which includes 8 wetland stations. Water quality and water levels will be closely watched. She informed the lake residents that the new SAD tax will appear on their winter tax bill. The township can accept payments early, but she said it was best to wait until after the tax tribunal meets. The interest rate will be 1 % on the declining balance if residents don't pay the whole assessment at once. The total interest paid for lake residents will be about \$21.00. She further noted that residents can appeal their assessment to the state tax tribunal, but if a property is taken off, then the assessment for all others will rise.

A resident asked why the assessment was the same for every size parcel. Trish responded that people all use the whole lake, so all will benefit.

Another resident asked about the situation with new developments. Trish said that the original owner will be assessed one full share. When the parcel is divided into lots, each lot will be assessed one full share, but that will lower future assessments since more properties are being assessed.

Another question was concerned with whether other flooding will affect our pumping. She replied that it could result in a slowdown in pumping since the township doesn't want to affect property negatively downstream.

Trish added that the township has already pledged \$125,000 for start up costs for our pumping project. But, that our Crooked Lake SAD 1 tax for our augmentation pump (\$300) has been suspended and won't appear on the tax bill. The total cost for the project will be \$1,400,000 plus a contingency amount.

Another lake member asked if we could get a rebate if more properties were added to the SAD. Trish answered that the township can't distribute money.

Township Trustee Tim Brown sent the members a letter read by Dot DeYoung. He noted that Crooked Lake was well represented on the Task Force. He hoped that we will be pumping not too little and not too late and that the project will work as planned. We need to start talking about a permanent solution to flooding so we can preserve the beauty of Crooked Lake for future generations. He also noted that residents need to oppose proposed state legislation that will take away the township's power to regulate zoning. The bill is HB 446.

Jim announced that the CLTA Board will pursue a permanent solution which will probably involve a mechanism for gravity feed downstream. He also stated that the Drain Commission doesn't need to have control of our lake level. The board will not pursue a solution if the commission won't let us use our pump to maintain our lake level.

Jim recognized the residents of Bentwood Shores who had granted easements for the necessary piping and pumps. (Secretary's note: As the pumps were being installed, the residents of Bentwood Shores had to weather several aggravating, unforeseen situations. Hundreds of tourists clogged their dead end street and tromped on their lawns to take selfies with our new pumps. These rude people wouldn't leave even when asked. They also had to dodge lots of heavy equipment that was staged there during the pump installation period.)

A lake member asked if the lake level would be set at what it was before the flooding and would the CLTA decide the level. Trish answered that the level would be set by a court with a recommendation from the engineering company, the Drain Commission and the CLTA.

Treasurer Rodney Nimitz included his written report in the meeting agenda. He also reported on the former Crooked Lake Market and the tenants. The tenants paid a year's rent in advance. In the CLTA membership fee, \$75 will be added for maintaining the property, taxes, repairs and insurance. The budget for this year is based on 116 members. He used the cash balance to pay an installment on the bank loan.

Arleigh Smyrnios, chair of the Purple Loosestrife Committee informed the members that the board had decided not to do the yearly beetle project since the plants she'd thought had been destroyed came back healthy this year. She has referred the problem to the Nature Center and said the state will look to see if loosestrife is mutating to withstand the beetles.

The budget was approved.

Jim displayed graphs showing the increase in depth of Crooked, Eagle, Bass, and Pine Island Lakes. A member asked what the plan was for pumping. Jim said that there is a copy of our permit on line. We'll start pumping Crooked Lake at a lower rate and monitor the progress in our lake and downstream. Then Eagle Lake will begin pumping and the rate will increase. It is estimated to take 15 months to reach our goal level.

Sandy Steinbach of the Ramp/Store Committee reported on the ramp access cards. She thanked all the other committee members. She explained the gate/card process and added that replacement cards will be \$20. Surveillance cameras will be installed to monitor the ramp operations. She emphasized that marinas should wash down their trailers before launching boats. The long term plan for the store is to tear it down and install a boat washing station.

Lesa Newby, chair of the Welcome Committee asked members to notify her via email if someone new moves in. She said the boat parade this year is cancelled since we have the No Wake rule. Fun Day will be August 3 and will include games and face painting from 10:00 - 12:00. A kids' band, Ben Jammin' will entertain from 4:00 - 5:00. The potluck will be held at the market from 4:00 - 7:00, and the band Leaky Tiki will play from 7:00 - 10:00.

Chuck Buxton reported on the issue of short term rentals. He said the good news was that the bill to stop local governments from controlling their own zoning died in committee. The bad news was that a representative who is also a realtor introduced the same bill this year. It's still not well known to local governments. There is lots of testimony opposing the bill which is supported by realtors and airbnb. He asked members to contact Representative Brandt Iden and Senator Sean McCann to oppose HB 4046. He noted that he had a handout for interested members after the meeting.

Jordan Bentley representing our lake manager at Restorative Lake Science reported that the Curly Leaf Pondweed infestation in the Cove is very bad. Algae is growing along the lake bottom. The good news is that there is no Eurasian Milfoil in the West Basin. The water quality is good.

A member asked about foam seen on the shore after high winds. He replied that it was a natural phenomenon and not a problem.

Another member asked if the algae on the lake bottom would be a problem if it was stirred up by boat traffic. Jordan answered that high winds will deposit it on shore, and it also wasn't a problem.

John Tucci of Lake Savers reported on our Laminar Flow Aeration project. He said that the high water in the manifolds hurt the compressors. The main compressor at the market is lost, and the other compressors will need to be rebuilt. He said he would replace the large compressor and fix the smaller ones at his own cost and clean out the system. He would also suspend the lease so there would be no cost to the CLTA. He also noted that he would cut the payment we owed in half and the following year, cut it in half again so we don't pay for the time the system isn't running.

He said he can't run the aerators until the water level drops. He won't put in a bacteria treatment this year. In his opinion, he didn't think we should chemically treat the Curly Leaf Pondweed.

He was asked why there were circular marks on the ice if the compressors were off. He replied that the aerators often reveal springs as the muck is removed.

Another member asked if we'd have to pay the SAD 2 assessment even if the system can't work. The answer was that we would since we have to pay Lake Savers next year.

Jim noted that we had already secured a permit for a herbicide spot treatment.

Secretary Rod Krapf talked about landscaping after the flood waters are down. It's not good to walk too soon on lawns and gardens that were recently flooded. Give them time to dry out. Consider planting native species of shrubs, grasses and flowers near the lake since they have deep roots and can hold the soil together better than lawn grass.

Jim announced that all of the current board members up for re-election wanted to run again. A member asked if there was a limit to the number of board members. Jim responded that the by-laws set the number at 10. Judy Ford said she would be willing to run when there is a vacancy. Jim moved to re-elect the current board members. Jim Stafford seconded. The members were re-elected.

Lake resident Jim Ridenour said it seems that boat owners don't know what constitutes a wake. Board Member Lesa Newby reported that Jim had met with a couple of residents who were making wakes, and that she had also asked some people not to make wakes. But, some didn't seem to care. Jim pointed out that the No Wake policy is like a gentleman's agreement. It's posted on our FaceBook page what a wake is. A member asked if jet skis made wakes; the answer was "yes". The problem comes from some of the renters and some residents. A lengthy discussion ensued over what could be done about those who ignored the No Wake policy. No definitive conclusions were reached. Jim Ridenour also noted that some people were driving their boats very close to shore. Chuck Buxton pointed out that state law says boats should be 100 feet from shore, docks, and swimming platforms. He also asked residents to remind marina employees about the No Wake Policy.

Jim announced that there will be a new development on the North Basin with six lake lots and 2 off lake lots. A member asked if they would have sewer or septic. Jim replied they would have septic systems since no sewer is available. But, the lots are large and the systems will be away from the lake.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 P.M.