

**Rollin/Woodstock Townships Joint Special Meeting
July 20, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Supervisor Jenkins, and Supervisor Delezene. Woodstock board members present were Supervisor Delezene, Clerk Upell, Treasurer Votzke, Trustees Delezene, & Pepper; Rollin board members present were Supervisor Jenkins, Clerk Gust, Treasurer Willett, and trustees Wilson, and McGrath. The two boards will be meeting as a single board for the purpose of this meeting only. Motion by Wilson, support by Gust to elect Jenkins as chairperson for the meeting. All aye, motion carried.

The purpose of the meeting is to determine appropriate treatment of the invasive weeds on Devils Lake. The joint meeting is a result of the lake being in two townships. Round Lake questions will not be addressed tonight, those residents were advised to contact Rollin Township with their concerns. Guy Savin and John Sellinger from Savin Lake Services gave the report on the survey of the lake. Their recommendations include mechanical harvesting this year and herbicide treatment next year. After extensive observation of Devils Lake, they put together management recommendations. There are three different plans to present. Devils Lake is approximately 1337 acres in size and has 165 acres of milfoil. This milfoil acreage is a mixture of Native milfoil, Eurasian Milfoil, and a hybrid of the two. Savin is recommending the optimal solution to be mechanical harvesting in 2011, and aquatic herbicide treatment in 2012. The vegetation will grow back from mechanical harvesting. This method is recommended because herbicides applied at the proper rate will systemically kill the plant. This herbicide will kill all the weeds in the area treated. Option two is using no herbicide. This leaves only mechanical or suction harvesting. The third option is to suction harvest only. This option is cost prohibitive. Under the current budget, only 8 acres could be harvested each year. Savin does not recommend using the weevils under any option presented. It is their opinion that the weevils should not be used until they do a survey of the numbers of weevils present. Their information indicates that the genetic hybrids would not be able to be treated with weevils. It is Savin's opinion that it is better to harvest and pick up the bulk of it than to let the milfoil be chopped with propellers, and spread thru auto fragmentation.

Devils Lake has 300 acres of vegetation, including watermilfoil which covers approximately 167 acres.

Votzke questions if Savin and Marzolf are partners. No, they work together but do not have a formal partnership. McGrath questions the cost figures of options. As presented, the cost shows the whole lake, not separated by townships. Rollin Township has 68% of the problem, and Woodstock Township has 32% of milfoil. Wilson asks what chemical will be used. Navigate is the herbicide of choice. Willett questions budget parameters based on anticipated revenue. These figures were determined by Savin, who believes that the district is underfunded. To meet the recommended funding, our assessment will have to be increased 2 1/2 times. Savin will work within our budget as necessary but recommend higher funding. Upell was to be contacted prior to the survey so she could ride along to see the process of the survey, and was not notified. Gust questioned why chemical treatment is being presented as the optimal solution when the township residents approved only natural treatment. Savin feels the best treatment is herbicides.

L. Delezene questioned depth of harvesting. Mechanical harvesting will only go about 6 feet deep, suction harvesting can go as deep as 25 feet. Votzke asked for clarification regarding herbicidal treatment as a single treatment over 165 acres of milfoil, resulting in only 3 to 4 acres each year. Savin recommends using 200 # per acre using 2-4D to have optimum systemic control of weeds. Treatment is recommended to begin in early May. Votzke: once herbicidal treatment, why would the lake need so much suction harvesting and mechanical harvesting. This would be for the management of the native plant population, if they are at nuisance levels. McGrath states that the percentages are incorrect. Wilson confirmed Savin's recommendation for this year is mechanical harvesting only, which could be done if residents are so frustrated with the levels of weeds. Upell quotes a study from University of Minnesota report showing that the weevil is successful on hybrids; hybrid growth is no faster than native vegetation growth; and that the degradation of 2 4 D occurs more slowly than believed. An acceptable level in water is 100 ppb. Their study shows that one hundred days after treatment the levels are above acceptable levels. Also, mechanical harvesting might be required every couple of weeks. Savin states that mechanical harvesting typically occurs twice per season. If applied properly, 2 4 d would leave enough fish habitat. Votzke questions what other lakes are using for weed treatment. Some lakes are using liquid sprays, others are using products containing 2 4 D which is a granular product. Suction harvesting is only recommended in very small beds. Votzke questions how much milfoil returned in the 17 acres that was suction harvested last year. Marzolf reports that many native plants are there, but water milfoil plants are gone, with less than 10% growing back. Enviroscience states that the weevils will eat the hybrid milfoil.

A resident of sand lake stated that chemicals are not effective on their lake. He believes that 2 4 D does not work well in hard water. Sand lake shows no improvement. Upell states the Ph of the lake must be less than 8 for optimal treatment. Treatment with herbicide will require a one (1) day swimming restriction, with a 14 day withholding from irrigation systems. Does the data show the weevils are effective on Devils Lake? The level of damage from last year showed the highest level of damage was 2.4 out of 4 (plant death). This is a range of 40 to 45% damage in most cases. Horton drain floods each spring sending 5 ft of water rushing over milfoil and carrying it out to the lake. This requires some consideration. Savin believes that weevils are not feasible at this time based on the recommendation of their scientist.

Jenkins was on the lake, and can see the differences between Devils and Round Lake environments. He believes weevils are a viable means of treatment, but recommends looking at the weevil population, and possibly planting on a trial basis in a few beds.

Motion by Gust, support by P. Delezene to schedule a public hearing for Sept 10, 2011 at 10 am at the Addison School for next year's treatment. All aye, motion carried.

Request for proposals can be back to the township within seven days, once the townships determine acceptable treatment. Motion by Upell, support by Willett to have a weevil population survey completed by Enviroscience in Devils lake as soon as possible. Votzke – yes, Pepper – yes, P. Delezene – yes, Upell – yes, L. Delezene – yes, McGrath – yes, Wilson – yes, Willett- yes, Gust –yes and Jenkins – yes. Motion carried.

We can do some suction harvesting in the small beds. If Savin will provide the locations where suction harvesting can be done, we can proceed. Small beds of Eurasian

milfoil could be suction harvested at a cost of \$15,000 per acre. This would keep small sections from getting larger. Small patches typically do not have colonies of weevils.

Motion by Gust, support by Willett to go ahead with suction harvesting in small beds at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 in Rollin Township. Wilson – yes, McGrath – yes, Willett – yes, Gust – yes, and Jenkins –yes, Motion carried.

Does the board want to entertain any mechanical harvesting? Neither board would like to authorize mechanical harvesting at this time.

Motion by Upell, support by P. Delezene to spend \$20,000 for suction harvesting. P. Delezene – yes, Votzke – yes, Upell – yes, Pepper – yes, and L. Delezene – yes. Motion carried.

Motion by P. Delezene, support by Votzke to adjourn at 9:45 pm. All aye, motion carried.

Sharon Gust
Rollin Township Clerk