

Circle Lake Improvement District Annual Report 2019

The Rice County Board of Commissioners created the Circle Lake Improvement District (CLID) in January 2019. At that time a seven-member Board was appointed by the Rice County Board of Commissioners and included:

Cheryl Bahnsen
Jeff Jirik
Keith Kluzak
Mandi Morrissey
Brian Panettiere
Dale Petelinsek
Dean Sunderlin

The District held its first board meeting on May 15th, 2019. At that meeting, the CLID Board elected the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Dean Sunderlin - Chair
Dale Petelinsek - Vice-Chair
Mandi Morrissey - Secretary
Cheryl Bahnsen - Treasurer

In the months leading up to our annual meeting, members of the CLID Board met with the Rice County Property Tax Administrator & Elections Director. Topics discussed at the meetings included coordinating payment to Rice County for its cost in setting up the LID and what documents the County required from the CLID. The Chief Financial Officer of Rice County helped us obtain the required insurance. We have also had discussions with the Rice County Soil and Water District, BWSR, MPCA, and the MN DNR.

The board spent some time becoming familiar with the Open Meeting Laws. An attorney with expertise in this area gave us a briefing and literature on the subject to review.

Our first Annual Meeting was on August 19th, 2019, where the CLID membership approved our 2020 budget. There were no board member elections held at this meeting.

On September 24th, 2019, the Rice County Board of Commissioners voted to approve our resolution for a special assessment of our membership.

We will look to our Lake Management Plan as a guide to help us select issues that need addressing. We will coordinate our efforts with the Circle Lake Association, the group that spearheaded the effort to create the LID. They have lake improvement projects they are managing, and we will want to tie into and enhance their work when we can. We have a couple

of erosion control issues currently under investigation. A water quality testing program is also in the works.

The CLID has a fair amount of start-up costs to cover in 2020 and 2021. The funding for projects will be a challenge. As we look for funding/grant opportunities, we will be contacting the Fishers and Farmers Partnership, Lessard-Sams, Cannon River Watershed Partnership, the Tri-Lakes Sportsmen Club, BWSR, MPCA, and the DNR.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dean Sunderlin
Circle Lake Improvement District - Chair