

DRAFT
MINUTES
ECOLOGY COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING
Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy District
2 July, 2020

- A. The monthly meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission was called to order by Commission Chairman, Rick Normington, at 6:00 P.M. on 2 July, 2020, in the CSCD conference room.
- B. Members Present: Rick Normington, Josh Edwards (Board), Randy Brumfield, Brenda Maulden, & Jim Donnels (Recorder)
- C. Members Absent: Ty Cooper & Sunny Leerkamp (CSLOA)
- D. Others in Attendance: Josh Hawley (CSCD Superintendent) plus 2 guests.
- E. *Randy Brumfield moved to approve the Minutes of the 4 June, 2020, meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission; Josh Edwards seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.*
- F. (6:05 P.M.) FREEHOLDER CONCERNS :
- a. John & Jeanne Robinson (freeholders on Sweetwater Lake) voiced strong concern over the apparent unmitigated growth of “Wake Surfing” on Sweetwater Lake. The continued allowance of wake surfing, and the damaging wave action that is a consequence of this water sport has damaged their shoreline extensively, even after they installed hundreds of dollars of concrete and rip rap barriers. As 31 year residents of CSCD, they report that they’ve “never seen it this bad,” and it is apparent to them that “existing lake rules are not being enforced.” They have also observed very unsafe boating as a part of this sport since the steep angle of a boat creating the high waves necessary for a wave surfer to surf, prohibits the driver of most boats from seeing what is directly in front of their bow. They feel a serious accident is imminent on Sweetwater Lake and they urge both an improvement in the rules (to prohibit this sport altogether on our lakes) and a better enforcement of existing rules prohibiting the creation of large, damaging waves. The Commission listened to their concerns and advised them to provide photo evidence of what they are reporting so that the Commission has a better appreciation of what their experience has been, but also, the Commission suggested that the Robinsons appear before the Security Commission and/or the CSCD Board to voice their concerns, preferably with the photographic evidence we advised them to produce, as the Security Commission really has the lead on this topic. Ecology, however will work with Security, as damage to our shoreline surely is an Ecology concern.
 - b. Rick Normington read an e-mail sent to CSCD from a freeholder (VanKooten) on Alder Drive, requesting CSCD-funded dredging in their cove near Alder Drive. The request was discussed and disapproved as all CSCD-funded dredging was concluded in 2017, after five years of extensive, expensive dredging which included that same cove near Alder Drive.
- G. OLD BUSINESS :
1. (6:25 P.M.) **REVIEW OF CSCD WATER/GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT (Josh)**: Josh’s update covered progress reports on projects of interest to ECOLOGY including: status of several CSCD-owned coffer dams needing repair after the “100 year flood” in March; the status of hiking trail # 6 (now open) ; and the completion of aquatic weed control treatments in both of our lakes by our regular contractor, Aquatic Control. There was also an update on pending dam repairs on Cordry Lake and the completion of landscaping and beautification efforts taken at the SW Beach facility. It was learned that we will learn the scope of work needed on the Cordry Dam in August. The second mowing of both dams was completed this week.
 2. (6:45 P.M.) **DREDGING POLICY & PROCEDURE**: The Commission discussed the importance of having a representative of CSCD conduct a “site survey” of each private Dredging Request to ensure the application accurately represents the work to be done and is compliant with CSCD rules and, once the work is completed, a followup inspection should be completed to ensure the work did not extend beyond the approved application. Josh Hawley agreed to meet with the Building Compliance Officer (BCO) to coordinate these expectations and improve the application workflow process.
 3. (6:50 P.M.) **PICKLEBALL APPROVAL**: Josh Hawley reported that the freeholder request for Pickleball Courts to be superimposed onto the existing basketball court in Centerlake Park gained final approval from the CSCD Board. Two (2) pickleball courts will be painted onto the basketball court in mid to late July and the newly formed Pickleball Club will get organizational plans in place to ensure cooperation with basketball enthusiasts.

(OVER >>>)

4. (6:55 P.M.) **FY 2021 ECOLOGY BUDGET PROPOSAL UPDATE** (*Josh*): Josh Hawley reported that the recently developed ECOLOGY budget proposal for FY 2021 is completed and ready for CSCD Board consideration. It was also learned that the Community Hunt Access Program (CHAP) Grant submitted by CSCD for the 2020/2021 Deer Reduction Hunt has been approved, but for a lower amount than we received last year. Rick Normington will work with the CSCD Deer Reduction Committee and our CHAP Coordinator to finalize financial figures for this year's hunt.
5. (7:15 P.M.) **POLLINATOR HABITAT** (*Brenda*): Brenda Mauldin reports that SCI-REMC has renewed their interest in helping CSCD create the long-planned Pollinator Habitat in the Reclamation Area located across from the beach. SCI-REMC workers will mow, clear, and cultivate the designated area for the planned Fall seed planting work. SCI-REMC will procure and provide the free wildflower seeds from the Bayer Corporation's "Feed-A-Bee" program. The pollinator habitat work will respect the 130' setback agreed to for CSLOA parking needs for annual fireworks events.

H. **NEW BUSINESS** (7:20 P.M.) :

1. **FREEHOLDER DREDGING APPLICATIONS:**

- a. Application # 1: **JAMES SUTTNER** (10' x 3' x 18" dredge) Approval tabled pending completion of a site survey.
- b. Application # 2: **DAVIDSON** - 6300 Grouse Drive (10' x 16' x 2' = 12 cu. yd. dredge) Approval tabled pending completion of a site survey.
- c. Application # 3: **TRIMBER** – 6329 Jay Drive *Randy Brumfield moved to approve the Trimmer application for dredging as submitted. Josh Edwards seconded. This motion passed unanimously.*
- d. Application # 4: **FRANCO** - 6470 Buffalo Drive *Randy Brumfield moved to approve the Franco application for dredging as submitted. Josh Edwards seconded. This motion passed unanimously.*

2. **COMMISSION MEMBER CONCERNS** (7:40 P.M.):

- a. Brenda Maulden sought guidance on CSCD rules regarding tree removals on private (freeholder) owned land. She expressed concern over freeholders clearing their lot of all trees and its impact on the ecological health of the CSCD. Rules for tree removal on private and public property are found in Chapter VI of the CSCD "Building Rules and Regulations" document dated 17 October, 2006. Based on those (ambiguous) guidelines, the situation outlined by Brenda M. does not seem to contradict existing regulations, although it does not appear to be in the best interest of the CSCD ecology.
- b. Brenda Maulden also expressed concern over an apparently abandoned vehicle located near Bass/Catalpa/Cedar Drives that has been abandoned there for a long time. She was advised to report it to the CSCD Conservancy Manager for action.
3. The next meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission is scheduled for Thursday, 6 August, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. in the CSCD conference room. A draft Agenda for that meeting was developed.

I. **ADJOURNMENT:** *Jim Donnell's moved to adjourn the July meeting of the Ecology Commission. Randy Brumfield seconded. The motion passed.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

JIM DONNELLS
Commission Recorder
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