

## MINUTES

Cascade Charter Township  
THORNAPPLE RIVER SAD AD-HOC COMMITTEE MEETING  
June 10, 2024 at 5:30pm  
Cascade Charter Township Office  
5920 Tahoe Dr. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

- ARTICLE 1.** The meeting was called to order at 5:31pm.
- Members Present: Scott Rissi, Leann Rowland, Trustee Shipley, Chuck Whitley, Thomas Keith  
Absent: Michael Wiegand, Jeff Carpenter  
Others Present: Parks & Recreation Director Melanie Manion, Township Manager Jade Smith, Management Office Administrative Assistant Jessica Stine
- ARTICLE 2. Approve the current Agenda**
- Motion was made by Trustee Shipley to approve the agenda as written. Supported by Member Rissi. Motion carried.**
- ARTICLE 3. Acknowledge Visitors & Public Comment**
- There was no one who wished to comment at that time.
- ARTICLE 4. Approve the Minutes of the February 12, 2024 Meeting**
- Motion was made by Trustee Shipley to approve the minutes as written. Supported by Member Rowland. Motion carried.**
- ARTICLE 5. Weed Treatment**
- Members requested a new, more professionally produced treatment map. The treatment area was larger than it had been the last few years due to the warm winter. One resident attempted to opt out of the weed treatment but found out the property he wanted to opt out of was Township property, not his. Another resident requested more treatment of the river because he still saw many weeds around the portion of the river he lives on. Even with further treatment, it's possible the weeds won't respond because the treatment is targeted to exotic weeds or the weeds may be too close to the shoreline for effective treatment. The members noticed high phosphorus and nitrogen levels on the water quality report and many think that's due to the golf course but that is not the case because it is against state regulations to use phosphorus when doing anything except establishing grass.
- ARTICLE 6. Water Level**
- Manager Smith will reach out to the company who owns the dam for additional statistics that the committee requested.
- ARTICLE 7. River Access**

The Township now has an access license agreement to launch the navigational marking boat at Maricao Shores, through the Township's lawyers.

**ARTICLE 8. Safety & Navigational Marking Project Update**

The buoys are set to be placed in late October. Residents will be contacted when a date has been solidified.

**ARTICLE 9. Any Other Business**

The Township now has the mapping data for the river since Member Whitley brought the flash drive to the meeting.

**ARTICLE 10. Roundtable Q & A**

Finance and Budget Director Nenciarini was out of the office until the next Wednesday and will provide staff with the current financial report when she returns.

Parks and Recreation Director Manion recommended working with MI Natural Shorelines. They work with EGLE and MSU Extension. They would help with biodiversity and could be a long-term solution in regards to sedimentation and bank stabilization. She will request one of their employees to present at a future meeting.

Member Rissi and Member Carpenter will put together an idea of what the committee budget will look like for the next five years. They can look up how much the assessments collected are worth, but they don't know the expenses for 2024.

Member Rissi noted a typo that said PLM's contract ends in 2025 when it really ends in 2024. The Township may need to put the contract out for bid again. Chemical prices have increased extensively and treatment companies will need to anticipate future price increases.

Members discussed Senate bill 662. The bill doesn't mention townships, only the drain commission. Members were concerned that there may be problems with the gate and turbine at they dam. They think the turbine my not be operating at full capacity.

**ARTICLE 11. Public Comment**

There was no one who wished to comment at that time.

**ARTICLE 12. Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Member Rowland to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Shipley. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.**

**Approved by the Thornapple River SAD Ad-Hoc Committee – October 14, 2024**