

**CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP**  
THORNAPPLE RIVER SAD AD-HOC COMMITTEE MEETING  
April 17, 2023 at 5:30pm  
Cascade Township Hall  
5920 Tahoe Dr. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

- ARTICLE 1.** Call the Meeting to Order
- ARTICLE 2.** Approval of the Agenda
- ARTICLE 3.** Acknowledge Visitors & Public Comment
- ARTICLE 4.** Approval of the Minutes of the 03.06.23 Meeting
- ARTICLE 5.** Safety & Navigational Marking Plan RFP
- ARTICLE 6.** Aquatic Weed Management Plan Update
- ARTICLE 7.** River Measurement Program
- ARTICLE 8.** Roundtable Q&A
- ARTICLE 9.** Public Comment
- ARTICLE 10.** Adjournment

## MINUTES

Cascade Charter Township  
THORNAPPLE RIVER SAD AD-HOC COMMITTEE MEETING  
March 6, 2023 at 5:30pm  
Cascade Charter Township Hall  
5920 Tahoe Dr. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

**ARTICLE 1.** The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

Members Present: Members Michael Wiegand, Leann Rowland, Scott Rissi, Thomas Keith and Trustee Shipley

Members Absent: Jeff Carpenter, Chuck Whitley

Others Present: Township Manager (TM) Ben Swayze

**ARTICLE 2. Approve the current Agenda**

**Motion was made by Member Rissi to approve the agenda as written. Supported by Trustee Shipley. Motion carried.**

**ARTICLE 3. Acknowledge Visitors & Public Comment**

There were not any visitors who wished to comment at this time.

**ARTICLE 4. Approve the Minutes of the February 6, 2023 Meeting**

**Motion was made by Trustee Shipley to approve the minutes. Supported by Member Rissi. Motion carried.**

**ARTICLE 5. Safety & Navigational Marking Plan RFP**

TM Swayze shared the RFP he wrote with the committee and explained that it was written vaguely so that they could bring someone in who was able to provide the township with different options and their costs. There are currently three companies who are interested in bidding on the project. The only thing left to do was finalize the pre-bid meeting date with Member Rissi so that he could take interested organizations out onto the water before they completed their bids.

Member Rowland arrived at 5:36pm.

Proposals will be due on March 30<sup>th</sup> and the committee will evaluate them at the meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. This will give time for the Township Board to consider the proposal at the April 12<sup>th</sup> board meeting. They would like the contractor to be on board before the dam drawdown. Member Wiegand asked if they were required to include a price on the RFP and TM Swayze said that they weren't, but that would be each company's first question if it wasn't included.

The committee and selected contractor will consider both soft markings and hard markings when determining the navigational markings, especially in the areas where water sports are prevalent.

**Motion was made by Trustee Shipley to recommend the RFP to the Township Board for approval. Supported by Member Wiegand. Motion carried.**

**ARTICLE 6. Roundtable Q & A**

TM Swayze stated that the schedule for treatment may be mailed out before the next meeting. Water quality testing will occur in March and PLM has promised that the township will receive the results expeditiously.

The township didn't receive any negative comments about the weed management project last year, but they did receive suggestions to post when testing is occurring at additional river access points, such as near the parks and bridges.

Last year the lake was able to be accessed for harvesting via an access point a few feet outside of the SAD boundary. They hope to do the same this year but Member Rissi is requesting they harvest in the south-bound direction to catch floaters.

**ARTICLE 7. Public Comment**

Kent County Commissioner Walter Bujak introduced himself as a member of the GV Metro Council and member of the Thornapple River Watershed Council. He took interest in LGROW and water quality remains one of his biggest concerns. He wants the exits and entrances to the river to be tested to see where the excess nutrients are being introduced into the water. These excess nutrients are part of what is causing the extensive weed growth. He invited the committee to a September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 jamboree with the Lower Grand River Watershed, Ada Parks, and Thornapple River Council where they will share information and discuss topics related to the watershed.

**ARTICLE 8. Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Member Rissi to adjourn. Supported by Member Wiegand. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.**

**Approved by the Thornapple River SAD Ad-Hoc Committee - TBD**