

To: Chassell Township Board
From: Pike Bay Restoration Committee
Subject: Renewal of Special Assessment District for Invasive Weed Control

Background

In 2013 Chassell Township, as authorized by Michigan PA 188 of 1954, as amended, created a Special Assessment District (SAD) for milfoil control in Pike Bay. This was in response to an invasion of these weeds which made the water unsightly, the Chassell Centennial Park beach unusable, boating and swimming very difficult and threatened the native vegetation and fishery of the lake. An annual levy of \$1.50 per front foot per year has been collected from Pike Bay lakefront residents for the years 2013-2018.

PLM Lake and Land Management was contracted to evaluate and treat the body of water. A successful program for Chassell Township has resulted. Today the water is in excellent condition with invasive species under control and native vegetation reestablished. It is well known, however, that eradication of milfoil is not possible, but it can be controlled by continuing surveillance and necessary treatment.

Proposal

Our committee asks the Board to renew the SAD for continued milfoil control. We believe the effort is one the SAD participants can be proud of, in that we again have a beautiful and usable lake and property values are not threatened. A survey of SAD participants resulted in a strong endorsement of continuing the effort. For a reauthorized program we propose an annual levy to be determined each year based on the costs of treatment with a maximum levy being at the level of the current program, \$1.50 per front foot. In the new contract, in addition to the usual posting of treatment and time notifications, any SAD owners, township officials, or other interested persons will receive direct text or e-mail communication from the contractor.

No commitment to a contractor has been made but PLM has prepared, per our requirements and request, a Lake Management Plan for 2019 which is available for consideration and for permitting purposes.

Requested Board Consideration

1. Renew the existing SAD for invasive weed control for five years. Included properties would be the same as for 2013-2018.
2. Assess these properties at a level to be determined each year but not to exceed the current level of \$1.50 per front foot.