



Milfoil Advisory Group Agenda

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9, 2020 – 4:00 P.M.

This meeting will be held using Zoom video/audio conference technology due to the COVID-19 restrictions currently in place.

Join online by visiting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2698572603>

Join by phone by dialing:

**(312) 626-6799 -or-
(646) 518-9805**

Then enter "Meeting ID":
2698572603

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PUBLIC COMMENT
3. TREATMENT RECOMMENDATION
4. CONTRACTING PROCESS
 - a. Request for Proposals (RFP)
 - b. Joint Project City of Douglas
5. COST SHARE
 - a. PRIVATE/PUBLIC BENEFIT
 - i. Special Assessment
 1. Boat Slips
 2. Front Footage
 3. Per Unit
 - ii. General Fund
 1. Existing Operating Millage
 2. Special Voted Millage
 3. Headlee Override

6. CLEAN BOATS/CLEAN WATERS GRANT \$1,000 - \$3,000
 - a. https://www.canr.msu.edu/clean_boats_clean_waters/?utm_campaign=cbcw+grant2020&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_source=govdelivery
 - b. Grant Facts and Application attached
7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS
8. NEXT STEPS
 - a. Formulate Recommendation
 - b. Present Preliminary Report to City Council Workshop Dec 23 or Jan 7
 - c. Hold Public Hearing
 - d. City Council Approves/Denies Recommendation
9. ADJOURN

Milfoil Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

November 25, 2020 4 p.m.

Remote/Zoom

Ken Trester called the meeting to order.

Present: Ken Trester, Scott Dean, Bob Shuchman, Patrick Burroughs, Tim Straker,

Staff Present: Karen Doyle Homan

Also Present: Garnet Lewis, Melissa DeSimone, Zach Berry, Ryan Schauland, Jason Broekstra, Andy Tomaszewski, Mike Smith, Kim Arter

Public Comment: None

Discussion: This meeting was built around a panel discussion. Because of the back and forth nature of the discussion, these minutes are a synopsis of the discussion:

The panel:

- Melissa DeSimone, Executive Director, Michigan Lakes and Streams Association
- Zach Berry, Biologist, General Manager, Aquatic Doctors
- Ryan Schauland, Biologist/Aquatic Ecosystems, President/Owner, Aquatic Doctors
- Andy Tomaszewski, Biologist, PLM Lake & Land Management Corp
- Jason Broekstra, Biologist, VP of Great Lakes Operations, PLM Lake & Land Mngmt Corp
- Michael Smith, Owner, Mtt DASH Divers
- Kim Arter, Laketon Township Supervisor, President, Bear Lake Lake Board

Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) is responsible for the loss of biodiversity in our natural water systems. The EWM is an invasive species, is super prolific, grows quickly, grows densely, and outcompetes anything it comes across. To restore the natural ecosystem, the milfoil must be controlled.

Discussed were the following possible solutions to control EWM:

- Weevils: Weevils were once promising for long-term control of EWM. They are hard to propagate for commercial use and not used anymore.
- Barriers: Benthic barriers are illegal in Michigan. They smother the plants, killing off native species as well. They are not suitable for flowing water or in large areas.
- Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) is being used successfully if contained to a small area, less than an acre if dense, or if in a larger area, scattered. It is not practical for large areas. The Kalamazoo Harbor infestation is considered a large area.

- Sonar: Unlike conventional treatments Sonar is like chlorinating a swimming pool, dosage is based on 6 ppb concentration. It will kill EWM at that concentration but will not impact native plants. Risky option in our case because it needs to stay 60 days to be effective.
- Aeration: Aeration is great to restore health to an inland lake with algae blooms. Not effective for EWM or recommended in a flowing system.
- Harvesting: Harvesters mow the milfoil under water. It is a short- term relief method without any long-term benefits. The resulting fragmentation spreads it further.
- Herbicide: Herbicides placed appropriately, systemically, and properly, will cause the die off of the invasive species without harming the native species. Granulated herbicide products are recommended because they are less impacted by flow.

Based upon our size, flow, and depth what can we rule out? Weevils, barriers, aeration, sonar, cutting without DASH, all these are not viable for our need. Herbicides, at least until we get the EWM under control, are recommended. Other long-term options may be viable down the road.

Mike Smith, DASH Divers, stated “chemicals do a great job. DASH is a tool to back that up. It’s not feasible to do 20 acres but it is good for backing up the chemical to keep its use down in the future.”

Aquatic Doctors have had success using herbicide in Wade’s Bayou in the City of Douglas. The flow in Wade’s Bayou and in Kalamazoo Lake Harbor are similar. Milfoil grows in low flow areas and is usually not seen within high flow, high velocity areas.

Are there unintended consequences, for example, taking out sport fishing? The panel agreed that by taking out the overcompetitive invasive species, Mother Nature can do her job and native plants can re-establish. After just one year of treatment in Wade’s Bayou, native plants are starting to fill in those areas where the milfoil was taken out. The consequences if we let it go are collapse of the eco-system. The natives that the “little critters” like will be gone. Fish will disappear because there is no food source for them.

When asked about treating coontail and duckweed, Aquatic Doctors stated that they do have products that can be used on those, however, EGLE imposes much more stringent guidelines for using herbicides and algaecides for coontail and duckweed as those are native species.

Bob Shuchman thought that we do have a problem with native weeds but getting the milfoil under control will help to naturally get the duck week and coontail under control. He suggested reading the article, Management of Aquatic Plants that was within the meeting packet.

Also asked were questions about treating to the shoreline, to the edge of docks, around docks, or to the seawall. Again, permitting depends on what areas and/or species we want treated. There are different regulations for each.

Are there efficiencies in cost if we joined Douglas? Aquatic Doctors replied that yes, they can offer a volume cost price break and getting both jobs on the same permit would also be a savings.

There will be naysayers. The advice was to educate people that control of Eurasian milfoil will allow the return of the beneficial native plants. Herbicide is effective; it is not the herbicide killing the native plants but is the milfoil choking them out; the native plants will come back when the milfoil leaves. There are also some people who do not want any weeds, native or not. What may help is education on the difference between good plants and bad (invasive) plants and what is best for the health of the water.

There are 3rd party resources that may allay some fears. The Michigan Aquatic Manager's Association www.MAMAGroup.org, MSU Extension, Watershed Council, Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas <https://www.invasive.org/cismas/> are a few. The Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority, Kieser and Associates are also knowledgeable sources. Bear Lake Lake Board put out info to everyone on Bear Lake that can be found on their website www.Laketon.org/BLLB. Melissa DeSimone offered to send information regarding good resources as well.

Education needs to be part of the long-range plan. Discourage fertilizer on lawns. Encourage native plantings on shorelines that will reduce run-off. At boat launches put wash sites with clippers and brush and "check your boats" signage. Mike Smith stated, "DASH divers can always tell who is using fertilizer on their lawns. Old septic tanks also are perfect environments for invasive to grow."

The panel was thanked for their candor. Each brought a dimension that the advisory committee needed.

Next meeting is December 9 at 4 o'clock. The committee felt they had the information needed to make a recommendation on how to move forward. Funding mechanisms will be part of the next meeting's discussion as well.

The Committee adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Doyle Homan

ORDINANCE 32.18 EXCEPTIONS TO COMPETITIVE BIDDING.

Competitive bidding shall not be required in the following cases:

(A) Where the subject of the contract is other than a public work or improvement and the product or material contracted for is not competitive in nature and no advantage to the city could result from requiring competitive bidding, and the City Council, upon written recommendation of the City Manager, authorizes execution of a contract without competitive bidding;

(B) In the employment of professional services;

(C) Where the City Council shall determine that the public interest will be best served by purchase from or joint purchase with another unit of government; and

(D) To take advantage of favorable unit prices in an existing contract with the city, the city may amend the existing contract by issuing a change order, for example, to expand the scope of work without competitive bidding, provided that a substantial majority of the additional work, as determined in the discretion of the Council, shall be performed at the unit prices set forth in the existing contract; and

(E) Where the city elects to undertake the work itself.
(Am. Ord. 090427-1, passed 4-27-2009)



2021 GRANT INFORMATION

Clean Boats, Clean Waters (CBCW) is an outreach program designed to educate and engage water recreational users in behaviors that will limit or prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Michigan. CBCW grants provide funding to organizations communicating AIS prevention information through printed outreach materials and in-person events to boaters. Applicants are highly encouraged to partner with other conservation organizations and to conduct boater outreach on a regional scale. This funding opportunity is noncompetitive, and **complete applications that meet eligibility requirements will be funded in the order that they are received if project funds are available.**

Organizations qualified for Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program (MISGP) funds (e.g., CISMAs) are highly encouraged to pursue MISGP funds to perform boater outreach activities. CBCW is a joint effort between Michigan State University Extension and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. Funding for CBCW and this grant opportunity is provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Eligible Expenditures

- Producing existing state approved AIS outreach materials (e.g., printed materials, banners, flags, signage, floating key chains and towels) and/or designing and producing new materials with approved messaging consistent with outreach campaigns in use in Michigan. Outreach materials will be reviewed within 30 days of submittal to grant administrators. Please contact Kevin Walters (waltersk3@michigan.gov) with EGLE for examples of existing approved materials.
- AIS removal supplies such as plant removal tools, sponges, wrenches for removing drain plugs, towels and plastic scrapers.
- Event supplies including tables, chairs and tents.
- Clean Boats, Clean Waters volunteer recognition apparel items (i.e., lanyards, shirts, aprons, hats).
- Staff time to perform watercraft inspections, demonstration of boat cleaning techniques and/or outreach to boaters.
- Shipping and handling for the distribution of materials.
- Outreach activities can take place at various locations including but not limited to bait and tackle shops, county fairs, public and private boat launches and waterbodies that do and do not have public access.

NOTE: Ineligible expenditures include but are not limited to the partial purchase, upkeep and/or the maintenance of a mechanical boat washing station (i.e., boat cleaning systems using high pressured water, waterless decontamination systems) and indirect costs and fringe for staffing.

Examples of CBCW Eligible Projects

- Interpretive signage at a county or township park, nature center or boat launch about proper cleaning techniques to prevent AIS.
- Boater education station with plant removal tools, sponges and signage.
- Educational booth during weekends at a popular boat launch or community event.
- Educational presentations to anglers participating in a fishing tournament.

NOTE: Permission of boat launch owners and/or managers needs to be obtained prior to any project implementation. For example, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Parks and Recreation Division may require a use permit for any events held at DNR owned/managed boating access sites.

Eligible Organizations

- Local or tribal units of government
- Lake associations/watershed protection groups
- Non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations

Funding Amount

- The grant request amount should range from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per grantee. A maximum of \$20,000 total will be distributed in 2021.
- There is no match or cost sharing requirement.
- Funds will be distributed via a one-time reimbursement of eligible expenses.

Required Grant Activities

All of the following activities are required to receive grant funding:

- A minimum of three in-person (or virtual) outreach events must be held with CBCW outreach materials.
- Grantee and/or volunteers are required to review CBCW training materials (approximately 1 hour of reading/viewing).
- Grantee and/or volunteers must collect and report data on the number of boaters reached, volunteer hours (if applicable), number of outreach materials distributed, and locations (minimum of waterbody name, county, and township) of outreach materials/events.
- A year end narrative report of activities and expenditures. Requires a minimum of five photos of products and/or outreach conducted. Narrative report is due December 31, 2021.
- All grant activities must comply with current orders regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grant Timeline

- The grant application period is open, and applications will be accepted until February 19, 2021 or until \$20,000 has been allocated, whichever comes first. This funding opportunity is noncompetitive, and complete and eligible applications will be funded in the order that they are received if project funds are available.
- Applicants will be informed by March 1, 2021 of grant decisions.
- Grant activities must be completed by December 31, 2021 to be eligible for reimbursement.

Application and Submission Process

- Incomplete applications are ineligible.
- Funding will only be granted to applicants with complete and eligible applications at the time it is received.
- Applications should be completed via the PDF grant application form found on the CBCW website (www.micbcw.org) and submitted to Paige Filice (filicepa@msu.edu) and Kevin Walters (waltersk3@michigan.gov).



MICHIGAN CLEAN BOATS, CLEAN WATERS GRANT APPLICATION



Your Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters application will need to include the following items: contact information, budget and grant narrative. Please use this application to submit your information. If you are unable to use this form, please contact Paige Filice (filicepa@msu.edu) for another application method. Funding will only be granted to applicants with complete and eligible applications. Applications should be submitted to Paige Filice (filicepa@msu.edu) and Kevin Walters (waltersk3@michigan.gov). The deadline for applications is **February 19, 2021** or until \$20,000 has been allocated, whichever comes first. This funding opportunity is noncompetitive, and complete applications will be funded in the order that they are received if project funds are available.

GRANT APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION	
Organization name	
Organization type (e.g., lake association, watershed group)	
Contact name	
Mailing address	
Email address	
Telephone number	

EXAMPLE BUDGET

Provide an itemized budget in a separate document. See the Clean Boats, Clean Waters grant website (www.cbcw.org) for a template. Budget should include a brief description of items, estimated costs, and locations where outreach materials will be shared. All expenses should be directly linked to project goals. Total funding requests should be between \$1000 and \$3000. Refer to the budget example below for examples of funding requests and formatting. This is an example budget; it does not include all possible expenses.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy has a limited quantity of outreach materials that may be used for CBCW grant projects. For examples of existing materials contact Kevin Walters (walterks@michigan.gov).

NOTE: Ineligible expenditures include but are not limited to the partial purchase, upkeep and/or the maintenance of a mechanical boat washing station (i.e., boat cleaning systems using high pressured water, waterless decontamination systems) and indirect costs and fringe for staffing.

BUDGET EXAMPLE

Category	Brief Expense Description	Estimated Cost	Locations (if applicable)
Volunteer materials	CBCW t-shirt, apron, hat		
Signage	Aluminum signs and posts for X boat launches		
Advertising	Paid advertising for clean, drain, dry		

MICHIGAN CLEAN BOATS, CLEAN WATERS GRANT APPLICATION



3. Why is this organization interested in implementation of boater outreach through the CBCW program?

4. What is the staffing capacity of this organization or proposed partners who would participate in the outreach events?

MICHIGAN CLEAN BOATS, CLEAN WATERS GRANT APPLICATION



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

By completing this application, you agree to the following if your proposal is funded:

- A minimum of three in-person (or virtual) outreach events must be held with CBCW outreach materials.
- Grantee and/or volunteers are required to review CBCW training materials (approximately 1 hour of reading/viewing).
- Grantee and/or volunteers must collect and report data on the number of boaters reached, volunteer hours (if applicable), number of outreach materials distributed, and locations (minimum of waterbody name, county, and township) of outreach materials/events.
- A year end narrative report of activities and expenditures. Requires a minimum of five photos of products and/or outreach conducted. Narrative report is due December 31, 2021.
- Receipts/invoices will be submitted for reimbursement by December 31, 2021.

Materials must have approved messaging consistent with outreach campaigns in use in Michigan prior to publication. All materials will be submitted to grant administrators at least 30 days prior to printing for publication for approval.

Grantee must have permission from boat launch owners and/or managers prior to any project implementation. For example, DNR Parks and Recreation Division may require a use permit for any events held at DNR owned/managed boating access sites.

Grantees are expected to include recognition of assistance received from the Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters program in any promotional or informational materials produced about or by the grant project. Examples of these materials include descriptions of the project in newsletters, informational flyers, signage, or press releases regarding the project. MSU Extension and EGLE logos should not be used on materials to represent support. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters program name and/or logo should be used on all materials. The following language is required for signs and written materials: This project was funded by the Michigan Clean Boats, Clean Waters program with Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding.



Extension



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