

**TOWNSEND FLOWAGE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2024  
1:00 P.M.  
Townsend Town Hall**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to order – John Zimdars
2. Verify posting of proper notice- John Zimdars
3. Approval of December 2, 2023 Commissioners Meeting Minutes– John Zimdars
4. Approval of Treasurer’s Report– Mike Gabryszek
5. Introduction of Renee Vande Voort, TFPD new recording secretary
6. Thank you for the many years of service of Mary Van Vonderen
7. Update on Facebook page and sub-group
8. Informational Meeting – Wake Boat Ordinance
  - a. March 16<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m., Townsend Town Hall
9. Discussion and possible action of additional buoys in the McCaslin Brook
10. Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention – April 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, Stevens Point
11. 2024 Meeting Schedule
  - June 1, 2024, 1:00 pm, Townsend Town Hall
  - August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Annual Meeting), 9:00 a.m., Townsend Town Hall
  - December 7, 2024, 9:00, Lakewood/Townsend Ambulance Building
12. Public Comment
13. Adjourn



**TOWNSEND FLOWAGE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**Quarterly Meeting, Board of Commissioners**  
**December 2, 2023**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**Ambulance Building**

Members present: John Zimdars, Mike Gabryszek, Jim Bieber, Mark Clements, Chuck DeMoulin

The Board of Commissioners Quarterly Meeting of the Townsend Flowage Protection District was called to order by Board President, John Zimdars on December 2, 2023 at 9 a.m. at the Ambulance Building. It was confirmed that the meeting agenda was posted at the Townsend Town Hall, Townsend Post Office, Karla's Kafe, and TFPD website.

A motion was made by Chuck DeMoulin to approve the June 3, 2023, August 26, 2023 and November 11, 2023 meeting minutes. Jim Bieber seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Quarterly Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer, Mike Gabryszek. Of note, Mike announced he made a change to a 5.5% CD with \$175,000 in the account in order to increase our monthly interest from approximately \$400 to approximately \$800. Discussion followed regarding consideration of a building construction in 2024 for housing and maintaining weed harvesting equipment. This will be further discussed at future meetings. Jim Bieber made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Mark Clements seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mike Gabryszek announced that he paid out two checks for \$500 each from the Kids Fishing Tournament account to two charitable organizations: The United Special Sports Alliance and to the Fishing Inspires Special Hearts organization. As a reminder, the kids fishing tournament has no connection or impact to the budget of the Townsend Flowage Protection District.

Wisconsin Lakes Partnership Convention will be held April 10-12 in Stevens Point. If any district member would like to attend, the TFPD will cover expenses for travel and hotel.

2024 meeting schedule:

March 9, 2024

June 1, 2024

August 17, 2024 (Annual Meeting)

December 7, 2024 (Time and place to be determined)

Public Comment:

Chuck DeMoulin announced that next Saturday, December 9, 9 a.m., Townsend Town Hall, Inland Lakes District will hold a meeting to discuss wake boating. The informational meeting is open to the public.

Jim Biever asked if there was any interest in adding more slow, no wake buoys to McCaslin Book from boat ramp to mouth of the river, a half mile stretch. The additional buoys would serve as reminder as to the slow no wake area, especially for transient boaters. It would need to go thru the standard process for application to the town board, for review and approval. Until this is reviewed, the TFPD team will renew the r reflective wrap around the top of existing buoys for better visibility. This will be added as a topic for the TFPD March meeting.

Mike Vande Walle reminded everyone about the Christmas party taking place this evening at the Old Town Hall. 55 people have signed up. Items for door prizes are welcome.

John Zimdars announced that May Van Vonderen, current non-board recording secretary has given her notice with her last meeting being March 2023. The search for a replacement will begin immediately. Mary will update the job description and post it.

Mary brought up the plans to refurbish the current TFPD Facebook page and sub-Group. Updates are targeted to be finished before the March 2023 meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Chuck De Moulin and seconded by Mike Gabryszak. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Van Vonderen  
Non-board recording secretary

## **BOATING REGULATIONS AND WATER SPORTS**

### **Definitions**

- A. "Boat" or "vessel" means every description of watercraft capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.
- B. "Buoy" is any device designed to float which is anchored in the water and which is used to convey a message.
- C. "Motorboat" means any boat equipped with propulsion machinery, whether or not the machinery is the principal source of propulsion.
- D. "Nonmotorized boats" means a boat which is not a motorboat but which is designed and constructed to be used as a boat for transportation of a person or persons on water. The term includes, but is not limited to, any canoe, sailboat, inflatable boat or similar device, row boat, raft and dinghy which is not a motorboat.
- E. "Operate" or "use" means when used with reference to a motorboat, boat or vessel means to navigate or otherwise employ.
- F. "Personal watercraft" means a motorboat that uses an inboard motor powering a water jet pump or a caged propeller as its primary source of motive power and that is designed to be operated by a person standing on, kneeling on, or sitting astride the watercraft.
- G. "Regulatory marker" is any device designed to be placed in, or near any water within the town, to convey an official message to a boat operator on matters which may affect health, safety, or well-being.
- H. "Slow-no-wake" means that speed at which a boat moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steerage control.
- I. "Swimming area" means an authorized area of water established by regulatory markers to designate a swimming area.
- J. "Town" means the Town of Townsend, Oconto County, Wisconsin.
- K. "Town board" means the board of supervisors of the town.
- L. "Transition speed" means the speed at which a boat is operating at greater than slow-no-wake speed, but not fast enough so that the boat is planing.
- M. "Wake enhancement" means the use of water sacks, ballast tanks, submersible wings or any other device which causes a boat to operate in a bow-high manner, increasing the power or energy of a boat's natural wake.
- N. "Water skis" means any apparatus used to tow a person on the water or above the water by means of ropes or lines attached to a motorboat.
- O. "Waters of this town" means any waters within the territorial limits of the town.

### **Boating Regulations**

#### **P. Speed**

No person shall operate a motorboat at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard for the actual and potential hazards then existing. The speed of a motorboat shall be so controlled as to avoid colliding with any object lawfully in or on the water or with any person, boat or other conveyance in or on the water in compliance with legal requirements, and exercising due care.



C. Prohibited Operation

1. Except as provided under Section 3.0505(C)(2) of this ordinance, no person may operate a motorboat within 100 feet of any dock, raft, pier, or buoyed restricted area on any waters of this town in excess of slow-no-wake.
2. No boat towing persons engaged in water skiing, aquaplaning or similar activity on waters of this town shall engage in such activity within 100 feet of any occupied anchored boat, or marked swimming area, or public boat landing, except where pickup and drop areas are established and marked with regulatory markers.
3. No person shall operate a personal watercraft at a speed in excess of slow-no-wake within 200 feet of the shoreline of any lake.

**Wake Enhancing Operations**

Q. Operation by a person of a boat on any lake in the town in an artificially bow-high manner, including wake enhancement by use of water sacks, ballast tanks, submersible wings, mechanical hydrofoils or other device, uneven loading, or operation at transition speed, to increase or enhance the power or energy of a boat's natural wake is prohibited:

1. When less than 200 feet from:
  - (a) the shoreline of any lake;
  - (b) swimmers or posted swimming areas;
  - (c) piers or docks;
2. In waters less than twenty (20) feet deep
3. On any lake under 60 acres in size per WDNR GIS maps;
4.
  - (a) This restriction will be posted on the town website and on "Local Ordinance" signs at public boat landings when in effect.

R. Operation of a motorboat at transition speed is allowed for short distances, up to 75 feet, between 100 feet and 200 feet from shore to allow the motorboat to reach planning speed. This exception does not apply to personal watercraft.