

# **ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW COMMISSION (EPRC) PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW PANEL**

## **MINUTES**

**Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)  
Lee Walker Conference Room, Constitution Hall  
525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48933

### **EPRC Panel Members:**

Tony Anthony - Chair  
Bradley Venman  
Kristine Olsson (absent)

### **Petitioner:**

Wendy Davis  
Edwin Martel - Representative

### **EGLE Water Resources Division Staff:**

Chris Conn  
Brian Rudolph  
Luis Saldivia

### **Panel Staff:**

Stephanie Becsey, Department Analyst, EGLE  
Aimee Crouch, Legal Specialist, EGLE  
Dale Shaw, Regulatory Affairs Officer, EGLE

#### **1. Call to Order and Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Stephanie Becsey. She welcomed the participants and explained the established statute for the permit application review panel.

#### **2. EPRC Panel Roll Call**

Stephanie Becsey called the roll and a quorum was present. Panel member Kristine Olsson was absent.

#### **3. Introduction of Panel**

The panel members introduced themselves and provided a brief description of their expertise to the attendees of the meeting.

#### **4. Process Overview**

Aimee Crouch, Legal Specialist, EGLE, provided a brief overview of the permit application review process and noted to the panel that she can assist with any procedural questions they may have.

#### **5. Chair Designation**

The panel members discussed the selection of the panel chair.

**Motion:** Brad Venman made a motion to designate Tony Anthony as the panel chair; Tony Anthony seconded. The motion was passed by all members present.

#### **6. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** Brad Venman made a motion to approve the agenda as written; Tony Anthony seconded. The motion was passed by all members present.

#### **7. Petitioner Presents Position**

Edwin Martel, petitioner's representative, provided the panel with a history and overview of the lake, historical uses, the buildup of vegetation and the proposed project.

#### **8. EGLE Presents Position**

Chris Conn, Environmental Quality Analyst, presented to the panel a high-level overview of permit application statistics, the aims of the Water Resources Division, the status of the application, and the impacts of the scale and scope of the proposed project on regulated resources.

#### **9. EPRC Panel Questions to Petitioner and EGLE**

Brian Rudolph, Environmental Manager, answered questions on the historical aerial photos, shorelines, and impacts on the department's decision on dredging and what would be considered the original part of a historical shoreline of an inland lake.

Chris Conn, Environmental Quality Analyst, answered questions on the historical access to the lake and if the public or private access has anything to do with the wetlands.

Brian Rudolph, Environmental Manager, answered questions about the dimensions of an agreeable area of focused dredging.

Edwin Martel, petitioner's representative, answered questions on where the petitioner would like to the dock.

Wendy Davis, petitioner, answered a question if she is comfortable with the location of the dock now and where she would like it located. She also answered questions about her pontoon boat.

Brian Rudolph, Environmental Manager, answered questions about possible alternatives that would result in less of a dredge.

## **10. Public Comment**

No public comments were received.

## **11. 15-Minute Break**

A 15-minute break was taken from 9:42-10:00 a.m.

## **12. EPRC Panel Deliberation**

After the break, the panel discussed the file.

**Motion:** Tony Anthony made the motion for the panel's Recommendation to the Director to state:

The Panel recommends that EGLE and the Petitioner consider an alternative that minimizes dredging but considers the location of the dock, dimensions of two boats (a pontoon boat and fishing boat), and a small recreational area within the historically used area.

The Panel recommends to the EGLE Director that a compromise be reached that is protective of the environment, assures maintenance of historic use and is in compliance with applicable laws.

Bradley Venman seconded the motion. The motion was passed by all members present.

## **13. Adjournment**

Tony Anthony, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

Prepared by:  
Dale Shaw, Regulatory Affairs Officer  
EGLE

December 15, 2022

**\*Meeting minutes were APPROVED at the Environmental Permit Review Meeting  
2-6-25\***