

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD - EMERGENCY MTG

June 1, 2012

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 1st day of June, 2012 at 12:05 p.m. with the following members present: Chairperson J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, Brian Napstad, Anne Marcotte, County Administrator Patrick Wussow, and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham.

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voting yes to approve the June 1, 2012 agenda.

Don Proulx, owner of Big Sandy Lodge on Big Sandy Lake voiced his concerns over imposing a slow-no wake zone on the entire lake.

Scott Turner, Sheriff discussed with the Board the high water levels on Big Sandy Lake due to recent heavy rains, the numerous phone calls received from concerned residents, MN DNR Water Surface Use Rules and Statutes 6110.3700, Subp. 9 which allow temporary special controls be enacted by a County for a period of not more than five days, and the request being made to the DNR for a variance which would support and extend the length of time the special controls are in effect.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried, all members voting to approve resolution – Temporary Big Sandy Lake Slow-No Wake Zone.

WHEREAS, due to extraordinary weather conditions, including excessive rainfall during May of 2012, record high water elevations prevail on Big Sandy Lake and associated waterways, and

WHEREAS, wave action from wind and watercraft has and will exacerbate shoreline erosion and cause damage to real and personal property, and

WHEREAS, high water levels coupled with increased wave action have led to the inundation of low-lying yards and structures, and

WHEREAS, in an effort to protect property and limit environmental damage to lakes from shoreline erosion where the County can and may exert some control, the County Board of Commissioners enacts this 1st day of June, 2012, the following Temporary Special Controls to Section 5 Regulations of the Watercraft Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that no person shall operate a watercraft at greater than slow-no wake speed on the following:

- i. Big Sandy Lake and associated waterways, including Aitkin Lake, Sandy River Lake, Flowage Lake, the Prairie River and connecting waterways.
- ii. Effective date – These temporary measures shall be effective from the time of adoption by the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners until the Big Sandy Lake elevation (as measured by the Army Corp of Engineers at the Libby Dam) recedes to 1,217.5 feet above sea level.

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVED
AGENDA

CITIZEN'S
COMMENTS

BIG SANDY LAKE
HIGH WATERS

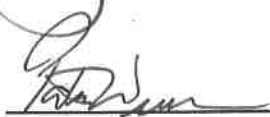
RESOLUTION
060112-052
TEMPORARY
BIG SANDY LAKE
SLOW-NO WAKE
ZONE

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting to adjourn the meeting at 12:56 p.m.

ADJOURN



J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners



Patrick Wussow, County Administrator