

March 5, 2007

RLPOA Inc.

Weld, Riley, Prenn & Ricci SC

Scott Nicastro:

Dear Mr. Nicastro:

We have received your letter dated March 1, 2007 and would like to clarify some points.

Round Lake Property Owners Association (RLPOA Inc.) represents over 400 paid members who live on Round Lake and at our last general meeting in September of 2006 there was universal support for “active” management of Round Lake water levels and better management with repairs/augmentation if needed for the Carlson Road Little Round Lake Dam.

Our membership wants the maximum amount of reasonable protection possible from both high and low water extremes. This is not an emotional issue but an objective based on history, economics, ecology, flood plain issues and recreation. This will protect the shoreline, ecology, water access, tourism, general public use, property values and property tax base. We believe that this is in the best interest of Round Lake residents and all Sawyer County residents.

We take issue with the second paragraph of your letter. You state, “The County Board has not made any decision regarding the dam and what they will request from the DNR with regard to the dam permit”. Your statement is misleading because on February 15, 2007 the County Board decided to apply to the Wisconsin DNR to begin the process of abandoning the dam between Lake Placid and Round Lake. This is the start of the “passive approach” which directly affects water levels on Round Lake and will be addressed in the S.E.H. engineering study.

Furthermore, we have studied The Round Lake Chain Management Plan drafted by Sawyer County employee Jan Eck dated January 2007 under the supervision of **Sawyer County Land & Water Conservation Department**. In the “final” draft on page 38 at the start of Chapter 4 **Water Level Recommendations** it is stated: “By consensus, the technical team recommended implementation of a passive system by:
Abandoning the Little Round Lake Dam
Removal of the wetland fills for the snowmobile trails crossing Osprey Creek (ALREADY DONE)
Lowering the CTH NN culverts; and
Changing the Little Round Lake Dam order to reflect management.”

Consequently, despite your assertions to the contrary, we believe that Sawyer County does have a strong predisposition for a so called “passive” management plan thinking that this will ultimately vacate the prevailing **1941 PSC** order and eliminating all future liability for Round Lake Water Levels and Management. We believe that this is an extreme solution and not in the best interest of all Sawyer County residents. The above decisions are well in advance of the

completed S.E.H. study and are an example of the County Board's decision to abdicate its responsibilities before a public meeting or hearing on the matter.

This letter formally notifies the County and the Wisconsin DNR of the (RLPOA) demand for public hearings after the S.E.H study is completed and approved. RLPOA demands that the County take no further action regarding the Lake Placid dam or any other actions affecting Round Lake until the consequences of the actions are addressed in the S.E.H. study.

The RLPOA is preparing a formal petition for public hearings on the matter during the period of time between Memorial Day and Labor Day of 2007. This timeframe allows for seasonal owners of lakefront property an opportunity to be involved in the decision-making process. These seasonal owners represent a significant amount of the tax base of the Round Lake Property Owners Association and deserve an opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

Robert J. Strachota
President

c: Wisconsin DNR
Sawyer County Record