

GERRISH TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
GERRISH TOWNSHIP WITH LYON TOWNSHIP
SWIMMER'S ITCH
June 16, 2015..CORRECTED

Meeting called to order at 2:04 pm at the Lyon Township Hall. Present from Gerrish Township Board: Supervisor Homola, Treasurer Tulgetske and Trustee Link. Absent: Clerk Patchin and Trustee Lippert. Present from Lyon Township Board: Supervisor Nellist, Clerk Reno and Trustee DeHaan. Absent: Treasurer Williams and Trustee Munoz. Also present: Curt Blankespoor, Ron Reimink & Kelsey Froelich from SICon, LLC, Steve Sendek & Dr. Mark Luttenton from Northpoint Fisheries & 21 citizen.

Discussed: Swimmer's Itch

1. Update on Northpoint Fisheries Management program
-See www.gerrishtownship.org for complete report
2. Update on SICon program
-See www.gerrishtownship.org for complete report
3. Continuing with SI Task Force Meetings along with joint Gerrish and Lyon Township Board Meetings

Public Comments:

- When ducks are released what happens?
- Snails generate Swimmers Itch, how did they develop?
- Where you surprised to see 7%?
- Harassing and just shooting interfering with the progress by SICon.
- Nesting boxes concern
- Concerned Higgins Lake being a clear water lake they will always have the Mergansers?
- Has there been or will there be any chemicals put into the water?
- Programs themselves contradict one another?
- Ron Reimink went on record stating that he is offended by the claims that SICON is framing Northpoint by pointing out that of the harvested 23 mergansers, 2 were actually red breasted while Northpoint remains firm in their belief that all 23 mergansers are common.
- Concern with minnows also being blinded from swimmers itch bacteria?
- Has access to data been given of other hot spots from other researches done?
- Could Township's require septic's to be emptied every 2 years?
- Wet year and high water have any connection to the swimmers itch?
- Thigh high water is where the snails generally stay, they now seem to be coming in a bit more is that normal?
- In collation with the 13 other lakes battling swimmers itch, where does Higgins Lake rank?
- How do you measure the SI parasite?
- Why were 2 Red Breasted shot?
- With harassing process, young will nest elsewhere also? How long till you're comfortable with the number in Higgins Lake?
- What's the number currently of Mergansers left on the lake?
- Would the number of eliminated ducks have been different had they not been taken lethally?
- What's the difference in the harassment being done in past years that didn't work vs the harassment being done now?

Lyon Township Treasurer Williams entered meeting at 3:41 pm.

Announcements

Next meeting will be held on July 21, 2015 at 2:00 pm at the Gerrish Township Municipal Building.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm

Leasa Tulgetske, Treasurer

Frank Homola, Supervisor

Approved