

May 27, 2024

Mr. Jeff VanBelle, Chairman
Indian Lake Government Lake Board (ILGLB)
32764 Dixon Street
P.O. Box 464
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Re: Proposal to Provide Weed Harvesting Services

Chairman VanBelle,

The Indian Lake Improvement Association (ILIA) proposes to enter into an agreement with the Indian Lake Governmental Lake Board (ILGLB) to provide aquatic weed harvesting services for Indian Lake. We propose that funds from the Indian Lake Weed Special Assessment District (SAD) be budgeted for the 2025 season for this purpose. The objective of this proposal is to provide background and a proposed contract rate.

1. Background:

- 1.1 The Barr Report includes aquatic weed harvesting as part of the 5-year implementation strategy for managing aquatic weeds at Indian Lake.
- 1.2 The ILGLB was created for the purpose of “Managing Aquatic Weed Control Measures in and Around Indian Lake” and is the agency responsible for the Special Assessment District.
- 1.3 At the June 10, 2023 general meeting of the ILIA, the membership unanimously approved the fundraising for and purchase of an Inland Lake Harvester’s model ILH250 Aquatic Plant Harvester and ILH Tri-Axle Trailer/Conveyor (Harvester and Trailer System) for \$163,862, which includes sales tax and shipping.
- 1.4 As a result of a majority of the lake residents contributing through their annual ILIA membership dues and specific harvester donations, sufficient funds will be committed to allow for the acquisition of the harvester in time for the 2025 season.

2. Proposed Reimbursement Structure:

- 2.1 The ILIA proposes to perform the aquatic weed harvesting and be reimbursed through the SAD.
- 2.2 The Harvester and Trailer System is unique and rental rates for aquatic harvesters are not included in “Equipment Watch’s Rental Rate Blue Book” or the “AED Green Book” – these are annual publications which agencies such as the Michigan Department of Transportation rely on to establish fair rental rates for hourly construction or maintenance equipment.
- 2.3 We propose the establishment of rates for the Harvester and Trailer System and service in accordance with the allowed costs in the “Michigan Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Construction,” Section 109.05.D.5. Attached is a spreadsheet detailing the rate calculation for this system using these standards.
- 2.4 We propose the rate of \$185.00 per hour, based on the number of hours that the Harvester and Trailer System are actually operated to clear and dispose of weeds from Indian Lake. This hourly rate is inclusive of all costs to operate the Harvester and Trailer System, including without limitation operator compensation, insurance, and fuel. Under this arrangement, the total amount of hours charged to the

ILGLB during the 2025 season will not exceed 200 hours. If harvesting activities exceed 200 hours, the ILIA will pay the costs and not seek reimbursement from the ILGLB. In addition, the ILIA will provide the ILGLB with documentation of the hours of operation of the Harvester and Trailer System to clear and dispose of weeds from Indian Lake.

We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet and discuss this proposal with you. The ILIA Board of Directors thanks you for your consideration of this proposal. Please contact me at (312) 953-5889 or kanderson@manatt.com with any questions or to further discuss this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith R. Anderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keith R. Anderson
Chair of the ILIA Board of Directors

Attachment