

**Charter Township of Van Buren**  
**Environmental Commission Work Study**  
**September 19, 2012**

Chairperson Brownlee called the work study meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Brownlee, DeBuck, Gibson, Wilson, Jahr and Tomaino. Staff present: Director Terry Carroll. There were several people in the audience.

Trustee Jahr moves, supported by Commissioner Wilson to approve the agenda. Unanimously approved.

Trustee Jahr moved, supported by Commissioner Wilson to approve the minutes of the Work Study meeting of August 15, 2012 as corrected. Unanimously approved.

Rebecca McMinamin from EnviroScience Inc. gave a detailed presentation regarding biological management of the Eurasian milfoil weed problem such as that being currently experienced on Belleville Lake. Her firm is a team of 45 biologists with 14 years' experience that introduce milfoil weevils to lake systems to control the weed problem. They have worked in over 230 lakes in 16 states.

She pointed out that Eurasian milfoil is never totally eradicated once it comes into a lake. When it comes in it crowds out all other species. It grows earlier in year and faster than all other aquatic plants.

Their firm started stocking lakes with milfoil weevils in 1998. They are a species that is indigenous to Michigan and their firm has a culturing facility in Mount Pleasant.

Typically after they end the stocking stage of their program, they monitor the lake on a yearly basis. This is necessary to insure that re-stocking is not required due to a re-introduction of milfoil from a variety of possible sources.

Many questions were asked by the Environmental Commission and the audience. The Commission requested that Ms. McMinamin's firm provide a proposal by the next meeting of the Environmental Commission.

Mr. Rick Kozol requested that the Environmental Commission receive a yearly report as to the money coming into the Township from STS and what it is being spent on.

Follow-up discussion to the canal dredging topic of last meeting occurred. Commissioner Wilson will work with Director Carroll to try to establish some history on the sedimentation.

Commissioner Gibson, supported by Commissioner Tomaino, moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Department of Development Services