

Bois Blanc Township  
Press Release  
(The Old Pines Dock)

Virtually every Bois Blanc Island resident, property owner and visitor over the years is familiar with what has sometimes been called the Old Pines Dock, the Old Hotel Dock or other name (hereinafter, the “Old Pines Dock”). Unfortunately, for a number of years, the Old Pines Dock has been in disrepair, is deteriorating and parts of it are unsafe. It truly has been an “orphan” dock, as there appears to be no owner of the structure.

Given the problems associated with the Old Pines Dock, Bois Blanc Township is the only legal and practical entity which could obtain title to the old structure, to either demolish it or reconstruct the structure. After a formal public hearing and several meetings had been held, it became clear to Township officials that the overwhelming majority of residents, property owners and visitors to Bois Blanc Island desire to see the Old Pines Dock saved and rebuilt if possible. Therefore, the Township filed a quiet title action in the Mackinac County Circuit Court to obtain title to both the Old Pines Dock and the boat ramp as fixtures. The Court entered an order / judgment on February 21, 2020 quieting title to those fixtures in the Township.

In the near future, the Township will investigate whether the Old Pines Dock can be rebuilt (and if so, the cost thereof), re-designed or whether it will have to be removed permanently. Prior to the Harbor Commission and the Township Board making any final decisions and taking action regarding the Old Pines Dock, the Township Board (likely in conjunction with the Bois Blanc Township Harbor Commission) will hold a public hearing. Thereafter, the Township will pursue grants to assist with all development, removal and/or reconstruction plans for the Old Pines Dock.

The Township Board knows that many citizens have been concerned about the deterioration of the Old Pines Dock and have been following the Township’s efforts to obtain title to the Old Pines Dock as a fixture. The Township appreciates everyone’s assistance and input regarding this matter to date.

Respectfully submitted by,

The Bois Blanc Township Board