



**BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT**

41<sup>st</sup> Election Meeting Minutes July 15, 2017, 8:30 AM

Unity Middle School Cafeteria, 1908 150<sup>th</sup> Street, Hwy 46 N, Balsam Lake, WI

**1) CALL TO ORDER:**

- Tom Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM

**2) COMMISSIONERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:**

- Tom Kelly, Rod Preble, Ray Sloss, Steve Rediske, Dave Mariani, Bill Mork, BLPRD Commissioners
- Patty Kabus, recorder
- Jeremy Williamson, Polk County Land & Water Resources Department

**3) APPROVE AGENDA:**

- Ray Sloss motioned to approve the agenda, Jan Kreminski seconded
- Discussion: Add elections following approval of the minutes
- All approved, motion carried

**4) ELECTION RESULTS:**

- Rod Preble, Bill Mork up for election
- Any other candidates from the floor?
  - none
- Discussion: No objections to voice vote due to only 2 candidates
- Jim Haight motioned, Jan Kreminski seconded, all approved, motion carried

**5) APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2016 ANNUAL MEETING:**

- Phillip Rafnson motioned to approve the April meeting minutes, Mary Kelly seconded, all approved, motion carried

**6) REPORTS:**

- Opening Comments – Tom Kelly
- Core Study – Jeremy Williamson, Polk County Land & Water Resources Dept
  - Presentation from Jeremy on in-depth core study
  - Discussion:
    - Important to gather data before making decisions
    - There are common sense solutions that can be implemented along with other actions – shoreline restoration, etc
    - Proposed study – what is success rate in changing dynamics based on the study (significant if people implement recommendations) – appears positive
    - Discussion as to whether we wait another 3 years before doing anything
- Water Quality / Aquatic Plant Management / Recreation / Navigation
  - East Balsam – Ray Sloss (on behalf of Ed McGlynn)
    - Discussion:
      - Would we use same type of treatment as Cedar? Yes
      - If wind is a factor, is there research on the influence of motors? Should we consider minimizing speed in East Balsam? Spring or fall recommended for Alum treatment due to lower lake usage. Motor influence was not addressed but alum goes down through the water, combines with the water column and drops down.
  - Healthy Lakes 101 – Tom Kelly
    - Site Studies complete, implementation in progress for Healthy Lakes Native Plantings
  - Harvesting – Rod Preble
    - Reviewed Harvester activities to date
    - Harvester building discussion
    - Appreciation was expressed for work at Paradise Landing, much improved
  - Clean Boats Clean Waters – Ray Sloss
    - Reviewed progress and activities
  - CLP Treatment – Ray Sloss
    - Reviewed progress and activities
    - Discussed stocking
      - Question – where is sticking done? Not sure, need to find out
  - Aquatic Invasive Species – Bill Mork
    - Update on Zebra mussels and Milfoil – the 2 travel together. Significantly changes the lake and cost to correct and maintain is high. 100% removal is really not possible once they invade
    - Review Rapid Response plan review and budget
      - Discussion: Used to spray near landings (all accesses at the same time) but was defunded by DNR around the year 2000. Investigate possibility
      - Question about aquatic invasive species detector program to train volunteers (MN University) –investigate

- Fishing tournaments are a major source of exposure
- Request for motion to increase budget to \$20,000 for rapid response. Denise Pardello motioned to approve budget increase to \$20,000.00, Dave Kerr seconded, all approved, motion carried
- Discussion: Ron Ward mentioned geese as invasive species, due to Ecoli and amount of manure (1.5 pounds per goose per day). Request BLPRD to consider a program to deal with this. Rod mentioned the village is considering a program at the village (not brought to board yet, still in committee) to remove geese. Dead geese are used in animal feed and after testing, some go to homeless shelters. Also could post a no feeding of waterfowl sign. Village will ask BLPRD to match their funding of \$2,500 (still in committee and has not yet been brought to the Village board or approved)
  - (i) Proposal to match village \$2,500 amount to help with reducing goose population
    1. Request for a motion to approve matching of village cost up to \$2,500 to participate in eradication of geese, motion by Bill Mork, Seconded by Jan Kreminski
    2. Discussion: mowed shoreline increases the issue. Need to look at all options before jumping to killing geese. There could be multi-pronged approaches to getting rid of them. Immediate remediation is removal of geese, also potentially oiling eggs
    3. All approved, motion carried
- Dredging – Rod Preble
  - Dale Ulbricht is working on permit – will hand deliver raw information in the next week or two, application target is this year, confidence level for approval is very high. Will be reviewed with the full board before submitting application
  - Discussion: Which Bays? Pine Island, Raskin Bay, Forest Circle. Why these 3 bays? Raskin Bay had an issue and this started the discussion. Other bays then came in asking to be included. Rod did sediment samples and discussed with the DNR. They were alarmed at the phosphorous levels in the 3 bays. The 3 bays are first, others could follow. Question: Is this for navigation or phosphorous removal? Phosphorous is the goal, navigation is the by-product. Just inside East Balsam is the worst part of the lake (but not on the current list). How many pounds of phosphorous is dredging targeted to remove, and how will this impact the quality of the rest of the lake? This is not known. Note – Spawning no longer occurs in these bays, dredging would correct that and would restore the native plant environment. Mentioned that it takes 10 years to restore (Dale mentioned that is only an issue if you go below the natural impervious bottom and we only plan to remove peat so this is not a concern). Question – are we looking at mechanical or envirolink dredging? We are looking at hydraulic dredging using an enviro-tube. Has it been proven that once you do this process,

the fish will come back? – That is one of the things that the DNR assists with in the process. Question – what caused this and how long before it happens again? – None of the bays had water in them in the past. The dam (built in 1910) created the bays. How does this remove phosphorous? – The filter bag processes and removes phosphorous. Water is filtered through the ground.

**7) RESOLUTION:**

- Amend by-laws to include –

**Special Meetings shall only be held between Memorial Day and Labor Day**

- Jeanne O'Connell motioned to approve wording change, Mary Beth Elhardt seconded, majority approved, motion carried

**8) TREASURER REPORT:**

- 2016 Annual Report and 2017 YTD / 2018 Budget
- Tom motioned to approve the budget, Ron Helms seconded
- Discussion: why was \$45,000 not used to pay down the loan? We need liquidity to operate. As grants came in, we have been paying down the loan. About \$60,000 has been paid down on the Harvester
- All approved, motion carried
- Request for motion to approve the core study (per Jeremy's presentation) - Robert Preston motioned, Mary Beth Elhardt seconded
- Discussion: Our portion is \$30,000 over 3 years. Clarify – we won't proceed without DNR funding. We don't apply for funding- Jeremy does this on behalf of the county so our portion is \$30,000 (\$10,000 each year over 3 years). If the funding is not given and the work is not approved, and the \$10,000 is not used, it will go to the protection fund.
- All approved, motion carried

**9) OLD BUSINESS:**

- None

**10) NEW BUSINESS:**

- Long Range Plan Update – Tom Kelly
  - To be delayed until core study is completed
- Request for new business – Is there anything we can do to alleviate runoff due to construction? This is a county and village permit issue. Ray – it is in our area to work with the village and county. Can call the county and zoning to report incorrect practices. BLPRD can contact county to discuss and will search for a way to help with this.

**11) ADJOURN:**

- Jim Haight motioned to adjourn, Jan Kreminski seconded, all approved, motion carried