



BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Monthly Meeting Minutes January 19, 2019, 8:30 AM

Polk Business Center Meeting Room

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Tom Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM

2) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- Tom Kelly, Rod Preble, Steve Rediske, Bill Mork, Dave Mariani (teleconference), Dick Miller (teleconference)

3) OTHERS PRESENT:

- Patty Kabus (recorder-teleconference)

4) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

5) APPROVE AGENDA:

- Bill motioned to approve the agenda, Steve seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

6) APPROVE MINUTES:

- Rod motioned to approve the December Meeting Minutes, Bill seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

7) TREASURER REPORT AND PAY CLAIMS:

- Balance Sheet, P&L and budget for December were reviewed by the board.
- Rod motioned to approve the December Balance Sheet, P&L and Budget and payment of bills, Steve seconded, all approved, motion carried.

8) Water Quality

- East Balsam Miller / Wilhoit

- Working to get at least 10 citizens (plus Andy and Dick) on the committee for alum treatments – goal is for them to become educated and then to ask questions and provide feedback.
- If more want to participate that is fine. We have a good list already of people to contact.
- Meetings scheduled for April 27 from 9-11 and again May 18 from 10-12 with the committees.
- Current thought is that cost to homeowners could be based on property value, minus the grants. This is how past projects were funded. Could also borrow funds if needed.
- Sedimentation - Dredging / Preble
 - Conversation with Bill James about testing the sediment to prove to the DNR that dredging is needed. He can do that.
 - Had a discussion with him about dredging for navigational and water quality.
 - Will also discuss with Alex Smith in early February.
 - Per Alex, next steps are monitoring through Bill James or Jeremy Williamson from the county to get enough data to prove that water quality is being affected by the high phosphorous contamination.
 - Dave - Residents discussed what to do with Pine Island Bay, they will do research for dredging in their bay. Possibly the bay owners would pay for the dredging of their bay. Permit is not an issue because it is maintenance, as it has been dredged before.
- Healthy Lakes Native Plantings / Kelly
 - Received a check for 2017/2018 grant funds reimbursement money.
 - Still running the program for 2019 (promoted through the newsletter). Call Tom Kelly if interested.
- Aquatic Plant Management and Invasive species
 - CBCW / Mork
 - Grant has been approved – expect to receive a check soon.
 - CLP Purple- Loosestrife / Preble
 - Need to get an initiative in 2019 to address purple loosestrife, based on landing inspection report.
 - Can pull weeds if in the water, if on land, need to get permission from the owner.

9) OLD BUSINESS:

- PINE ISLAND BAY PROPERTIES – add to district / Mariani
 - Given difficulty providing documentation acceptable to Polk County appears there is a need to engage an attorney to help with getting the 3 properties recorded as being in the lake district. Tom will afford Dave names of attorneys that could possibly assist.
- Rice Creek sedimentation pond sign / Mariani/Kelly

- Still need to contact the school, but Rod has someone else who can do it if the school isn't interested. Andy has one as well but would be nice to have it done locally.
- Polk County Shoreline Zoning / Mariani
 - Nothing new. There is one group (PCLAR) who sends out letters protesting any changes every time a meeting is called that has anything to do with the lakes.
 - Tom feels it is good to have a watchdog as a resource.
 - Do not need to address anything at this time but we should keep an eye on what they are sending out.
 - We are a member of PCLAR and are afforded notification via email when it takes a position on suggested ordinance changes. Most of the Lakes Districts in the area are members. Members have been asked to support PCLAR initiatives as it pertains to potential zoning changes. Often those requests for written support are received the day before the meetings scheduled to discuss the changes. Accordingly our District has insufficient time to review at the board level the support request and thus has declined to respond in writing.

10) OTHER REPORTS:

- Village / Rediske
 - Looked at hiring additional people to help with snow plowing.
 - New Janitor hired.
 - Library wants a new library where the county building came down.
 - Liquor license approved for Village fest for Paradise.
 - Election people have been hired.
 - Goose roundup permit has been applied for.
- County / Mariani
 - Board of Adjustments – there are some changes happening on the board
 - Dave will call the county and let them know we would like to have input on shoreland variance requests.
 - Rod noted that anyone interested in multi-use of the trails, needs to reply back as soon as possible – this is likely the last opportunity to comment on it.

11) NEW BUSINESS:

- BLPRD needs to review the DNR Aquatic Plant Management Plan – it is a 300 page document. Rod will review and report back to the board.
 - Rod is still reading through this.
 - Rod stated the reason to eliminate invasive species is to support fish population, but that is the same reason to not eliminate native species. Both can be detriments to fish population if it overgrows so it's a little confusing.

12) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Other discussion:
 - In light of the recent tragedy of someone going through the ice, Bill wondered if we should put up some signs. The DNR doesn't do this based on liability.
 - Bill wondered if we should mark historically thin areas on the beach sign.
 - Apparently the person who rented the place told the renter to drive across the lake.
 - The question is, if we put thin ice signs up, are we opening ourselves up to a lawsuit if someone goes through the ice where there is no sign.
 - Per Steve, the village looked at this when they put in the bridge, but did not do so because of liability.

13) ADJOURN:

- Rod motioned to adjourn, Bill seconded, all approved, motion carried.