



BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Monthly Meeting October 15th, 2016, 8:30 AM

Polk Business Center Meeting Room

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- Tom Kelly called the meeting to order at 10:36 AM

2. COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- Tom Kelly, Ray Sloss, Dave Mariani, Ed McGlynn, Rod Preble, and Steve Rediske
- Absent was Bill Mork

3. OTHERS PRESENT:

- Patty Kabus (Recorder)

4. APPROVE AGENDA:

- Tom Kelly entered a motion to add LeMere Zoning exception application to the agenda. Ed McGlynn seconded, all approved. Motion carried.
- A motion was made to approve the agenda by Ray Sloss. Ed McGlynn seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

5. APPROVE MINUTES:

- Reviewed the September 17th meeting minutes. Steve Rediske should be added to the list of last month's commissioners present.
- A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes by Rod Preble. Steve Rediske seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Tom Kelly noted that the bridge dedication to Carl Holmgren was held since the last meeting. Rod Preble and Steve Rediske attended. The dedication was well attended by the community and members of the VFW.

7. TREASURER REPORT AND PAY CLAIMS:

- Ray Sloss reported that he met with the accountant and spent one half day going through the books. She found no issues. She did change how the harvester is carried in the financials. She created a Special report for Bill to show balances in a new format.
- Ray reviewed the income and expenses.
- Ray reviewed the new balance sheet data with the following discussion and highlights:
 - a) Discussion around why conservancy property is include in valuation (assets)
 - b) Ray to check whether the 19,000 is recorded correctly as it reflects what will be owed next year
 - c) The harvester, truck, trailer and conveyor should be added as fixed assets for next month
 - d) The budget comparison sheet is missing – per Ray, the harvester equipment will change on the budget
 - e) Matt Berg (app 3-5k) and Bill James have bills yet to be presented
 - f) Overall, expenses are significantly under budget
 - g) Final grant money for the harvester has not yet been received
 - h) The Rice Creek sedimentation has not been funded yet
 - i) Ray explained that district residents are taxed for operating expenses. Any funds left over at year end go to the protection fund. There will be 40k left in the dredging fund that can be moved to other items as needed
 - j) Rod Preble noted we should be funded 50% or more in case of a catastrophe
 - k) Ray and Rod explained that grant applications are filed by Feb, approved in March and paid in April
- Ray presented for payment:
 - a) Balsam Lake Hardware - \$329.99 impact driver for harvester
 - b) Bill Mork – \$803 expense report – Tom Kelly signed his approval
 - c) KLE Design – \$2000 – Dockside Design
 - d) JJ Webb - \$75 – web site
 - e) Paperworx - \$1191.60 – printing services
 - f) Paperworx - \$335.71 - postage
 - g) Jaycox - \$2695 – GPS with antenna (part of harvester grant) – Tom Kelly signed his approval

- A motion was made by Ed McGlynn to approve the treasurer's report and pay claims as presented. Rod Preble seconded, all approved, motion carried.

8. LONG TERM PLAN:

- Water Quality:
 - a) Ed McGlynn reported that the probe is coming out of East Balsam today (continuous Monitor Probe) – the lake looks crystal clear right now. The recent rainfall helped
 - b) A report will be coming that will note impact of sediment vs. algae bloom to determine the correlation – this will help to determine if an alum treatment will be effective (it is only effective if due to sediment)
 - c) Need to reinforce farm runoff program
 - d) Rod Preble noted that a 1975 water study said source of phosphorous is due to overland runoff. Farms are major cause of runoff
 - e) Tom Kelly reported that 800 "Healthy Lakes" postcards went out. 25 applications have come in with additional questions coming in. The first year, improvements will focus on rain gardens. If there is a major runoff source, the Healthy Lakes program may not be the best program due to the \$1000 limit. Ray reported that per the DNR presentation, resident contribution can be sweat equity at \$15 per hour.
- Aquatic Plant Management:
 - a) Ray Sloss reported that the Clean Boats Clean Water program was extremely successful, and the program has terminated for the year. The budget was exceeded and as a result, the Little Balsam and East Balsam launch program hours will be cut back next year, which is funded by the district. Tom Kelly congratulated Ray on a successful program. Steve Rediske noted the boats on Main Street have fewer weeds than they used to.
 - b) Rod Preble reported that the harvester is on gravel now and is being winterized. App 52-60 hours of harvesting was done. No reports of loose weeds as the ground and water was manually raked every load. Discussion will be held with the DNR in the winter about why they are denying some requests for harvest locations. 160 hours budgeted so will be plenty of hours to use. Steve noted there are a lot of floating roots where the cleaning was done- Rod noted that cleanup has to be done while the machine is in the water. The district may need to get a gas powered pressure washer to rinse while it's in the lake at \$760.
 - c) Ray Sloss reported that he is meeting with Amy Kay (owner of Clean Lakes water Treatment Company) Thursday to go look at treated areas to make sure everything is good. Of the 5 year contract, there are 3 years left.
- Sedimentation / Dredger Project:
 - a) Rod Preble reported that a meeting was held and a decision was made to try to use land sites for sediment. The goal is to get the project moving. A permit is the only cost. Ray noted the lake bottom soil is not owned by the district. Rod to get

in touch with Dan Harrington as to whether we can pump onto land. Sub-committee Rod, Bill, Dave to follow up. They will also ask someone from Forrest Circle to join the sub-committee. Another possibility is that dredging additional basins further up to hold sediment and prevents runoff. Will discuss with Cheryl as well as planting in the runoff areas. Ponds around the lake may need to be dredged over time.

- Conservancies:
 - a) Per Ray, we need to look at settling pond sign to bring up to standards

9. OTHER REPORTS:

- Balsam Lake Village - Steve Rediske reported new equipment. Ray determines township tax levies, etc. Dept heads are working to get one spreadsheet for all depts. Flower baskets have been ordered. Due to a theft of shower coin boxes, camper fees will be increased to cover instead of replacing the coin boxes. Next board meeting will be Nov 14th due to Election Day. Discussion around election positions coming up for re-election.
- Polk County – Dave Mariani reported that the county is not very involved. They are willing to help in regard to dredging. Discussed how the land & water department at the county can work with farmers on phosphorous reduction with funding help. They would also help in monitoring. They may also be able to help determine sediment dumping locations. They could take soil samples, possibly help with perk tests, etc. If the county can assist us in getting grant money, it would help with East balsam alum treatments. We already have funding for dredging, so if we can get the county to help us get DNR approval for the dredging it may help.
- DockSide – Dave Mariani reported that quite a few email responses were received due to Dockside email requests. Email communication would be cost effective and timely. Rod asked about ability to add an email collection point to the website. Dave will explore email only options, adding email to county records, etc.
- Mailing list – Discussed options for mailing vs. email.

10. OLD BUSINESS:

- Harvester Building / Preble:
 - a) Discussion around getting bids for services.
- Commissioner Comp for services to be hired / Kelly:
 - a) Discussion around whether a commissioner would be paid the same as others. Tom supports this. Dave mentioned a commissioner would do a better job. Rod mentioned that a conflict of interest could be a concern. Ray mentioned the Clean Boats / Clean Water is not a skilled position as it's just managing people and noted that Rod makes a good argument for paying if the position is skilled. There is a need to document separation of paid vs. non-paid activities. It needs to be well documented if commissioners ask for payment for services. It needs

to be discussed by the board before payment is made. This would be an internal policy, not part of the bylaws.

- 2017 Budget – add \$5000 to CBCW / Sloss:
 - b) Item Closed.
- Harvester operating budget itemized in 2017 budget / Sloss:
 - a) Item Closed.
- Balance sheet updated to include equipment, land, liabilities / Sloss: Item Closed.
- Bylaws / Bill (noted in absentia) – wording change:
 - a) Any remittance for an obligation approved by the Board of \$2,500 or greater shall require the signature of two Executive Committee Board members.
Amounts less than \$2,500 require a single signature.
- Resolution - special meetings are to be held between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Was voted on and approved at annual meeting. Work in progress
- Audit needs to be done outside, or by 3 members of the electorate. Ray noted we are not currently in line with the statutes. Ray- real solution is to get the statute changed at the state level. Bill is currently working on this.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

- Re: The Lemere special exception application for marina and transit lodging and to rent to friends and family as well. BLPRD concern is increased runoff and possible disturbance of sedimentation in shallow waters. They provided a plan for runoff prevention, which is in the application. DNR is at arm's length regarding this item. Algae growth exists due to runoff already and this is identified as a problem area. Rod – need a detailed plan for setback and runoff management. Rod will go to Tuesday meeting but needs a document from the board with runoff concern. Tom will draw up and route for review. Ray mentioned we should have a chance to review all special exemption requests. Lori Bonning at zoning can forward requests for exceptions. (no one was appointed to contact her)

12. REVIEW AND CLOSE OLD ACTION ITEMS:

- None

13. REVIEW NEW ACTION ITEMS:

- Need to get the DNR in (has to be a weekday) towards the end of the week (Friday?) to discuss aquatic plant meeting before the next meeting. Rod to schedule.
- Ray to check whether the 19,000 is recorded correctly as it reflects what will be owed next year
- Rod to get in touch with Dan Harrington as to whether we can pump onto land. Sub-committee Rod, Bill, Dave to follow up. They will also ask someone from Forrest Circle to join the sub-committee.
- Ed to look at the settling pond sign for needed repairs

- Steve to work with Balsam Lake Village to move to one spreadsheet for all departments to use
- Dave will explore email only options for communication, adding email to county records, etc.
- Bill is working on a solution for auditing the financial records

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Investigate possibility of obtaining a new gas pressure washer to wash weeds off Harvester while it is still in the water (\$760) - Rod

15. ADJOURN:

- A motion was made to adjourn by Rod Preble. Ray Sloss seconded, all approved. Motion carried.