



BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Board Meeting April 20, 2024 8:30 AM Central Time

Call in phone number 612-508-0879

Thomas Kelly is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82627573253>

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Commissioner Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM

2) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT (via teleconference):

- Tom Kelly, Gary Schneider, Terry Palmberg, Jack Weix, Bill Mork, Dale Ulbrich, Gary Schneider

3) OTHERS PRESENT:

- Marisa Wieder, Lake District Manager
- Patty Kabus, Recorder

4) APPROVE AGENDA:

- Commissioner Ulbrich motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Weix seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

5) APPROVE MINUTES: March 2024

- Commissioner Schneider motioned to approve the March Meeting Minutes with the amendment, Commissioner Palmberg seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

6) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

7) TREASURER REPORT:

- Financials / Schneider
- Commissioner Schneider presented the February and March Financials.

- Commissioner Palmberg motioned to approve the February and March financials, Commissioner Kelly seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

8) Water Quality

- Alum Solitude contract 24 & 26 / Wieder & Kelly
 - The original contract has been signed without some proposed changes that Solitude wanted to make.
 - Marisa provided an update on the alum treatment permits. Cheryl Clemmons is handling the permit application and it is in progress.

9) Aquatic Plant Management and Invasive species

- CBCW / Mork
 - Everything is set in terms of the CBCW program. They are possibly looking to start in 2 weeks, for opening fishing season
- Purple loosestrife yellow Iris eradication / Mork
 - Commissioner Mork will be looking to have more beetles released this year
- Harvesting CLP & Navigation / Weix
 - Matt Berg is ready to map out the lake when the weather warms up
 - Marisa helped us renew the grant, it did not require re-application
 - Marisa is spearheading the herbicide spraying if it is needed. The bids were very close so we chose the person we worked with before, who is now at a new company named Tigress. Tigress will be doing the work.
 - We now have electricity in the storage building
- Zebra Mussels /Ulbrich
 - Monitoring stations are all in place. Land and Water uses the data from the stations and they also do a veliger count each season
- Watercraft CLEANING STATIONS CD3 / Ulbrich
 - Cleaning stations are all set and ready to go.
 - The docks are also in and the monitoring stations are in place
 - There is a new sign the county will be placing, to replace another sign that they already have at the launches
 - Last year we were having trouble with one of the vacuums and that part has now been replaced

10) Water Patrol / Schneider

- 2023 water patrol / Schneider
 - We have not gotten any interest in the water patrol position. We haven't had contact from the Homeowner's Association about the new boat, but Sunnyside Marina does have the new boat in
 - Grady Levine from the surf club will again be doing educational activities, and are looking to put a sign up about wake boating at the entrance to Little Balsam
 - Terry still has a number of brochures left from last year
 - There is a QR code on the launch signage to report violations as well as one to learn about invasive species

11) OLD BUSINESS

- Rice Creek Conservancy - signage / Palmberg
 - Commissioner Palmberg has created signage with Sign Express and proposes 3 signs, one at each entrance to Stumps Bay and one at Rice Creek. The thought is that we don't need one at the Dever Property. Recommended sign size is 18" x 24". The new sign would be attached to the existing signs
 - Commissioner Kelly recommended the sign be placed at the top of the signs rather than at the bottom
 - Alumicore is a good option for the sign materials
 - Commissioner Kelly brought up the possibility to include a map showing the boundaries, or possibly put one or two more signs in different locations in both Stumps Bay as well as at Rice Creek
 - Commissioner Weix also suggested we get an extra sign or two so that if there is vandalism, we can replace the signs quickly. Also, Stumps Bay on the north end as well as on the water access. Commissioner Kelly noted we could just have a 'Posted' sign in a few places as well
- Construction Project Little Balsam Hillside cave in / Palmberg
 - This is still an issue, but the homeowners have apparently decided that what has been done so far is all they plan to do. They believe they have remediated the water quality issue. Commissioner Kelly asked that if anyone takes a boat out, they take some pictures so we can see if the soil has been removed from the lake. Commissioner Mork will get some pictures next weekend while he is out on his boat
 - This property was approved when the zoning department was in flux. The slope appears to be over the maximum and was approved without the necessary variance. As a result, all we can do is to verify that the silt has been removed from the lake and that there is some way to prevent it from happening again.
- Nanno Technology – sediment remediation / Ulbrich
 - Nothing new since we met last time. This will be proposed in the next budget and a vote taken in the annual meeting
 - Marisa mentioned that they would like to do some sediment samples before and after so they can see the organic matter content, as well as phosphorous and soil composition. There would be one sample for every couple acres, In order to do this, we just need to send them a baggie full of sediment (muck). Commissioner Ulbrich said he will speak to Kaitlyn about borrowing a tool to collect the samples. The sonogram will measure the depth of the organic matter, and we will measure the depth both before and after the treatment. Commissioner Kelly noted there is a lot of phosphorous in the muck (something like 500 times the acceptable levels)
 - There are some places we will need to treat in more than one place where bays are pretty open. We will want to start with a smaller bay that has less circulation as we'll be better able to see the change more quickly

- Molaer has started profiling the bays in the lake as pre-work. We have been discussing additional ways to track success
- Egg Oiling / Wieder
 - Egg oiling is wrapping up., 69 eggs ere oiled. 2 people were hired and they spent 49 hours.
- L & W runoff project / Wieder
 - Although the landowner is interested, this has been delayed until next year

12) NEW BUSINESS

- L&W Watershed report
 - The report has been distributed and demonstrated a few properties that have more runoff than typical. We could use this to try to get some mitigation done on these properties, potentially using Healthy Lakes money to help pay for those areas most in need of mitigation
 - Commissioners Weix and Ulbrich noted we should target these properties right away
- Stumps Bay Conservancy / Kelly
 - Commissioner Kelly noted a property owner has about 2.5 acres adjacent to Stumps Bay they are interested in selling to the BLPRD. There was discussion on this about 7 years ago. There is another property that could possibly be purchased. The Commissioners all agreed in principal that we should pursue this further, as well as reaching out to the property in between to see if we want to pursue both. Commissioner Weix offered to assist with this process.
- 2025 Budget / Schneider
 - The budget has been sent out for commissioner input. Commissioner Schneider noted some of the items that need to be added to the budget for next year
 - Commissioner Schneider asked for input by the end of the month so it can be finalized
- 24 Summer Dockside / Kelly
 - The summer Dockside functions as the meeting notice for the annual meeting. Commissioner Kelly asked for articles by May 15th and out no later than the third week of June, and noted some of the items to be included

13) OTHER REPORTS:

- Milltown / Palmberg
 - Nothing new
- County / Mariani
 - No report

14) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- **None**

15) ADJOURN:

- Commissioner Ulbrich motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Palmberg seconded, all approved, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM