



BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Monthly Meeting Minutes April 15, 2023 8:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83138300033?pwd=KzRSaFBQTlh2TGV5YlowL1FiSzRNZz09>

Call in phone number 612-508-0879

**1) CALL TO ORDER:**

- Commissioner Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM

**2) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

- All via teleconference: Tom Kelly, Gary Schneider, Jack Weix, Dave Mariani, Dale Ulbrich

**3) OTHERS PRESENT (all via teleconference):**

- Patty Kabus, recorder
- B L Johnson
- Mark Pautch (Surf Club)
- Grady Levine (Surf Club)
- Randy Langkos

**4) APPROVE AGENDA:**

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

**5) APPROVE MINUTES: March 2023**

- Review minutes. Commissioner Schneider motioned to approve the March Meeting Minutes, Commissioner Mariani seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

**6) PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Mark Pautch had sent an email with comments, which were sent to the board.

## **7) TREASURER REPORT:**

- Financials / Schneider
  - Commissioner Schneider Presented the March Financials
  - Commissioner Ulbrich motioned to approve the financials, Commissioner Mariani seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

## **8) Water Quality**

- East Balsam / Kelly
  - We did get approved for the grant for the third of four applications in 2024
  - Commissioner Kelly will oversee the Alujm project for now

## **9) Aquatic Plant Management and Invasive species**

- CBCW / Mork
  - Commissioner Mork is working on getting the fishing tournament list from the DNR but does not yet have the list compiled. He will share it with Commissioner Ulbrich when he gets it
  - Terry Morton will again be leading the team this year and they have sufficient staff
- Purple loosestrife yellow Iris eradication / Mork
  - No update
- Harvesting CLP & Navigation / Weix
  - Once the ice goes out, Matt will go do his survey and will get it to Amy Kay at Aquatic Services who will determine if they will do an herbicide treatment
  - Cheryl at Harmony Environmental will provide the Aquatic Management Plan
  - Plan for a 5% increase in herbicide treatment if we need it
  - If we need to spray, we will need a permit. We also need a permit for Harvesting. Cheryl Clemmons can assist with this and the permitting process is very quick
  - We do budget to do all of the beds in case they are needed
  - We also have a 3-year AIS grant that has been extended. Commissioner Kelly believes this is the third year of the 3-year grant. Cheryl Clemmons will work on the next grant as it takes some effort to do.

## **10) Water Patrol / Schneider**

- Large wave watercraft / Schneider
  - Commissioner Schneider presented the action plan
    - Enhanced education, enforcement
    - We have brought on another patrol officer
    - The Surf Club has volunteered to assist with education
  - Randy shared that Lake Okachobee in Iowa is using buoys to denote the 100 foot from shoreline to help boat owners know where that mark is. He said they put them every 150 feet or so apart. He suggested that Little Balsam would be a good place to do this.
  - Mark Pautch expressed concern that people who just don't like wake boats, will consider it 'open season' on wake boats and report people who aren't doing anything wrong

- He also offered the Surf Club to assist in education and communications to wake boat owners
- Commissioner Kelly expressed appreciation for the Surf Club in offering their assistance
- Grady Levine asked how improvement will be quantified?
- Commissioner Kelly stated the number of complaints, warnings, tickets, etc will inform as to whether this year's educational push is effective

## **11) OLD BUSINESS**

- Watercraft CLEANING STATIONS CD3 / Ulbrich
  - The cleaning stations have finished being manufactured this week
  - Next steps are to get the signs ready
  - We got the first grant back and it has been deposited. Once the stations are installed, we can apply for the remainder
  - Target is to have them installed by early May.
  - Milltown Township has to have an open meeting so it is slightly delayed
  - There is an easement issue with the neighboring property on the Little Balsam Landing that will require a little extra work for that location. Hopefully it will not delay the installation
  - We are adding insurance for the cleaning stations to our regular policy
  - There is a handout for the CBCW staff to hand out, explaining cleaning stations and invasive species sitings (particularly those not yet reported)
  - We have towels from the county to hand out this spring, to remind people to use the cleaning stations
  - Commissioner Ulbrich shared the proposed signage and brochure information
- Zebra Mussels /Ulbrich
  - Counts will begin as soon as the docks are in The county will count previous sites
- Petition to join District – Huss, Mariani, Ulbrich
  - One of the petitions has been received, the other 2 have not yet been received
  - The BLPRD could petition the county but having individual petitions is simpler and less expensive
  - Milltown now has exceeded Balsam Lake Village in revenue, but a municipality that has a dam takes precedence. Commissioner Kelly will look into what this means for the BLPRD. There are currently two or three board members residing in Milltown so they are already represented
- Recorder/Admin position – All
  - Still no one identified. Information and a job description will be posted on the website

## **12) NEW BUSINESS**

- Website enhancement
  - Discussion around getting the website finalized as soon as possible since much of the new brochures, etc will direct people to our website

- 2024 budget
  - Please have your budget input in within the next 2 weeks
  - The budget needs to be finalized and in the June Dockside
  - Send budget updates to Commissioner Schneider
  - For next year, we may be able to leverage the website so we can all work on the same document
- Commissioner Schneider suggested we ask Tommy and the new deputy at the next meeting

**13) OTHER REPORTS:**

- Village / Schneider
  - There is a new village President, Jim Duncan
  - Jenna Paquette is now on the village council
  - Commissioner Schneider talked to Amy about complaints about boat landings. They will discuss adding concrete to the landings
- County / Mariani
  - No update

**14) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- None

**15) ADJOURN:**

- Commissioner Ulbrich motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Weix seconded, all approved, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM