



BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Monthly Meeting Minutes November 19, 2022 8:30 AM

Call in phone number 612-508-0879

1) CALL TO ORDER:

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

2) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- Tom Kelly, Gary Schneider, Dave Mariani (teleconference), Dale Ulbrich, Andy Wilhoit

3) OTHERS PRESENT:

- Patty Kabus (recorder)

4) APPROVE AGENDA:

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

5) APPROVE MINUTES: October 2022

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

6) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

7) TREASURER REPORT:

- Financials / Schneider
 - Financials / Schneider - Commissioner Schneider presented the September and October Treasurer's reports. Commissioner Wilhoit motioned to approve the September and October Financial Reports, Commissioner Ulbrich seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

8) Water Quality

- East Balsam / Wilhoit
 - Grant application for next year has been submitted
 - Monitoring expenses have been approved and results have been distributed to the Board
 - Research into what is happening in Cedar Lake – their issues are due to high iron content in the water. Low iron in our lake was part of the reasoning for recommending treating with Alum

9) Aquatic Plant Management and Invasive species

- CBCW / Mork
 - No updates, finished until next year

Purple Loosestrife Yellow Iris eradication / Mork (Commissioner Kelly provided updates)

- The county is working on the release beetles (or they already have and they just haven't notified us yet)
- We are seeing an increase on the land-based invasive species such as yellow iris. These are being pulled out as they are found
- Harvesting CLP & Navigation / Weix (Commissioner Kelly provided updates)
 - The harvesting reports have been distributed to the Board. CLP decreased significantly this year as compared to last year
 - The crew is in good position for next year
 - The harvester is in good shape

10) Water Patrol / Schneider

- We got the year end report and are up about 30 hours from last year
- Citations are up from 5 to 12 this year, with 30 more hours
- We have another officer potentially lined up for next year, officer Noah who served under Tommy Thompson in the Balsam Police Force
- Still working on the boat issue, the boat we have is fine for another season

11) OLD BUSINESS

- Watercraft CLEANING STATIONS CD3 / Ulbrich
 - The grants are all in as of this week, all villages have agreed to signing a land use agreement. The lawyer will need to create the agreement
 - The total estimated cost to the district is just over \$78,000. An amount up to \$80,000 was approved in the annual meeting
 - Once we know what grant money is approved, then we will determine if we can do all launches. If not, we will start with the main launches. We do not expect to hear back from the DNR on the grant money until February
- Zebra Mussels /Ulbrich
 - We put an article in the Dockside about the Zebra mussels
 - Update on zebra mussels in Balsam Lake, found at some of the monitors.

- In reviewing signage for the addition of Zebra mussel information, Commissioner Ulbrich would like to do a redesign of the signage to make them better organized and consistent
- Lake Wapogasset also has discovered zebra mussels this year
- Nanno Bubbles technology / Ulbrich
 - More information will be provided at the next meeting on this topic
 - In our long-range plan, Barr Engineering mentioned aeration processes
- Large wave boats - shoreline erosion and safety / Schneider
 - The subcommittee has already met a few times and are looking at what other lakes are doing.
 - In the first meeting, they all agreed that something needs to be done. In the second meeting, they started looking at the impacts to recreation as far as how many feet from shore people would need to stay slow/no wake. They created a map showing the impact of a 300 foot no wake zone and it would have a huge impact on the lake
 - Discussion around how to undergo a process for education, decision making, timeline
 - Potential next steps and timeline:
 - (1) Education: Dockside article for the Nov 2022 edition, as well as the June 2023 edition. Create laminated signs of the map showing 200,300 and 500 foot impact. Use the signs to communicate with as many people as possible on a one on one basis
 - (2) Solicit Public Comments: potentially issue a survey over the winter, have a public comment period around June of 2023, and solicit input at the annual meeting
 - (3) Increased enforcement over the summer of 2023
 - (4) Define ordinance options: Once we have feedback, create an ordinance and have a comment period prior to adopting in the fall of 2023. We need to ask if we need to send a draft of a local ordinance to the DNR and how soon – ask Bill O’Connor The new ordinance would be communicated in the fall Dockside, and then go into effect for the 2024 boating season.
- BL snowmobile club use of BLPRD building for servicing snow graders / All
 - No insurance issue with allowing this, they would have to provide their own insurance and sign a liability waiver for anything that happens to their equipment or to ours while they are using it
 - Should be subject to reserving room for the cleaning stations
 - We would need to rent to them for a stated amount such as \$1 a year

12) NEW BUSINESS

- There was a request for the BLPRD to consider meeting on a different weekend than the third Saturday due to conflicts. This will be discussed at a meeting when all Commissioners are present.

13) OTHER REPORTS:

- Village / Schneider
 - The Clerk is retiring, a new person is taking her place and they have hired another assistant
 - They approved the intent for the cleaning stations
- County / Mariani
 - With it being a new board, we need to work on communication with the county governance. Will take time for them to settle in and for us to develop a relationship with them

14) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

15) ADJOURN:

- Commissioner Wilhoit motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Schneider seconded, all approved, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:12 AM

