



BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Monthly Meeting Minutes September 17, 2022 8:30 AM

Call in phone number 612-559-8678

1) CALL TO ORDER:

- Commissioner Mork called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM

2) COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

- Gary Schneider, Andy Wilhoit (teleconference), Bill Mork, Dave Mariani, Jack Weix

3) OTHERS PRESENT:

- Patty Kabus (recorder)
- Ryan Wood (County Commissioner)
- Tommy Thompson (Water Patrol)
- Randy Langkos (resident)
- Fran Launstein (resident)

4) APPROVE AGENDA:

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

5) APPROVE MINUTES: June 2022

- Review June Minutes. Commissioner Mariani motioned to approve the June Meeting Minutes, Commissioner Wilhoit seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

6) PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Fran Lauenstein - wake surf / large wave boats East Balsam / Schneider & Thompson

- Interested in the board status on wake boats on the whole lake. Shoreline damage on East Balsam
- Joe Deignan - wake surf/large wave boats Little Balsam / Schneider & Thompson
- Randy Langkos - wake surf/large wave boats Little Balsam / Schneider & Thompson
 - Interested in the board status on wake boats on the whole lake. Shoreline damage on Little Balsam
 - Referenced the Milltown ordinance about wake boats in the lake, particularly in Little Balsam. Ordinance was passed in 2016, this issue was referenced in several meetings in the past few years
 - He reminded the board of its duty to protect the lake, and stressed that this is needed in order to protect the lake
 - Recent U of M study says that 500 feet from shoreline is needed to protect the shoreline from erosion
 - Little Balsam is just too small to allow wake zones at all
- Dave Turbenson - Purple Loosestrife East Balsam / Mork
 - Sent a letter to the board expressing concern about wake boats
- Tim Redding – East Balsam water quality / Wilhoit
 - Sent a letter to the board complimenting on the East Balsam water quality
- Al Kowalchuk
 - Supporting all of Randy's comments
 - Also commented that the problem is a learned behavior as they see others wake boating close to shore. They apparently do not realize the damage they are causing to the shoreline
 - Tommy mentioned that this needs to be defined from a legal standpoint so he knows what is enforceable and can explain it to boaters. Commissioner Mork explained that this happens when a boater is only 4-5 feet behind the boat. This is what a wake surf boat. It has the large waves even when they are going at a more normal speed and don't have wake surfers behind the boat. Tommy mentioned that he does not have authority to enforce the Milltown ordinance. If the BLPRD passes an ordinance, then Tommy can enforce it but the DNR and Sheriff's office cannot
 - Tommy noted that there are many zones in the lake where 200 feet is too narrow
- Jerry Shaughnessy
 - He agrees with the letters and issues that have come in. He cannot get approval to install enough rip rap to help resolve these shoreline issues
- Eric Geydesen - Spotted Knot Weed on Little Balsam landing / Mork

7) TREASURER REPORT:

- Financials / Schneider
 - Financials / Schneider - Commissioner Schneider presented the June, and July Treasurer's reports. He tabled August until next month as he just received and hasn't had a chance to review it yet. Commissioner Mariani motioned to approve

the June and July Financial Reports, Commissioner Weix seconded, all approved.
Motion carried.

8) Water Quality

- East Balsam / Wilhoit
 - 2022 Alum treatment water quality results
 - 2024 Alum treatment grant resolution and application
 - 2023-2025 Alum monitoring grant resolution and application
 - Commissioner Wilhoit spoke with Bill James from UW Stout, and sent out graphs showing that we are on the right track and the improvement is as expected.
 - Commissioner Wilhoit presented the Alum monitoring proposal for the next 3 years. The BLPRD match over the next 3 years is going down from \$21,000 per year over the last 3 years, to \$15,000 per year over the next 3 years. Commissioner Wilhoit read the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the *Balsam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District* is interested in obtaining a cost-share grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of ALUM TREATMENT MONITORING (as described in the application);

WHEREAS, the applicant attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the grant application;

WHEREAS, a grant agreement is requested to carry out the project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the *Balsam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District* will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the following officials or employees to submit the following documents to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for financial assistance that may be available:

Task	Title of Authorized Representative	Email address and Phone Number if alternative is used
Sign and submit a grant application	Chairman	tkelly56@comcast.net
Enter into a grant agreement with the DNR	Chairman	tkelly56@comcast.net
Submit quarterly and/or final reports to the DNR to satisfy the grant agreement, as appropriate	Chairman	tkelly56@comcast.net
Submit reimbursement request(s) to the DNR no later than the date specified in the grant agreement	Chairman	tkelly56@comcast.net
Sign and submit		

(name of other documents. Example: Admin Forms)		
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that applicant will comply with all local, state and federal rules, regulations and ordinances relating to this project and the cost-share agreement.

Adopted on 17th day of September 2022

I hereby certify

that the

foregoing

resolution was

duly adopted

by *Balsam Lake*

*Protection and
Rehabilitation*

District at a

legal meeting

held on 17th

day of

September

2022

Authorized Signature ↑	Date Certified ↑
Title ↑	

- Commissioner Mork motioned to approve the Alum Monitoring Project, Commissioner Mariani seconded, all approved. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Wilhoit then presented the Alum treatment proposal for next year. Commissioner Wilhoit read the following resolution:

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the *Balsam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District* is interested in obtaining a cost-share grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of ALUM TREATMENT (as described in the application);

WHEREAS, the applicant attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the grant application;

WHEREAS, a grant agreement is requested to carry out the project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the *Balsam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District* will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the following officials or employees to submit the following documents to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for financial assistance that may be available:

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Sign and submit _____ (name of other documents. Example: Admin Forms)		

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that applicant will comply with all local, state and federal rules, regulations and ordinances relating to this project and the cost-share agreement.

Adopted on 17th day of September 2022

A. I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by *Balsam Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District* at a legal meeting held on 17th day of September 2022

Authorized Signature ↑	Date Certified ↑
Title ↑	

- Commissioner Weix motioned to approve the Alum Monitoring Project, Commissioner Mork seconded, all approved. Motion carried.

9) Aquatic Plant Management and Invasive species

- CBCW / Mork

- No issues this year. Commissioner Mork would like to add some more inspectors this year. There was a wage increase this year. There needs to be some changes, as yet to be seen regarding boat inspections due to new technology that is coming. What this will look like needs to be seen.
- Purple Loosestrife Yellow Iris eradication / Mork
 - Commissioner Mork is working to find out why beetles were not released this year as was expected
 - We also now have spotted knot weed in Little Balsam. Commissioner Mork is going to pull and eradicate this weed this year. If we don't eradicate it this year, it will spread rapidly
- Harvesting CLP & Navigation / Weix
 - We have taken about 17 truckloads of vegetation out this year. The crew of 4 are focusing on the areas that have had the biggest problems at this point.
 - Commissioner Mork noted there seems to be a late bloom this year in East Balsam and Commissioner Mariani noted it happened this year in Boston Bay as well.

10) Water Patrol / Schneider

- We did not hit our goal of 220 hours this year due to some boat issues that prevented patrolling. He noted that he cannot go after jet skis or wake boats because the motor is only 90 horse. He has 9 citations this year. 2 for slow no wake and 3 for kids without boater safety certificates. Pontoons do not know how to do a slow no wake. It really means, stop, then put just in forward gear and take your hand off the throttle. Tommy has had conversations with the treasurer of the Homeowner's Association regarding what he needs. Commissioner Mork noted that we are a grant funded operation (funded by the state to the BLPRD) up to 75% provided that we have at least 80 hours. Every 5 years, we are allowed to buy a new boat with a 75% matching grant. Commissioner Mork said he will follow up with the HOA and with Commissioner Mork. Tommy also noted that we rent a slip and a boat lift from and that is also covered by the grant
- Tommy also noted we may need to come up with a plan for buoys. Commissioner Mork noted that Jeff from Sunnyside takes care of the buoys in cooperation with the HOA. A process needs to be defined for what to do when there is a need to temporarily remove the buoys

11) OLD BUSINESS

- Polk County AIS decontamination ordinance / AIS transportation amendment - BOAT CLEANING STATIONS CD3 / Ulbrich
 - Tabled until next month
- Nanno Bubbles technology / Ulbrich
 - Tabled until next month
- Large waive boats - shoreline erosion and safety

- A number of residents came to the meeting and some wrote letters to the board expressing concern about wake boats. The board assured these residents that we are taking this seriously and some will be looking for a solution before spring boating season starts
- The jet ski issues also needs to be addressed along with the wake boats

12) NEW BUSINESS

- Zebra Mussels / Ulbrich
 - Commissioner Mork noted there is a concern that no one seems to know what to do about the early zebra mussel infestations. They are asking those who remove lifts to watch for them
 - Next month, Tyler from the DNR is going to address this next month
 - Ryan noted he will be at an environmental services meeting with the county next month to learn what can be done. Commissioner Mariani noted that Minnesota is way ahead of Wisconsin in treatments.
- BL snowmobile club use of BLPRD building for servicing snow graders / All
 - Commissioner Mork noted a concern for liability and the potential for theft. He would like to learn more before the board decides what to do about this

13) OTHER REPORTS:

- Village / Schneider
 - They are going to take down the donation boxes. There is a goose hunting season in the Village, by permit and it is going on now. Jim Duncan and Tom Foyer (?) are coordinating this
 - Power Loading is an issue. The Village filled in some of the holes and are looking at extending some of the ramps (precast) at a cost of about \$6000 each
 - Tommy noted he has no enforcement ability on power loading because there is no agreement between the Village and BLPRD
- County / Mariani
 - Introduction of Ryan Wood, who has taken on the County Commissioner role

14) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Boat Patrol Budget. Tommy noted that this is the last year that Luck will be sponsoring the required training for police officers. The cost will be about \$2000 or \$2500 for each officer for 24 hours of training. Plus 220 hours of enforcement. Tommy would like to see a survey go out to homeowners asking if they think the current monitoring is enough. Commissioner Mork asked for board input regarding additional hours and/or an additional officer. The training is not eligible for the grant reimbursement. Tommy noted that \$30 an hour is not enough to hire additional help other than retired or brand new officers. This year, he could not find anyone. \$35 an hour may also not be enough. Commissioner Weix asked if there is any coordination between the Sheriff, DNR and

patrols. Tommy noted there is not. The DNR has only 1 person doing patrol and he has to cover all lakes in the county. Commissioner Wilhoit would like to see more boat patrols. Commissioner Mork agrees, especially since we have more issues on the lake that need more enforcement. Commissioner Mork asked how long it takes to hire someone. Tommy noted if we do psychological testing and drug testing, it will take a few months. All other Commissioners agree that we need more hours on the lake. Ryan noted that the trend is going to be increased traffic, including from out of state. So getting ahead of these things is good because it is not going to happen. Tommy noted that a lot of the stops he is making, are renters around the lake. Commissioner Wilhoit noted that rentals cause a lot of issues because they don't know the rules of the lake

15) ADJOURN:

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

