

Lake Level Resolution Committee (LLRC) Meeting
City Hall Expansion Room, White Bear Lake, Minnesota
Wednesday, February 27, 2013
7:00-9:40 P.M.

Members Present: Tom Alvarez, Margaret Behrens, Paul Bolstad, Bryan DeSmet (chair), Suzanne Donnell, Mike Downing, Ali Elhassan, Janice Hallman, Terry O'Loughlin, Todd Stutz

Alternate Member Present: Don Madore

Members Absent: Bill Foussard, Scott Mueller

Others Present: Bryan Bear (City of Hugo), Linda Deiters (Turtle Lake Homeowners' Association), Mark Burch (White Bear Lake Public Works), Peter Fischer (State Representative), Jim Graupmann (St. Paul Regional Water Services), Jeremy Gulbranson (St. Paul Regional Water Services), Jay Kennedy (Mahtomedi/Hugo Public Works), Robert Kermes (White Bear Township Board of Supervisors), Debra Neutkens (WB Press), Paul Putzier (MN DNR), Dale Reed (White Bear Township Public Works Director), Mark Sather (White Bear Lake City Manager), Tom Snell (Chamber of Commerce President), Tom Weyandt, Al Willette

Agenda:

- St. Paul Regional Water Services Presentation
- Informal Panel Presentation and Discussion by Public Works Representatives from the Cities of White Bear Lake, White Bear Township, Hugo, and Mahtomedi

The Lake Level Resolution Committee received an overview presentation of Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) by Jim Graupmann, manager of production for SPWRS. The SPWRS currently uses less than half of its current pumping and delivery capacity to deliver Mississippi River water to 420,000 customers in the metro area. The presentation will be available on the White Bear Lake Conservation District website.

An informal panel of Mark Burch, Jay Kennedy, Bryan Bear, Robert Kermes, and Dale Reed discussed the general details of the water systems in their municipalities. There was also discussion regarding how a treated water supply from SPRWS would interface with the water supply provided by each of these communities. In general, the City of White Bear Lake treats their water in a similar way to the SPRWS, however the other communities provide limited treatment to their water, and therefore there could be issues related to the water chemistry of mixing the water supplies that could be detrimental to the system users. All of these communities utilize wells as their water source. Mark Burch discussed data that indicated that the static water level in one of the City of White Bear Lake wells was at the same level as when the well was constructed.

The Lake Level Resolution Committee discussed the preferred options as of this meeting, and these options are: 1. Conservation, 2. Municipalities in the NE Metro Area converting from Prairie Du Chien groundwater to SPRWS surface water for their primary source of water, 3. Augmenting the lake level with water from the Mississippi River through the SPRWS chain of lakes, 4. Augmenting the lake level with water from the cooling system discharge from M-Foods. It was suggested that committee members begin to develop lists of items that could be used as scope of work items in an engineering feasibility study for each of these options. Ali Elhassan will provide a scope of work that was utilized on another project for our information.

Janice Hallman gave a brief report on the Conservation Strategy for the LLRC. She met with Paul Bolstad and Bryan DeSmet and will email the findings from their initial meeting to LLRC members. Bill Foussard is also a committee member but he couldn't attend.

Bryan DeSmet asked Tom Alvarez, Paul Bolstad, and Ali Elhassan to form a sub-committee to formulate questions that the LLRC would like to have answered in the next round of lake study performed by USGS and MCES. Paul Bolstad will lead this effort.

Bryan DeSmet suggested that the LLRC should be prepared to make its recommendation to the White Bear Lake Conservation District at their April 16 meeting, regarding the options to resolve the WBL lake level that should be further evaluated in an engineering feasibility study.

The next meeting will be held on March 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the second floor Expansion Conference Room of the White Bear Lake City Hall. A representative from M-Foods will speak.