

Lake Level Resolution Committee (LLRC) Meeting
City Hall Expansion Room, White Bear Lake, Minnesota
Wednesday, August 14, 2013
7:00-8:40 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Alvarez, Margaret Behrens, Bryan DeSmet, Mike Downing, Ali Elhassan, Janice Hallman, Terry O'Loughlin

Members Absent: Paul Bolstad, Suzanne Donnell, Bill Foussard, Scott Mueller, Todd Stutz

1. Update on water conservation activities

Janice and Bryan met July 30th with Patty Hall, President and co-founder of the non-profit organization H2O for life schools, to learn about their activities in the schools. H2O for life has developed a curriculum for teaching water conservation in schools. Patty, Bryan and Janice will meet with Superintendent Lovett and other White Bear Lake School staff on Monday August 19th to advocate for water conservation in the schools.

Janice, Patty, and Colette Jurek, local Manager for Community Relations/Economic Development, XCEL Energy, met on Mon., Aug. 12 to discuss how XCEL Energy might contribute to the water conservation effort in White Bear Lake. They are committed to both energy and water conservation in this area.

2. Discussion of strategic communications plan

Mike described the current strategic communications plan as just the bare bones. He had previously requested LLRC members to provide feedback on this, but received none so far. All are again asked to send feedback as soon as possible. This document will be discussed further at the September meeting.

3. Update on DNR, Met Council and City of WBL requests made by the WBLCD Board

DNR – continuing to work on development of the groundwater management area around White Bear Lake

Met Council

- Met Council is in the process of hiring a consultant for the feasibility study
- Met Council will share information on their website, the draft study is currently scheduled to be available around the middle of January
- The first meeting was held to coordinate discussions in the northeast metro area, as requested by the WBLCD Board. The meeting was attended by Northeast Metro municipality city managers and engineers, as well as a DNR representative. It was a good first meeting, participants were open to discussion. They

understand that there's a problem, but are not certain about the cause, or how the declining aquifer affects their communities.

City of White Bear Lake – continuing to discuss the use of the Mt. Simon Hinckley well.

There was an extended discussion on the declining lake level, and the need for the USGS to continue their studies, and how it is prudent to be proactive in investigating the feasibility of different options. One area that may need additional study is the use of the upper aquifers by homes and businesses with individual wells, and how this water use impacts the lake level.

Tom handed out a water level chart showing domestic wells in the White Bear Lake area with the highest declines in water levels, those that have declined 23 ft. or more. There are 17 of 251 wells like this.

Bryan will ask Perry Jones to come to the next LLRC meeting on Sept. 11 to speak on his workplan and timeline.

Tom invited any LLRC members who want to learn more about well water levels to contact him and to go along and observe the process. He will be taking water level measurements during the week of Aug. 26th-29th.

The next meeting will be held on Wed., Sept. 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the second floor Expansion Conference Room of White Bear Lake City Hall.