



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of February 21, 2012

APPROVAL DATE: 3/20/2012

1. CALL TO ORDER The February meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by Chair Mike Stawnychy at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL Present were: Chair Mike Stawnychy, Vice Chair Luke Michaud, Treasurer Diane Longville, Directors George St. Germain, Kevin Powers, Yale Norwick, Mike Parenteau. A quorum was present. Recording secretary was Julie Yoho. Absent was Sue Cernohous.

3. AGENDA

MOTION # 1 (Michaud/Powers) *Move to approve agenda . All aye, passed.*

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #2 (Michaud/Parenteau) *Move to approve minutes from January meeting. All aye, passed.*

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

Kathy McKee, Mahtomedi. A Softball on ice tournament was held by Mahtomedi beach. Left trash everywhere.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. Perry Jones update on USGS Study

Perry gave a 1 hour presentation on the findings of the study so far. The lake level drop does not mimic precipitation data as it has in the past. Other lakes in area have similar drop. Findings indicate increases in pumping from the Prairie Du Chien aquifer combined with decreased precipitation are both contributing to the low level.

USGS would like to work with state agencies to address:

How much can we pump for minimal impact?

Determine minimal lake water entering wells

Which wells are impacting the most?

Run scenarios to manage

More testing on wells with isotopes

Q&As

St Germain – Can the construction sewer line still be a factor?

Jones – project was between Bald Eagle and WBL. 2 wells were used for that project but were just for 1 period. Municipal wells in that area pump that constantly

Powers – 4” precipitation deficit is what we need to maintain where we’re at. Did you do any forward monitoring to see what we need to get level up?

Jones – no, but could estimate.

Michaud – theory of water still following pipe used during construction, can we cross that off?

Jones – don’t think its main cause. Hard to fathom. It was shallow, and seems it would have shown up in other modeling.

Jim Dross, Mahtomedi– if we continue to pull water out, how will it rejuvenate? Any calculations?

Jones – not decision USGS can make. Can look at.

Mike Downing –WB Township. Thanks for work. How would you proceed?

Jones – will take a team. People regulate water use here. Look at how it’s being pumped, see if better way, look at conservation, hope for precipitation. Down road there will be another dry period,question is how low will it go. There may be certain wells that have higher impact than others.

Downing – shut down several wells? What should we be doing?

Jones – lake by lake basis, reduce rates across board. Wells to south are part of natural flow.

Brian McGoldrick, Docks of WB – precipitation/lake levels deviated from previous norm

Jones – yes after ‘03. late 90’s, early ‘00 had lots of rain, so may have masked process starting earlier.

McGoldrick – ohm established in 1934 not accurate

Jones – up to DNR.

David Brown, Mahtomedi – flow of water from east to west, walk away knowing there is something with pumping. Interesting to look at that change over time.

Lyd Kepple Mahtomedi – municipal pumping. Is WBL unique, why not seeing in Minnetonka?

Jones – aquifers are shallow here. Some areas in metro have additional layers on top that are less permeable so you don’t see some lakes being affected as much.

Stawnychy – is all of this connected or is there some that is untouchable?

Jones – there are deeper aquifers that are not as good sources of water. Old augment wells were deeper. To augment you have to bring up surrounding ground water as well.

Phil, Hugo – are other lakes having issues further out, not in northeast?

Jones – haven’t looked at

Phil – weather moves SW to NE. Compare precipitation from SW to NE areas. Does vegetation increase evaporation?

Jones – it could

Michaud – runoff controls diverting water from lake for quality. Are we harming?

Jones – not a major impact. Surface

Dick Galena, Birchwood – thank you . Higher rate of pumping in recent years. Is there study indicating why?

Jones – development and growth. May be next part of study to examine more closely.

Galena – more wells or more use of existing?

Jones – combo of both. Records based on high capacity irrigation, commercial, municipal. Not domestic, don’t account for much usage. Residential typically in glacial material, don’t need as high of flow. High capacity from pdc.

Galena – municipalities would have to agree for further study. How can WBLCD require this?

Jones – lot of cooperation from cities on this, view as group effort. Cities are going to want to

Galena – someone has to do some sort of plan with cities, who is that entity?

Jones – DNR, Health, MPCA, USGS, Cities

Galena – forum? Funding?

Jones – that’s how this started. Legacy funding, grants thru lcmr could do group/proposal?

Galena – when can we start?

Jones – who was already involved in study – that is who. USGS can be involved, have to figure out what needs to be accomplished and best plan and who can fill roles.

Galena – what should WBLCD do?

Jones – group meeting to discuss issues with current partners

John Waller, Hugo – small watershed, how much would it have to increase to bring water up? divert

Jones – haven’t looked at, always a tradeoff – water quality vs quantity.

Fletcher Driscoll – gloom and doom tonight. Minnetonka had overflow last year, bad quality. Lake has fluctuated, can recover.

Jones – yes, will come up. Still have stressed system, next low can be lower.

Driscoll – when you start to meter use amazing how much less people will use.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

8. Reports/Action Items

8a. Lake Quality Committee

8a1. Lake Vegetation Management Plan

MOTION # 3 (Parenteau/Norwick) Move to adopt Lake Vegetation Management plan. All aye, passed.

8b. Lake Utilization Committee

8b1. Birchwood dock association.

MOTION # 4 (Michaud / St. Germain) Move to approve all 5 locations.

Dick Galena, Birchwood – comment on Birch Beach, correct dock length is 116 ft dock with 8 boats.

All aye, passed.

8c. Lake Education Committee

Norwick – The 2012 grant application for boat inspection is in. Lake Clean Up will be decided on day-to-day basis based on ice safety.

8d. Treasurer’s Report

8d1. Treasurers report for feb.

MOTION # 5 (Longville/Parenteau) Move to approve checks 4089 – 4094. All aye, passed.

8d2. December financial report

MOTION # 6 (Longville / Parenteau) Move to accept 2011 year end report.
All aye, passed

8e. Board Counsel Report

no prosecutions through courts

8f. Administrative Staff Report

none

6b. Nominations of Officers

Treasurer: Stawnychy nominate Longville, St Germain second.

Vice Chair : Parenteau nominate Michaud, Norwick second

Chair : St. Germain nominate Stawnychy, Michaud second.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION # 7 (Michaud/Parenteau) Move to approve consent agenda. All aye passed.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Full 2010 audit is available on request.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION # 8 (Stawnychy/Parenteau) Move to adjourn. All aye.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 pm

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date