



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of March 15, 2011

APPROVAL DATE: April 19, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER The March meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by Chair Mike Stawnychy at 7:03pm

2. ROLL CALL Present were: Chair Mike Stawnychy, Vice Chair Luke Michaud, Directors George St. Germain, Sue Cernohous, Yale Norwick, Mike Parenteau. A quorum was present. Absent were Diane Longville, John Steinworth, Debbie Harrod, Joe Allaben (all excused). Recording secretary was Julie Yoho.

3. AGENDA

MOTION # 1 (Stawnychy/Parenteau) Move to approve agenda. All aye, passed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #2 (Stawnychy/Parenteau) Move to approve minutes of February. All aye, passed

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

none

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. USGS Groundwater / Surface Water Interactions Study, Perry Jones, USGS Proposal for study / cooperative agreement

WBL low water levels, now historic lows

Groundwater is below land surface that fills voids in rocks, ground spaces, seeps to water table, fills in voids. Recharge is water that falls on surface seeps into table. Interaction between systems and lakes are key to understanding and determines water balance for closed basin lake. Components: less rain, increase groundwater extraction, diverted water at surface Mapping and understanding is critical. USGS hopes to get better understanding of.

2yr study, 4 tasks

1. Precipitation /groundwater/surface analysis

2. groundwater synoptic survey. Measure water levels in 200 wells over 2 week period. Map

3. thermal imagery survey

4. seepage meter survey

Hope to understand factors that control levels, where groundwater comes in, and flow amount. Study will provide data to evaluate any type of solution.

Budget: cooperative water program matches

\$62,317 in 1st fiscal year (federal)

\$42,381 in 2nd fy

Total costs for study just under 200k, need 105k from local contributors

Need \$31k by July 15; \$31k by Sept 2011.

Would like to include coring in deeper portions

Timeframe: starting some portions now - starting synoptic survey /well. Thermal imaging in Aug. Final done in Oct 2012

Q&A

Michaud – Large mtg at County Inn with stakeholders. 2nd meeting with smaller group -all had to go back to their boards to make official decision. MPCA committed 25k, DNR in-kind. WBLCD is “RGA” regional governing authority. The communities are interested.

Jones – working with PCA to get \$ established, which will allow us to get started.

Michaud – WBLCD is made of 5 cities, best for cities to direct funds. Momentum is going; do we need action to proceed?

MOTION # 3 (Michaud/ Cernohous) Move to be agency and conduit for the funds.

All aye, passed.

Jones – develop joint agreement with WBLCD

Kantrud – WBLCD is fiscal agent for project. Internal account for project. If receive gifts from private donors we have to accept by resolution. From other governments resolution is not needed.

St Germain – if we are the fiscal agent, what is obligation if not funded?

Jones – if no funds, project cut and shortened.

Michaud – This is not just a local issue o

Stawnychy – never a study of this magnitude, last that was close was by the DNR was in early 90s

Jerry Mahoney, WBL – outflow?

Jones – yes, hope to detect

Mahoney – lake or perimeter? Sewer pipeline in area, would this detect?

Jones – could be looked at if thermal imaging shows

Mahoney – other state agencies want to be part of?

Jones – yes

Mahoney – cities are looking at 5k? per year?

Stawnychy – proposal is that cities need to have 30k, around 5k each, sounded positive

6b. Committee appointments

MOTION # 4 (Stawnychy/Michaud) Move to table committee appointments until April.

All aye, passed.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

none

8. Reports/Action Items

8a. Lake Quality Committee

Plant Survey / Milfoil management consultant selection

Janet Callahan – Lake Vegetation Management Plan (LVMP) Plan will allow us to request a variance from DNR to treat for nuisance plants outside of standard treatment conditions. Requires lots of data, allows for long term plans to be made instead of always reacting. Lakewide plant survey is component - has to be done two times, early spring and Aug.

Norwick – LQC sent for bids to have surveys done

Callahan – more involved that previous transect surveys that have been done.

Bids from BARR, Blue Water Science; DNR also does. Bids were close, original DNR did not know if they could participate in 2011. Yesterday found out WBL is first on waiting list, until project can start. DNR could do both surveys .

Norwick – This is new info in last 48 hrs. Suggest table for this month, get something more firm from DNR and go that way to save \$

St Germain – past surveys are no value for this?

Callahan – yes, need lake wide

St Germain – can other surveys be eliminated?

Norwick – DNR survey would suit both this year plant survey and the LVMP.

Thank you Janet for all the time you put in

MOTION #5 (Norwick/Parenteau) Move to table bid decision for the LVMP until next month. All aye, passed

8b. Lake Utilization Committee

8b1. Birchwood Dock Association

MOTION #6 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve 2011 dock permit for the Birchwood Dock Association sites.

Discussion

Mark Petersen, 709 Hall Ave, Council member

City has come to resolution over contentious docks. We now have 1 association instead of 5. One waiting list. There will be regular turnover every 6yr. Based on low water levels, is there a process for adding slips if water comes up?

Michaud – if council wants to add, amend permit at WBLCD meeting

Petersen – reduced number of slips this year

Jim Greeley

City has come a long way. New ordinance has been passed that spells things out better. No canopies, dock length limits, Dellwood length compromise, nicer to live next to easements now. Thanks to all who worked on it so hard. There are new people in the system. New website has all the info.

MOTION Vote

All aye, passed

8c. Lake Education Committee

Lake clean up went well (see summary). slightly less trash found this year due to deep snow.

8d. Treasurers report

MOTION # 7 (Stawnychy / Parenteau) Move to approve checks 4032 – 4034. All Aye, passed

8e. Board Counsel Report

none

8f. Administrative Staff Report

Items included in packet this month:

- Agenda
- February draft minutes
- 2011 Aquatic Plant Survey bid proposals (2)
- Dock applications - 1
- 2011 Lake Clean Up Summary

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #8 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve. All Aye, Passed.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #9 (Michaud/Cernohous) Move to adjourn. All aye, Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date