



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of April 16, 2013

APPROVAL DATE: 5/21/13

1. CALL TO ORDER The April 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, Directors George St. Germain, Mike Parenteau, Suzanne Donnell, Pat McCann, Diane Longville, Jane Harper, Bryan DeSmet, Mark Ganz. A quorum was present. Recording secretary was Julie Yoho.

3. AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION # 2 (Stawnychy/Michaud) Move to approve minutes of March. All aye passed.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

Peter Fischer, Maplewood MN. Representative for District 43a.
Provided a brief update on bills moving through the house with funding to continue the lake level study. There will be hearings this Friday & Saturday.

Brian McGoldrick, Docks of WBL
Attended hearings regarding milfoil treatment on Lake Minnetonka. Seems there are no restrictions on how much can be treated. Minnetonka treats bay-wide and lake-wide.

Parenteau – We are restricted to a percentage of total lake surface for treatment.
McGoldrick – seems Army Corps is willing to play supporting role

6. NEW BUSINESS

Welcome new member Mark Ganz

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

none

8. Reports/Action Items

8a. Lake Level Resolution Committee

Committee Recommendation Report

DeSmet – The LLRC has been meeting weekly looking at options for additional study to address the record low lake levels. During the evaluation process we received presentations from the ad-hoc committee, DNR, St Paul Regional Water Services, local industry, USGS, Met Council, & Turtle Lake HOA.

-Two types of options were looked at: options to augment the amount of water in the lake, and options to reduce the use of the Prairie du Chien aquifer.

-Most options are needed on a regional basis, several are necessary and time is critical.

Summary of Options for further study:

- Augment WBL with surface water from St. Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS)
- Augment WBL with local commercial discharge water
- Maximize efficiency of well use
- Utilize existing wells in the Mt. Simon Hinckley aquifer during the summer
- Convert NE metro water source to a surface water source thru SPRWS, change drinking water supply
- Conservation

Requested action by Board:

1. Direct the LLRC to pursue water conservation activities in NE metro area
2. Direct LLRC to discuss with the City of WBL the use of their Mt. Simon Hinckley well.
3. Direct the LLRC to request that the Met Council include the options from the LLRC report in a feasibility study.
4. Direct the LLRC to request the Met Council coordinate discussions with NE metro communities regarding conservation
5. Direct the LLRC to ask the DNR to designate a Groundwater Management Area around WBL.

Discussion

Harper – were these actions discussed with agencies during your meetings, are they open to doing?

DeSmet – yes, think they are open to. I think the DNR will be reluctant to designate, but the committee feels it's important to request.

Stawnychy – would you like a formal letter or ?

DeSmet – direct committee to write letters requesting these items.

Michaud – USGS was part of your meetings, when is final version going to be delivered of report we already did?

DeSmet – don't have date, understand it's imminent

Michaud – What is Groundwater Management Area?

DeSmet – DNR has authority to protect groundwater supplies. They can designate and more directly manage the supply. Variety of actions such as reducing allocations, require more aggressive pricing; don't know what other steps are available.

Michaud – would like to investigate further and find out what that entails.

Feasibility study proposal, when would study be done?

DeSmet – funding in June, study in fall. Met Council would administer.

Michaud – Mt. Simon Hinckley aquifer – is city using at all now?

DeSmet – they use as back-up well when doing maintenance on the PDC wells.

Michaud – you mentioned NE metro – I believe it's larger than that. Lake draws people from wide area.

Harper – pleased to see conservation is on the list. Would like to see request come from WBLCD rather than subcommittee. Makes sense to hold off on #4 until after study is done.

DeSmet – LLRC sees several pieces moving forward. USGS has to move forward to enhance first study. Feasibility study will look at options and costs. Both need to proceed so that the information is available to make decisions.

Recommendation about regional water supply change needs to happen to support increase in population – aquifer won't be able to support. Change will have to happen 10 – 20 yrs down the road. It's a complicated issue, feel it's important to start discussion now. Hugo Centerville, Lino Lakes are already in discussion about connecting their systems. We want to insert this idea and get people talking. Would like to send letters from the Board with requests.

Stawnychy – could hold special meeting, want to have Board review prior to sending the letters out.

McCann – thank you for all the hard work. What about immediate solutions of augmentation from Snail Lake?

DeSmet – difficulty is that it may not be the most cost effective; It needs to be in the feasibility analysis so that it's looked at. Engineers need to look at through the Met Council study. I agree people would like an option implemented now, but it's prudent to do detailed analysis of the options.

McCann – Gilfillan Lake decided to pay for augmentation on their own. Has that been discussed?

DeSmet – Our perspective is that WBL is a regional issue and should be paid for regionally. Other lakes along the way could benefit also. Once cost is known, will have to find funding. If homeowners decide they don't want to wait and want to take on the project once they know costs, they perhaps could.

McCann – if we wait for the state will it be too late? When could water start going in?

DeSmet – a lot of people want to know, study is a necessary step in process

Michaud – I feel we're getting hung up on a letter – most of these items are a continuation of what committee is already doing with exception of the DNR directive. Seems more in form of resolution.

DeSmet – LLRC opinion is that we need more than a resolution. Would like the Board to encourage action in these areas.

Stawnychy – Do Met Council and DNR have members that are part of the LLRC?

DeSmet – DNR no, but yes there is an individual from Met Council.

Harper – we charged the LLRC to come to the Board with recommendations.

Board should accept and agree/disagree, LLRC can draft letters with rationale,

Board should send. LLRC please write letters, have special meeting for review.

Feel strongly we should make a statement.

MOTION # 3 (Harper/Michaud) Move to direct the LLRC to draft correspondence necessary to implement these requested actions and bring back to the Board for review and approval.

discussion

Donnell – LLRC has put work into report, would like Board to approve report tonight so we can continue.

Harper – motion just asks LLRC to draft letters for us to review.

Motion vote

All aye, passed

MOTION # 4 (Stawnychy/St Germain) Move to accept report from the LLRC. All aye, passed.

DeSmet – Will coordinate a special meeting for letter review

8b. Lake Quality Committee

Parenteau – We applied for and received a grant for EWM treatment. Limit of 200 acres \$20,000 max. There were more applicants this year so less funding available.

We've also received a bid for the survey from Blue Water Science. Survey is necessary before DNR will provide grant.

Donnell – seems like we could save money he skips the presentation

Stawnychy– I like the presentation, like to know what's going on

DeSmet – The presentation has value and provides an opportunity to ask questions

St Germain – he always explains so much, definitely worth having

MOTION # 5 (Stawnychy/Parenteau) Move to approve the bid received from McComas for the survey. 9 aye, 1 nay (Donnell). Passed.

Parenteau – We also have EWM treatment bids from Lake Restoration and Lake Management. Cost is per acre, however Lake Restoration adds cost if treating areas over 8 ft deep. Had 13 sites deeper than 8 ft last year, so based on that Lake Restorations bid is \$700 more. Recommending Lake Management who we've used in the past as their bid was less. Budget is for 145 acres, once survey comes in we'll have info on how much to treat.

MOTION # 6 (Parenteau/St Germain) Move to use Lake Management as applicator for this year's EWM treatment. All aye, passed.

MOTION # 7 (Harper/Parenteau) Move to accept the DNR grant agreement. All aye, passed.

8c. Lake Utilization Committee

Ramsey Co Sheriff Water Patrol contract for 2013.

MOTION # 8 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve 2013 water patrol contract for same amount as last year. All aye passed.

MOTION # 9 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve Altstatt mooring buoy for 2013. All aye passed.

MOTION # 10 (Michaud/Parenteau) Move to approve Redpath waterski course for 2013. This is the public course, he moves 2 times per month.

Discussion:

Donnell – insurance expires June 30.

Recommend approval based on proof of continuing insurance. All aye, passed.

MOTION # 11 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve WB Yacht Club 2013 Racing Schedule. All aye, passed.

Michaud – WBYC is hosting inter-lakes regatta this year which will be drawing 100 boats.

MOTION # 12 (Michaud/Ganz) Move to approve the 25th annual Manitou Triathlon swim event. All aye, passed.

MOTION # 13 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve City of WBL Matoska Park 2013 permit same as last year, come back with variance request if needed due to low water levels. All aye passed.

Stawnychy – blocks are sticking up, will those be moved out?

Michaud – LUC has not addressed yet

MOTION # 14 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve City of WBL Municipal docks same as last year. Drawing with header dock can come back as variance request since they don't know for sure what is going to happen this year. All Aye, passed.

MOTION # 15 (Michaud/Ganz) Move to approve Docks of WBL same as last year with no change; with Variance as drawn on application for water level. All aye passed.

Stawnychy- number of slips at dock last year in question. Last yr. application was for 60 some boats, more were counted, will have to resolve discrepancy. Will have to come up with method. In past on certain day boats were counted.

Parenteau – we should go back to counting boats

St Germain – believe this was resolved as to which were transient and which were rented slips.

McGoldrick – Would like to know process so I know what's going on.

Parenteau – In the past, all docks were counted every year.

McGoldrick – for years we had a waiting list, everyone just paid for all the slips and that was it.

Stawnychy – will have process and have it drawn up so all are informed.

McGoldrick – would like to see it go the other way too, can't pay for what we don't use

8d. Lake Education Committee

none

8e. Treasurer's Report

MOTION #16 (Longville/Parenteau) Move to approve Treasurers report and pay checks 4165 - 4169. All aye, passed.

Longville – 2014 Budget worksheet is here. Send Julie numbers you're your budget items. Will have draft numbers for next month, final needs to be approved at June meeting.

8f. Board Counsel Report

Kantrud - Board should consider a workshop or strategy for docks dealing with low water in Commercial bay. Pay flat fee or have law enforcement do boat counts so that Board members are not out counting. Water conditions likely to be worse before it gets better.

McCann – they pay per slip?

Stawnychy – apply and pay per slip.

St Germain – pay half in April, half in August

Stawnychy – typically they've been charged for what they apply for.

Kantrud – historically no rebate given. Natural conditions are hard to predict.

Donnell – who would do workshop? Can you do that?

Michaud – LUC holds workshop prior to every mtg

Kantrud – These are policy questions

8g. Administrative Staff Report

Items included in packet this month:

- Agenda
- March draft minutes
- Permit applications - 4
- Dock applications – 3
- Bids for EWM control
- Bid for EWM survey
- LLRC Recommendations report
- 2012 Water Patrol contract

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION # 17 (Michaud/Stawnychy) Move to approve. all aye, passed.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION # 18 (Stawnychy/St Germain) Move to adjourn. All aye passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33p.m.

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date