



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of November 19, 2013

APPROVAL DATE: 1/21/14

1. CALL TO ORDER The November meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by Chair Jane Harper at 7:00pm

2. ROLL CALL Present were: Chair Jane Harper, Vice Chair Bryan DeSmet, Directors George St. Germain, Pat McCann, Diane Longville, Mike Parenteau, Mark Ganz, Gene Altstatt. Absent was Suzanne Donnell (excused). A quorum was present. Recording Secretary was Julie Yoho.

Welcome to new Director Scott Costello

3. AGENDA

Harper move item 8c to 8a, review permits before committee reports. Add “workshop” under announcements.

MOTION # 1 (Ganz/Altstatt) Move to approve agenda with changes above. All aye passed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #2 (St Germain/Ganz) Move to approve minutes of October. All aye, passed.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

Dale Handy, 1121 S Shore Blvd

Received a citation from the DNR which he feels is unfounded. Residents are angry. The DNR is not providing information on what can / cannot be done to vegetation. They are changing lake

Harper – What is the citation for?

Handy – cutting vegetation - cut path out from dock. Citation was for destroying more than 50 feet of vegetation along shoreline. In process of fighting charges.

St Germain – there has been confusion over what can be done

Kantrud – The previous person in court was not happy to be charged twice with the same crime. Basically, don't touch any vegetation without getting a DNR permit. Not a good process. There have been 3 tickets that have come through court.

St Germain – They started with warning tickets last year

6. NEW BUSINESS

Steve McComas, Blue Water Science - 2013 Water Quality and EWM Treatment report

-Working on White Bear Lake since 2000

- Process is: Steve performs the Milfoil delineation, sends to DNR, DNR verifies and issues permit.

- We had a cold wet spring, plant growth was slow.

- July 9 first treatment for milfoil was 29 acres. On August 8 second treatment of 72 acres. Came back for assessment Sept 19. Treatment was good to fair. EWM was mostly controlled. We have had 4 years of aggressive treatment.

- We did not do full aquatic plant survey but checked lake 4 times and would have seen if plants were out of balance. We've developed efficient system over last few years. There is a summary of treatment going back to 1988 in full report. (will post link on website) With lower water levels more sunlight is getting to bottom and producing more milfoil growth overall. Herbicide use seems to be more efficient and more effective than other controls.

Altstatt – What chemical?

McComas - The herbicide is tryclopypyr.

McComas – Another thing we noticed is that the water clarity has decreased over the last 4 yrs. Want to be aware of and will want to consider why. Usually related to algae growth which follows phosphorus levels. A 1-2 year blip is not an issue, but this is starting a trend.

DeSmet – where could the phosphorus be coming from?

McComas – runoff, lake bed, nutrients from dying plants; all could be contributing factors. Lower water level & lower volume of water = higher concentrations of phosphorus. If there is high groundwater inflow it dilutes algae. There are a variety of factors. Clarity could be better in 2013 just haven't graphed it. Don't want to see an ongoing trend.

Altstatt – What is your relationship with DNR?

McComas – excellent. They go with our delineations after checking.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Welcome Scott Costello from City of White Bear Lake

8. Reports/Action Items

8a. Lake Level Resolution Committee

DeSmet - DNR is continuing to meet. Met Council granted SEH will do the NE metro part of report.

LLRC meeting update: Perry Jones did presentation on 2nd phase of study to locate areas where water is moving out of WBL. Analysis of wells and impact. Develop groundwater model relating surface waters and groundwater. There will be a meeting tomorrow at Century College on the GMA process. 6:00 east campus.

Altstatt – how is Met Council working with LLRC?

DeSmet – LLRC requested Met Council manage option investigation. Legislature provided money. Options were augmenting lake, moving communities off of well water, impacts of conservation. Met Council models groundwater in metro to see how pumping rates impact aquifer. Continuously updating. Never looked at surface water impacts by groundwater wells. Necessary step and important tool. Feasibility analysis will have draft in early Jan 2014 to give update to legislature. Full report in Oct 2014. Expect preliminary costs in Jan.

McCann – report for whole NE metro or just WBL?

DeSmet – NE metro

McCann – what does that mean for us?

DeSmet – don't know yet

McCann – What can we do as board?

DeSmet – It comes down to cost and environmental impact. If an option comes back with reasonable cost with low environmental impact we could endorse.

McCann – do we have taxing authority, bonding?

Kantrud – The State won't need WBLCD permission to do something. This is on radar at the state level. Larger conversation. Any solution will be broad in scope and come with state money.

8b. Lake Quality Committee

8b1. Shallow water buoy quote. We need to replace 4. Would like to order 6 to have 2 in reserve for total of \$819. Funds come from the Misc lake management account & EWM public info.

MOTION # 3 (Parenteau/ Ganz) Move to purchase 6 buoys for \$819. All Aye, passed.

Altstatt – who does installation and where are they stored?

Parenteau – I do, and I store at the WBL public works

8b2. Water temp 36 degrees

8b3. Level 919.77 One inch lower than last month. 6" higher than this time last year. Last reading for year due to ice

The Sheriff marked rock bar last year with orange fencing. We can ask if they'll do again.

8c. Lake Utilization Committee

No issues with any of the docks tonight.

Withaus – drawing should show boat layout.

MOTION # 4 (Ganz/St Germain) Move to approve Withaus application pending better drawing showing boat layout. All aye, passed

MOTION # 5 (Ganz/St Germain) Move to approve White Bear Yacht Club dock permit. All aye, passed.

MOTION # 6 (Ganz/St Germain) Move to approve Driscoll dock permit. All aye, passed.

MOTION # 7 (Ganz/St Germain) Move to approve Hickory St. dock Association. All aye passed.

MOTION # 8 (Ganz/St Germain) Move to approve Alicia Heights. All aye passed.

MOTION # 9 (Ganz/St Germain) Move to approve Forest Heights. All aye, passed.

Event permit applications

MOTION # 10 (Ganz/St Germain) Move to approve Yukon Days fun run with proof of insurance. All aye, passed.

Art shanty project

We need the initial app fee, proof of insurance, plan for prevention of pollution with exact dates for clean up, satellites, etc. Also the event falls on same weekend as Bearly Open. Mark will call bearly open to be sure.

St Germain – Shanties are out there for 4 weeks. This is the first time we would permit something for that length of time. Polar Plunge is leaving the day they set up.

Ganz – will check with Bearly Open

Melinda Childs, director - Expect 5000 people per weekend; 18,000 total when the event was at Medicine Lake.

Parenteau – are they close to shore?

Childs – don't allow cars, close enough to walk, most likely not fishing.

Parenteau – what about security?

Childs – lock and have volunteers around even overnight during week.

DeSmet – participants are 20 shanties, 4 people each team plus others

Costello – are there enough parking spaces at Ramsey beach?

Childs – talked about using the smaller lot during the Bearly open. We have volunteers to assist parking. We have request in to Ramsey co for permit. We don't advertise, word of mouth has spread. Don't want to get too much bigger.

Harper – interesting use of lake

Longville – when can we get other pieces?

Childs – mid December

Conditional approval recommended

MOTION # 11(Ganz/ St Germain) Move to approve on conditions: we receive by Jan 21 a site plan with waste management information, payment of application fee, insurance information. All aye passed

Kantrud – there will be local artists from the WB Center for Arts

8d. Lake Education Committee

Altstatt – would like to serve on LEC. Would like to enhance the website. There are so many groups out there doing things, I'd like to have our site be an information source. Will have a proposal in January.

Costello – website could use improvement.

Parenteau – agree

McCann – agree

Harper – I appoint Gene as chair of LEC. Please investigate website updating.

McCann, Costello – join committee also.

8e. Treasurer's Report

MOTION # 12 (Longville/Parenteau) Move to approve and pay checks 4203 – 4207. All aye, passed.

MOTION # 13 (Longville/Parenteau) Move to approve estimated December Treasurers report to pay current bills. All aye passed.

8f. Board Counsel Report

St Germain – in regards to the DNR citations, do they give you explanations?

Kantrud – part of the problem was trying to figure out exactly what happened. One case thought she was on right track within her permit. We don't get into technical aspects until court. Most feel offended being charged with this. Try to work it out. I am the prosecutor on these. Don't see DNR staff at hearings.

8g. Administrative Staff Report

Items included in packet this month:

- Agenda

- October draft minutes
- Finance report
- 2014 meeting dates
- Dock applications – 6
- Event permit apps – 2
- Board contact list

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #14 (St Germain/Ganz) Move to approve consent agenda. All aye, passed.

10. ANNOUNCEMENT

6 out of 10 board members are new. We would like to have workshop to walk thru WBLCD info to understand workings better. December 17, 6-7. Workshop. If any specific questions let Julie know. Jane will work on framework.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #15 (St Germain / Parenteau) Move to adjourn. All aye, passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date