



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of November 20, 2012

APPROVAL DATE: 1/15/13

1. CALL TO ORDER The November meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by Chair Mike Stawnychy at 7:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL Present were: Chair Mike Stawnychy, Vice Chair Luke Michaud, Directors George St. Germain, Diane Longville, Mike Parenteau, Jane Harper, Yale Norwick, Suzanne Donnell, Bryan DeSmet, Sue Cernohous. A quorum was present. Recording secretary was Julie Yoho.

3. AGENDA

Add item 8d2: "December Treasurer's report"

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #2 (Michaud/DeSmet) Move to approve minutes of October. All aye, passed.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

none

6. NEW BUSINESS

6a. League of Women Voters report, Gretchen Davidson & Stephanie McNamara
A study & report study was done beginning in May 2010. Local study to look at structure and function of WBLCD. A summary of the report was presented. Recommendations included: rotate committee members, annual work plans, position description, do RFP for contracts, strategic plan update, committee agendas & minutes, handouts, appointments, written annual reports, form a finance committee, make budget available, reserve funds standard practice.

Q&A

Harper – long list – are these all areas we are deficient?

McNamara – areas where things could be changed

Donnell – welcome the input, orientation, thank you for your time

Stawnychy – thank you for your time

Norwick – agree with much of what you said. Frustrated that we need more funding and staff to do more and accomplish this.

McNamara - Agree it is a problem to do this without more funding

Stawnychy – limited to who we have for committees & appreciate we have.
Changing may not be good idea based on knowledge base
Harper – good place would be annual work plan and year end report. Would be helpful.
Michaud – Members are to report to cities represented – go back to council.
Donnell – what should we do next?
Michaud – in our studies we’ve found consistent data very important
Stawnychy – if you see deficiencies, bring ideas to board for discussion. Many things are being done, maybe not in public eye as much
Donnell – are there job descriptions? Think we can work on pieces of this.
Norwick – our charge is similar to LMCD (Lake Minnetonka Conservation District). Perhaps we need a part time administrator? Could go long way in crossing many of these things off list.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7a. Water Level Committee resolution

Stawnychy – Nominate Bryan DeSmet for Chair of new committee. No objections.

DeSmet – review of the resolution draft. 12 members, appointed by board.

Charge – reality is this is a regional issue and any solution will require financing. Report to board, advisory committee, decision at Board level.

Q&A

Parenteau – no more than 12, seems large. Maybe less?

DeSmet – agree it is large. Having more to spread the work could be helpful.

Michaud – would prefer smaller as well. Insert “all” into possible solutions.

Propose 7 members.

MOTION # 3 (Michaud/Norwick) Move to amend number of members from 12 to 7 members.

Discussion

Donnell – disagree, not enough to do all the work, do not limit. Lake Level Resolution Committee – change name.

St Germain – doesn’t limit how many people can be involved. Always others that can come and help with projects, etc.

Donnell – term limits – how long do we expect them to serve? Also league mentioned minutes, should be written in resolution.

St Germain – every year committee members are re-appointed.

Stawnychy – Bryan stated he would arrange minutes.

Norwick – meetings are public, not every agenda item allows for public comment. I’ve been in gov. too many years, some of most effective groups had less people.

Least effective had more people.

Harper- agree public does not always comment on items. However this is reaction to group that came to us with request, would like to hear from them on this resolution.

Norwick – don’t misconstrue – we’ve always let people talk, just wanted to clarify.

St Germain, Harper, DeSmet, Longville, Donnell, Cernohous – fine with 12 members

Stawnychy – tough to organize but fine with either number

Michaud – having done committees before I feel 7 is plenty. Committee will be larger than Board.

Parenteau – smaller easier to manage

Norwick – if DeSmet is fine, I am too.

MOTION # 3 withdrawn (Michaud / Norwick)

Chris Sullivan – all members are volunteering, 12 doesn't seem too large.

Victoria Reinhart – 12 is really 10 at large since 2 are WBLCD Board members.

Great deal of interest, engage mayors for applicants. We appreciate you are moving forward with this.

Norwick – Bryan, you know there are many others organizing and looking for solutions. Want to be sure you are not excluding anyone who wants to help or is looking for solutions.

DeSmet – infinite number of options, committee should review and evaluate any solutions that come forward. People can speak at meetings, the more options that better.

Norwick – we are not excluding other efforts?

DeSmet – true

Donnell – name change? too close to other group

DeSmet – not tied to name, just scope. Board can determine

Longville – how does one apply for committee?

DeSmet – forms on website, will need to modify for this committee since it does not exist yet.

Harper – technical feasibility – can a volunteer committee accomplish all this?

Was there talk about staff support?

DeSmet – correct. Will rely on outside help from Met Council, DNR, USGS and others to evaluate. To get accurate information there will be \$ involved. See committee summarizing options.

Harper – quorum need not be present, should it be to make recommendations?

Would prefer recommendations happen when quorum is presents.

Parenteau – history is that is stated when brought to board.

MOTION #4 (Harper/Donnell) Item number 7, add “quorum need be present to make recommendations”. All aye, Passed.

MOTION #5 (Yale/Donnell) Changed name of committee to “Lake Level Resolution Committee”. All aye, passed.

MOTION # 6 (Stawnychy/DeSmet) Move to approve Resolution. All aye passed.

Harper – timing – when will we appoint members?

Stawnychy – Have not discussed deadline for applications.

Harper – appoint at January meeting

DeSmet – Jan. 4 deadline to receive applications. Appoint on Jan 15.

St Germain – chair normally recommends to board. Also people are in this group now, how do they address us?

Stawnychy – open to all. Board will review applicants.

Harper – do we need a subgroup to review applications?

Stawnychy – open to that

MOTION # 7 (Stawnychy/Michaud) Move to appoint DeSmet & Donnell to committee. All aye, passed

Those two plus two others to meet and sort thru.
Donnell – do people get to come forward or not?
Stawnychy – committee could call and talk with them. Can interview.
Donnell – are there procedures?
Parenteau- in past they come before Board. This is large number of people, so committee will have to review first.
Kantrud – I can provide DeSmet with running ground rules.
Donnell – in Bryans absence do I run meeting?
Kantrud – at the first meeting adopt bylaws addressing these housekeeping items.
Harper – did we appoint members?
Kantrud – Board has to vote on.

8. Reports/Action Items

8a. Lake Quality Committee

Lake temp 42 degrees
Lake level 919.135. New all time low. 1 foot lower than last year this time

8b. Lake Utilization Committee

MOTION # 8 (Michaud/ Cernohous) Move to approve VFW Softball & Horseshoe on Ice events. All aye, passed.

Dock applications for 2013 – All these are no change.

MOTION # 9 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve Bob Broen application for 2013. All aye, passed

MOTION # 10 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve Fletcher Driscoll application for 2013. All aye, passed.

MOTION # 11 (Michaud/Norwick) Move to approve Witthaus application for 2013. All aye, passed

MOTION # 12 (Michaud/St Germain) Move to approve Wildwood Beach Condo Association. All aye, passed. Need insurance

MOTION # 13 (Michaud/Cernohous) Move to approve Snyder's Bay Beach club application for 2013. Need insurance or statement that homeowners insurance covers. All aye passed

MOTION # 14 (Michaud/ St. Germain) Move to approve Hickory St Dock assoc. Each owner has their own insurance. All aye, passed.

Ramsey co. Sheriff office provided a summary for summer patrol.

8c. Lake Education Committee

no report

8d. Treasurer's Report

MOTION # 15 (Longville / St. Germain) Move to approve Treasurers report for November. All aye passed.

MOTION # 16 (Longville/Michaud) Move to approve Estimated Treasurers report for December. All aye, passed.

Harper – do we have an account for donations for lake level committee?

Stawnychy – do not but will add.

Longville – yes we can do that.

St Germain – homeowners get receipts for donations.

8e. Board Counsel Report

Kantrud – worked on resolution

8f. Administrative Staff Report

Items included in packet this month:

- Agenda
- Oct. draft minutes
- Finance report
- Dock applications – 6
- Event permit applications - 2

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION # 17 (Michaud/Parenteau) Move to approve. All aye, passed.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION # 18 (Michaud/Parenteau) Move to adjourn. All aye, passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date