



REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL
MINUTES of September 20, 2016

APPROVAL DATE: 10/18/16

1. CALL TO ORDER The September meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by Vice Chair Bryan DeSmet at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers.

2. ROLL CALL Present were: Vice Chair Bryan DeSmet, Directors Mike Parenteau, George St. Germain, Mark Ganz, Pat McCann, Gene Altstatt, Scott Costello, Paul Steinhauser. A quorum was present. Absent were Sue Mahoney & Diane Longville (both excused).

3. AGENDA

MOTION #1 (Parenteau/St Germain) Move to approve agenda. all aye passed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #2 (St Germain/ Parenteau) Move to approve minutes of August. All aye passed

5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME

none

6. NEW BUSINESS

Steve McComas, Blue Water Science
2016 EWM treatment report

Sampled 200 – 300 points around lake, areas where EWM is clustered are what is treated. 60.4 acres in 2016. Paper work goes to DNR and after approval goes to applicator who treats. 20 different sites. Water levels have impact on growth, lower levels allow more sunlight to reach the bottom which spurs growth. After treatment we go assess – Sept 9 this year. A few areas treated did not get real good control. (This year there was a lot of growth around metro area lakes). Many areas on WBL had growth 2-3 feet from surface, herbicide knocked it down but didn't stop it. That was typical pattern in many lakes this year. Fragments can root when they sink. EWM has been in WBL since 1988-89.

We found zebra mussels on stems. Zebras will clear up the water and allow more sun penetration even with higher water levels due to clearer water. That will also spur more native growth, more plants in general.

In 2009 harvesting was done on WBL on 35 acres. Mechanical control is better suited for smaller lakes. There's been surge in EWM growth since 09.

Final report with water quality data from Ramsey County will be coming soon.

Q&A

DeSmet – what factors impact variability in treatment?

McComas – main factors are: good contact time, high concentration, right timing in season, other growths on the plants that limit

Parenteau – can we increase concentration?

McComas- yes but only good if given enough exposure time. Two treatments close together can help for longer exposure. In past single dose has been good. This season not as effective
Parenteau – we’ve been using triclopyr, should we switch?

McComas - may be worth trying. In past shied away from 24d due to concerns over cancer. Has been reviewed more, EPA is now comfortable with. Works in similar way as a plant hormone

Altstatt – zebra mussels - should we keep informing the DNR where they’re being found?

McComas – they are doing density measurements to see how they increase over time. We’re in moderately fertile range, expect them to keep growing. Mussels will hit a density setting and take algae down then die back. Clear up water in the process.

Costello – homeowners are asked to take density measurements when they take out boat lifts

McComas – I suspect they were in lake 1-2 years before we found them.

DeSmet- fertility and water quality will limit their growth?

McComas– yes they will be limited. Zebra cannot filter blue green algae. WBL algae are single cell that they like. They will filter it down and start dying back due to no food.

Steinhauser – what is the cycle?

McComas – We don’t know the frequency yet, appears it will be oscillating cycle with algae.

DeSmet – what other invasive species we should be watching for?

McComas – nearly all come in at public access points. Starry stonewort. Macro algae, Spiny water flea (feed on daphnia and zooplankton in lake), can have big impact on ecosystems. Rusty crawfish, Red swamp crawfish. All can be problem. Not good or bad, but will change things. In Mille Lacs bass are doing well now. AIS will change a lake, but have yet to see any that have long term damage. Milfoil perspective.

Welcome to Paul Steinhauser, new Birchwood representative

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

none

8. REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

8a. Lake Level Resolution Committee

No meeting held. Next one scheduled in October if there are agenda items. At our November meeting Paul Bolstad will do presentation on the weather station data

8b. Lake Quality Committee

8b1. Water level 922.38. 9 3/4 inches higher than last year.

8b2. Temp 68 degrees. Last year 62

8c. Lake Utilization Committee

No agenda items this month

8d. Lake Education Committee

Website usage up - 100 people month use site

Info on zebra mussels posted and instructions on how to measure density. WB

Press ad was run last week for zebra mussels. Tweeted today for boat lift study as well.

8e. Joint Powers Task Group

none

8f. Treasurer’s Report

MOTION #3 (DeSmet/Parenteau) Move to approve September report and pay checks 4371 - 4376. All aye passed

Waiver of statutory authority – annual form we fill out to not waive limits

MOTION #4 (Parenteau/St Germain) Move to “not waive” limits. All aye, passed.

8g. Board Counsel Report

None

Birchwood – waiting until next month for Ganz to be here

St Germain – when tickets are written, do you see all those?

Kantrud - Yes. If speeding or smaller maybe not, not a lot of citations, more education

8h. Administrative Staff Report

Items included in packet this month:

- Agenda
- August draft minutes
- Liability coverage waiver form
- Financial reports

9. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #5 (Parenteau / St Germain) Move to approve. All aye passed.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #6 (St Germain / Steinhauser) Move to adjourn. All aye passed.

ATTEST:

Administrative Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Board Chairperson

Date