

Buffalo Lake P & R District Quarterly Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2014

Board Members Present – Bill Lewis, Carol Deer, Frank Breitenbach, Jim Barton and Joe Oravetz

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

The minutes from the February meeting were read by Carol. Frank motioned for the minutes to be accepted, Joe seconded and the motion passed

Treasures Report – Bill read the Treasures report. As of April 30th 2014 there were balances of \$171,210 in the Equipment Fund, \$163,387.30 in the Operating Fund and \$7,653.01 in the checking account for a total of \$342,250.04. Bill noted that we have since received grant money for the new harvester in the amount of \$53,351.50. Frank motioned for the report to be accepted, Carol seconded and the motion passed.

Water Quality Testing – Andrew Sabai gave a presentation on the water quality testing he was doing for Lake Puckaway including tracking how nutrients move through the system, nutrient levels and dissolved oxygen levels. Discussion followed on how this would be a benefit to Buffalo Lake and how monitoring the water quality of the lake was a part of the district's responsibility of protection and rehabilitation. The district could become involved with the current testing being carried out, sharing data with Lake Puckaway and adding a monitoring site at the causeway in Packwaukee. Samples would be taken every other week for remaining 12 weeks of the spring/summer seasons. Testing would be \$85 per sample day for a cost of \$1020 for the season. There was also discussion on split the cost with Lake Puckaway for 2 existing sites already being monitored, one at HWY O and one south of the dam, for an added cost of \$500. Joe motioned for the money to be allocated for this project, Frank seconded and the motion passed.

Dues & Finance Committee – Bill and Jim will be working on the Annual budget soon. The finances of the district are in good shape. Rich need a copy of the check that was written for the buoys, for DNR reimbursement.

Fish Committee – Paul Ratzburg introduced the members of the committee and reported on their success in fundraising for fish restocking. It was agreed that the Fish committee along with the Lotus and other planting projects and the new water quality project will all now be under the umbrella of an Ecology Committee to help with the coordination of efforts with Rich Brefeld as the committee chairman. The fish committee has raised \$800 by selling advertisements in the district's annual newsletter at \$100 per ad. Fund raising tackle boxes have been placed at area businesses and have so far brought in \$188.40. Additional fundraising activities are being looked at including a meat raffle or a BBQ. Carol and Paul will be looking at the layout of the newsletter to see how to best incorporate the ads. Rendezvous will be having district shirts and hats available for purchase with proceeds benefiting the restocking effort. It would also be good if we could set up a service directory with these businesses on our website. Bill Lind has looked into pricing of fish and is able to get a good 50% discount for the district. The DNR will be doing a fish study in 2015 and our restocking would follow this study. Paul requested that anyone with pictures of the massive fish kill from last winter to pass them on to him to show the DNR.

Harvesting Committee – Jim Sanders reported that the equipment is in the water and cutting will begin on the west end of the lake on Monday. Paper work for the grant, to help with the cost of a new harvester was submitted and approved by the DNR for a total of \$106,703. The district has received \$53,351.50 as of this time. A new operator has been hired and will begin training. There may be a need to reset the buoys. Rich asked that the forms for labor and fuel, for proof of in-kind work, be filled out to submit for the lotus project grant.

Ecology Committee – Rich discussed the placement of informational signs at the public boat launch and in front of 2 private docks and on the island. He is working on getting together a meeting on shoreline buffer and restoration with all of the parties involved. He also provided an update on the project the high school kids have been working on including the planting of 300 Arrowhead plants, signage for the island and a GPS education program in conjunction with Montello Library. He is exploring the idea of a canoe portage at the dredge bank land that is owned by the city. He asked to be reimbursed for fencing bought to protect the new plantings and signage at the site of the plantings. Frank made a motion to approve the reimbursement, Joe seconded, motion passed.

Roll Call voice vote was held for the board to adjourn to a closed session to discuss new job descriptions and work rules. All were in favor and the meeting moved to closed session. The new documents were reviewed with discussion on season end equipment inspections and safety meetings. Al Rosenthal will bring the new documents over to the crew. Roll call voice vote was held, all in favor, and the meeting returned to open session. Frank motioned for the new work rule and job description documents be approved, Joe seconded and the motion passed.

The next meeting was set for July 12th, 2014, 9:00 AM at the Packwaukee Town Hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 PM