

Buffalo Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Annual Meeting

August 13, 2016

Minutes

Board Members Present: Bill Lewis, Tom Ogden, Joseph Oravetz, Carol Deer, Frank Breitenbach, Chuck Kopesil

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Minutes from last year annual meeting

Minutes from last year's annual meeting were read by Tom Ogden. Bill motioned to approve the minutes and Joe seconded.

3. Treasurers Report

The Board had print outs of the budget and the newsletter was published with all of the budget figures. General fund--\$13,592.15, Operating Fund--\$136,593.32, and Equipment Fund--\$111,101.00 for a total in all accounts of \$261,286.47.

Bill noted that we may want to consider moving the Annual Meeting to the second week of October. Roger expressed a concern about the carryover not being correct. Also mentioned that the District receives a review, not an audit and budget should label it properly.

We will look into the Lake Plan, what we still need to spend this year, when it will be completed, etc. Carol was the main contact and will look into it.

Frank motioned to approve the budget, Chuck seconded, motion passed.

4. Budget Hearing

A lengthy discussion revolved around getting a good handle on our expenses, accurately forecasting for next year, and ultimately operating in a balanced budget. All members agreed.

Roger pointed out a couple of corrections, including the carryover. Also that bookkeeping needs to be a separate line item.

Al pointed out that there was not anything in the budget for the DNR Grant and the Onterra expenses.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding how to do a better job in the harvesting operation. Could we use volunteers, what would the dues have to be raised, do we have enough equipment, are we cutting properly? It was evident that we would be in a better position to evaluate this important part of the operation and its large portion of the budget. The only way to do this would be to wait until all of the figures are in after the harvesting operation is done for the year.

Members in attendance were very positive and supportive for getting accurate figures on the harvesting operation so we could manage the operation more effectively and would have more accurate options for better performance.

Al motioned to table the action on the proposed budget until October 15, 2016 when the line items can be corrected, and adjustments based on end of harvesting operation. Tom seconded, motion passed.

5. Adjourn Budget Hearing

Tom moved to adjourn budget hearing, Carol seconded, motion carried.

6. Budget Approval

Tabled to October 15, 2016 meeting.

7. Appointment of 1 Commissioner

a. Bill Lewis resignation

Joe motioned to accept Bill's resignation, Chuck seconded, motion carried.

With the seat open, Darrel Unsinn has expressed an interest in the open position. Tom motioned to appoint Darrel to the Boar to fill Bill's seat, Bill seconded, motion carried.

8. Election of 2 Commissioners

Carol Deer and Jim Barton's terms are up. Four candidates gave introductions. Mike Heil, Ro Klecz, Vikki Trimble, Jim Sanders

9. Committee Reports

- a) **Dues & Finance**—Jim Barton not in attendance. Carol stated that there are 3 different ways to come up with assessments. Waiting for results of the survey which is due in October.
- b) **Fish**—Special notice to Jim Felt, Paul Ratzburg and Bill W. for all of their contributions to the Fish Committee. In total, more than \$30,000 was raised.
- c) **Site**—The container was purchased and will be used to store records. Some things will need to be done to it.
- d) **Harvesting Operation**—Ray stated that they had worked 48 days so far with about 20 days left. They are starting their fifth pass on the lake. He will have a detailed report at the end of the season. He has received many calls of concern and they have done the best they could based on the aggressive growth of the weeds.
- e) **Technology**—Tom reported a few new registrations for electronic communications on website. When we get more, we will need to purchase an email delivery system to send bulk emails.
- f) **Ecology**—Rich has information on the Healthy Lakes grant. It is for \$1000 and is for a 350 sq.ft. area. Carol stated talk to Pat Kilbey at U WI or the Lake District for more information.
- g) **Lake Management Plan**-Carol stated that Onterra will be using the results from out surveys so they know what our goals are as a District.

10. Marquette County Lake Group/Town/County

Al stated that they meet two times per year and the next meeting is 9/8/16 at 6:30 at the County Services Center. Speaker will be Ben Bransil, Sec of Agriculture in Wisconsin.

Also mentioned that Wisconsin Lakes lost 200K in their budget

Joe stated the causeway rehab will be in 2017 but still don't know if it will be closed down or partially closed.

Frank, nothing to report.

11. Next year's annual meeting

The next annual meeting will be held on 10/14/16 at Montello High School at 9:00 am.

12. Closed meeting for commissioners

Election results for Jim Sanders and Mike Heil

Darrel will serve as Treasurer, Jim will be Secretary, Mike is elected to the Board, Tom will now be President.

Joe motioned for these elections/positions as stated. Jim seconded, motion carried.

13. Reconvene to open session to approve appropriate action relating to election according to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 1cf

Darrel will serve as Treasurer, Jim will be Secretary, Mike is elected to the Board, Tom will now be President.

Jim motioned for these elections/positions as stated. Joe seconded, motion carried.

14. New Business/Questions

None to report

15. Adjourn

Joe motioned to adjourn, Jim seconded, motion carried at 1:37