

# **Buffalo Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Annual Meeting**

**October 14, 2017**

## **Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Tom Ogden, Carol Deer, Frank Breitenbach, Chuck Kopesil, Roger Naniot, Ro Klesz, Jim Sanders

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **2. Minutes from last year annual meeting**

Minutes from last year's annual meeting were read by Carol Deer. Roger motioned to approve the minutes and Frank seconded.

### **3. Treasurers Report**

The Board had print outs of the budget and the newsletter was published with all of the budget figures. Operating fund-\$81,762.39, Equipment fund-\$145,754.88 and General fund-\$17,097.53 for a total of all accounts of \$244,614.79.

Ro mentioned that the purchase of the pontoon boat will help with the buoys and storage and was approved at the last District meeting. \$2500 was approved and the boat was purchased for \$600, \$1000 for the motor and \$75 for the trailer so well under budget. Bill Wolkowiak added that we will save in handling of these buoys and that will save money.

Rich Brefield complimented Scott on his purchase and skills at putting this all together.

### **4. Budget Hearing**

Roger commented that we are in line with revenue and expenses. We had a surprise with insurance, and we authorize an extra week of cutting at the cost of \$3400, but overall in the harvesting operation we were under budget.

Question was raised regarding the purchase of used cutter. Tom explained the options and the expense and timing of possibly purchasing a new one. Question was asked regarding are we not cutting at individual piers? Tom replied, after talking to Ted Johnson at DNR, we can as long as we don't disrupt the lake bed. This means lake level can make a big difference as to how close we can come. We can't however; do private pier clean outs for favors, etc., that were done in the past. The DNR will not allow this.

There was a long discussion of various areas of the lake, challenges, silt, weeds. A question was raised of the new map that Tom mentioned. Tom responded that there were copies at the Board table as well as the Registration table, and that it would be posted to the website in the next few days.

A suggestion was made to send a letter to the local businesses to see if there would be improved support financially.

### **5. Adjourn Budget Hearing**

Al Rosenthal motioned to close the Budget Hearing, Carol seconded, motion carried.

### **6. Budget Approval**

Frank moved to approve the Budget for 2018 as presented. Chuck seconded, motion carried.

### **7. Resolution 2017-1**

Resolution was read as published. To raise assessments by 25% to be effective in the 2019 Budget.

Roger reiterated that if passed, it would be for the 2019 Budget.

Report of voting on resolution 36 yes, 25 no, Yes carries.

### **8. Election of 2 Commissioners**

Tom Ogden, Carol Deer

Tom Tones expressed an interest in running, however; he was not able to make it to the meeting.

Vikki Trimble expressed an interest and made it to the ballot. Therefore; the two names on the ballot are Tom Ogden and Vikki Trimble.

Audience member recommended that the Board introduce themselves as he had not attended meetings in the past and didn't know the players. Carol expressed that it was a good idea. Board introduced themselves to the District members in attendance.

Before voting, Tom Ogden asked three times for any write in candidates in the audience. No one expressed interest.

Roger motioned nominations were closed. Frank seconded, motion carried. Roger recommended that based on the ballot, that we should suspend the rules and pick the two candidates on the ballot. Frank seconded, motion carried. Tom Ogden, Vikki Trimble.

### **A change in the order of the agenda—Onterra was to be at the end, however; we wanted all in attendance to hear from Brenton Butterfield, Aquatic Specialist at Onterra. Intro Brenton.**

Brenton provided a detailed presentation of the Lake Management Plan that Onterra conducted in 2015. He explained the condition and changes of the weed composition since the drawdown and the ultimate solution is to conduct a partial drawdown of the lake every few years. Invasive species would be monitored regularly and if and when they reached a critical level, then a partial drawdown will be the best way to kill the roots and reduce them from coming back for some time.

Tom explained that this would be voted on at the 2019 Annual Meeting but we should all think about other options are not feasible financially and otherwise and we had good results from the last drawdown. We would not lower the level as much as we did for the dam reconstruction. Tom stated that the Lake Management Plan is posted on the website for all to review.

## **9. Committee Reports**

- a) **Dues & Finance**—discussed in Resolution
- b) **Site**—The container is ready to store paperwork stated Chuck.
- c) **Harvesting Operation**—Nothing else to report.
- d) **Technology**—Tom reported that paper copies need to be loaded into email delivery system and import Excel file
- e) **Ecology**—Rich-nothing at this time

Tom reported that Mike Hammer from Granite Falls in conjunction with the Chamber has raised money for a pier to be installed at the end of Montello Street so boats could dock and walk into town, etc. Should be installed by end of May. No cost to us!

## **10. Permits for Individual Herbicide Application**

Brenton stated that we can apply with the DNR and the fee is \$60, plus cost of herbicide. Ted Johnson needs to inspect and we need a license for the application. It is approximately \$500/acre.

## **11. Marquette County Lake Group/Town/County**

Al stated that Golden Sands has grant money available and would like our assistance with the AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) program. Could we consider \$500 as other lakes have participated?

## **12. Next year's annual meeting**

The next annual meeting will be held on 10/13/18 at Montello High School at 9:00 am.

Next Quarter Board Meeting, February 10 at 9:00, Packwaukee.

## **13. Closed meeting for commissioners**

Election results for Tom Ogden and Vikki Trimble

Carol motioned for these elections/positions as stated. Frank seconded, motion carried.

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

Tom will be chair, Roger Secretary, Ro Treasurer, Chuck and Vikki board additional Board seats.

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

**15. New Business/Questions**

A question was raised as to why we are protecting the island that is used and popular. It was explained that it is eroding fast and without some proactive protection, the island will be gone.

**16. Adjourn**

Frank motioned to adjourn, Chuck seconded, motion carried at 11:48 am.