

Buffalo Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Board Meeting

November 10, 2018

1. Meeting was called to order at 8:01am
2. **Board Members Present:** Ro Klecz, Vikki Trimble, Bill Lewis, Judy Nigbor, Town of Packwaukee Representative, Jon Sheller, Marquette County Representative

3. Changes or Additions to the Agenda:

Bill Lewis requested to move up District Meeting Makeup to #5 and Move People of the Lakes to #6

The Filling of Two Board Positions:

Ro welcomed everyone and stated that the Board was going to appoint 2 people to the Board due to two vacancies from Tom Ogden and Roger Naniot. Tom Ogden's term has two years left and Roger Naniot's term has one year left. Ro asked if there were any other people interested in the position and Kelly Cogriff stated that he was interested in being on the board. The following people were interested in the two open Board positions:

Rich Brefeld

Larry Haygood

Katie Carter

Gary Kershaw

Chuck Kopesill

Linda Huggett

David Burton

Marcel (Joe) Dion

Kelly Cosgriff

The Board voted first to fill the two-year position. Larry Haygood was voted into that position. The Board then voted to fill the one-year position. Kelly Cosgriff was voted into that position.

4. District Committee Makeup

Bill stated that we needed to make sure that each committee has regular meetings and communicate the results of those meetings to membership. Bill stated that each committee needs to have processes and procedures. Bill mentioned that we need to form a Lake Plan Committee

Harvesting Committee

Due & Finance Committee

Equipment Committee

Communications Committee

Lake Plan Committee

Jon Sheller asked to define communication. Ro stated that we currently use facebook, webpage and email. Committees will pick their Chairpersons yearly. No longer will anyone have to fill out an application to be on a committee. Anyone can participate. Non-district volunteers cannot vote. Employees can attend committee meetings but cannot be on committees.

5. Chapter 5 People of the Lakes

Bill talked about the People of the Lakes. There was a question asked about bylaws. Vikki stated that we currently follow People of the Lakes and Chapter 33. Larry Haygood mentioned that we should have a Roberts Rule of order on hand. To clarify what the District Board is to follow, Vikki made a motion for the District Board to follow the People of the Lakes and Chapter 33, Bill Lewis seconded, all were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

6. Transporter Update & Grant Application Update

Chuck & Jim stated that the cost of the Inland transporter is \$182,650.00. Delivery is additional and runs anywhere from \$900.00 - \$ 2000.00. We are still well under the cost that was approved in Resolution 2018-1 which was \$192,400.00. Jim Barton stated that we needed to have all the equipment evaluated so that we know what repairs were needed going into the 2019 harvesting season. Bill Lewis stated that we needed to get the grant process going so that we don't miss the deadline. There was discussion about purchasing the transporter and that even though the District needs a new transporter that we should wait before ordering it until we have a better handle on the condition of the equipment.

Larry Haygood made a motion to delay the purchase of the new transporter until the January 5, 2019 Board meeting because of the grant application and until all of the equipment has been evaluated, Vikki seconded all were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed

7. District Financial Report

Operating Fund has \$63,003.76 and the Equipment Fund Has \$115,379.08.

8. 2019 Harvesting Permit Application Update

Ro asked if the Harvesting Committee was going to review the harvesting map for the 2019 permit season. There were a lot of equipment break downs and flooding this past season, so we really didn't have a good idea if the map that was adjusted last season, worked. Vikki asked if we can adjust the harvesting map yearly if it is needed. The answer was yes. The box that Tom Ogden had with the permit information had not yet been turned over to the Board. Carol Deer is suppose to have the box. Vikki stated that she would get it from Carol.

9. Dredge Island

Rich gave a brief history of Dredge Island. It is an island that is on the Montello side of the lake where people pull boats up, drop anchor to and swim with their families. Rich stated that he has

worked with the high school on conservation efforts. The front half of the island has been used for recreational purposes while the back half of the island is over grown and could be used as educational training for school kids. The island is eroding away and has been since the draw down. In a few years, without restoration, there will be no island for boat to pull up and swim. Right now no one owns the island. The County and the City Montello doesn't want to claim the island. Rich stated that he has spoken to the County and they would be in favor of the District taking responsibly for the island. Rich has spoken to the District's attorney who is willing to work pro bono on this project. Jon Sheller stated that there are grants out there that the District could obtain to do the shoreline restoration work on the island, but the District must take possession of the island first. Jim Barton discussed that he was in favor of the District taking possession of the island. There was a concern about liability, the District very well could be sued if something were to happen. Even though we don't own the island it is in our District so there very well could be liability concerns. Just because no one has owner ship of the lake, doesn't mean that the District could not be held liable. More discussion needs to be held as to the cost of owning and preserving the island and the type of restoration that will need to be done. The island would hopefully have a twofold use, educational use on the back half of the island where it is over grown for the school kids and the front half which is being used as recreational where boats currently drop anchor and families swim. Signs could be placed on the island not to allow hunting.

Bill Lewis would like this topic to go before an annual meeting. Kelly stated that acquiring the Island would not need annual meeting approval as the District would not be buying the island. Bill asked what the hurry was to acquire the Island? Kelly stated that each year the is island keeps eroding more and more, so the quicker we save the island the less expensive the costs which would mostly be funded by grants. Jon Sheller County Representative agreed. Kelly stated that the island is the only recreation spot on the lake where people get together, hang out and swim. It would be a shame to lose the island.

Kelly made a motion to table this discussion to January 5, 2019 Board meeting so that the information could be placed on the website and emailed to membership so that they could weigh in with their opinions if Dredge Island is worth the District taking it over and saving it. Seconded by Jon. Motion passed 6-1

There was discussion to place Dredge Island on the January 5, 2019 for further discussion.

10. Unfinished Business: None

11. Audience Comments:

Someone asked if minutes could be posted somewhere else like the library, Montello or Packwaukee Municipal buildings. There are some people that don't have a computer. The Board stated that they would look into it.

Someone asked about condition of the West side of the lake. Vikki stated that the west side needs some type of attention. The west side is silting in and maybe we should be thinking of alternatives. Dredging is very expensive but maybe we can start putting a little bit of money away each year to do a little bit at a time. Vikki stated that we need to move forward as a board and work together. Last year was a disaster and what has happened in the past is something we cannot change but we can certainly move forward and make things better and make this a better harvesting season. We are a new Board and we can make it better.

12. Announcements:

None

13. Adjournment:

Meeting closed at 11:26am. Next Scheduled Board Meeting will be January 5th, 2019 @ 8 am, Packwaukee Library

After the Meeting it was decided that the following Board Members would hold the following positions

Ro Klecz – Chairperson – Board term is up October 2019

Larry Haygood - Treasurer- Board term is up October of 2020

Kelly Cogriff – Secretary – Board term is up October of 2019

Bill Lewis – Board term is up October of 2021

Vikki Trimble – Term is up October of 2020 is also the bookkeeper

Jon Sheller appointed by the County

Judy Nigbor appointed by the Town of Packwaukee

This document is not intended to be a word for word transcript

Respectfully Submitted

By

Ro Klecz