

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

**February 14, 2015**

## **Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Bill Lewis, Tom Ogden, Joseph Oravetz, Roger Naniot, Carol Deer, Jim Barton., Frank Breitenbach

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **2. Minutes**

Minutes from the previous meeting were read by Tom Ogden. Frank motioned to approve the minutes as read and Carol seconded. Motion passed.

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Total in all accounts was \$288,048.29. Operating Fund balance is \$123,491.16, Equipment Fund is \$157,472.35.

It was reported that a separate line item was added for the fish stocking of \$7,000. Also, the Lotus project reported expenses of \$691.91

Maintenance on equipment was higher than expected, more than \$20,000, even though no cutting was done. There was cutting done west of the causeway however. Labor was high due to higher maintenance hours.

Frank moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Carol seconded, motion passed.

### **4. Accept and Approve District Financial Review 2013**

The statements were received from the accountant and it was noted that the financial statements were reviewed, not audited. Roger moved to accept the review as presented and to pay services, Joe seconded, motion carried.

### **5. Revise District Work Rules**

Bill explained the handout on the work rules and that this will give us better accountability and will be easier and safer for all employees. A line was added to include repair costs and labor hours to give more detail. Joe motioned to accept the Work Rules, including the comment in red regarding the repair and labor hours, Carol seconded, motion passed.

### **6. Personnel Committee**

It was reported that Jim Sanders had requested a committee to be formed and a long discussion covered the responsibilities and the formal or informal nature of the committee. It was concluded that it should be an ad hoc committee, but a permanent one, that could deal with issues as they came up and everyone knew who was responsible for the decisions. Roger moved to establish a personnel committee for assignments as needed and a Board member will be assigned to be included. Frank seconded, motion carried.

### **7. Personnel Committee (request for harvesting crew bonus)**

Al described the request for compensation to the harvesting crew for going above and beyond on maintenance problem that required additional labor and the need to work together as a complete crew. In addition, hours were varied throughout the season and it was noted that a goodwill effort toward the crew would payback in the interest to continue to work for Buffalo Lake P&R. A lengthy discussion concluded that this would also help loyalty of the workers and that they would be busier on a more regular basis. Roger motioned to pay \$400 to the five workers, including Jim, the supervisor, to be paid in 2015. Carol seconded, motion passed.

## **8. Water Quality Report**

Carol presented a report of the study and said major finding was a high level of phosphorus, but not a major concern. All hope that the lake study to be done will provide an even more comprehensive set of findings.

## **9. Funding Request (complete island sign)**

Rich is requesting additional funds for signs for the island for enhanced visibility. Roger recommended that the amount of \$150 would be provided to fund this project. Carol seconded, motion carried.

## **10. Funding Request (informational plaques)**

Rich also previously requested funds for informational signs. Roger moved to not reimburse for the expense of three informational signs and the funds were not approved. Carol seconded, motion carried.

## **11. Committee Reports**

- a) **Dues & Finance**—Jim reported still looking at all aspects of dues and finance related issues and it will be important to get Roger involved to assist.
- b) **Fish Committee**—Jim Felt reported on the committee. There were great turnouts for all events for fundraising and there is no reason to expect the interest to decrease. There will be a bass tournament on June 20 and it will be a 50/50, and half of the proceeds will be donated to the fish stocking. Also, there will be another popular meat raffle in the March timeframe.
- c) **Water Quality**— Carol previously presented and provided handout.
- d) **Harvesting**—Jim stated they will get going the second week of April. They will have some larger maintenance issues this year but will be ready to go by May 15. New harvester coming in April, then old one will be marketed to be sold.
- e) **Technology**—Tom will head up the production of the newsletter and we need to make sure we realize the additional cost if the fish committee ads will raise the cost of the newsletter. It may require the fish committee to be responsible for at least a portion of the additional cost.
- f) **Site Committee**—Nothing to report.

**Ecology Committee**—Rich not in attendance, however, provided this report by email.

\$161.21 purchase of a GPS from lotus funds.

\$420.33 purchase of lotus info signs at boat launches from lotus funds

\$110.37 Was a contribution from the lotus funds for the building materials to build the kiosk at the Montello dam.

The Lake District funded \$600 for this project & a additional \$110.37 from the lotus fund cover to cover the remaining costs. Total lotus project expenses to date are \$673.91

## **12. Marquette County Lake Group**

Al reported that the issues with the state budget will affect the lake districts. Next meeting is May, 14 at the Service Center. Pizza and pop will be served. Theme is Chapter 33 dealing with lake districts.

## **13. Town/County**

Tom needs to contact the county, they have a new website.

## **14. Old Business/New Business**

None to report.

## **15. Next Meeting**

**Next Meeting**—Next regular meeting May 2, 2015 @9:00 p.m, Packwaukee Town Hall

## **11. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.