

Buffalo Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

Regular Meeting

February 24, 2018

Minutes

Board Members Present: Tom Ogden (Chairman), Ro Klesz (Treasurer), Roger Naniot (Secretary), Chuck Koepsell, Vikki Trimble, Frank Breitenbach (County), Jim Sanders (Town rep)

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

2. Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting were read by Roger Naniot. Chuck motioned to approve the minutes as read and Frank seconded, motion passed.

3. Treasurer's Report

As of 01/31/18, total in all accounts was \$167,367.66. Operating Fund balance is \$81,799.48 Equipment Fund balance \$81,003.95. Checking account balance \$4,564.23. Motion by Roger to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Jim, motion passed.

4. Committee Reports

Tom stated that he wanted to discuss a topic before moving into the committee reports. He explained that in discussions with the Board, that some structure would benefit the committees in the District. He further explained that in discussions with other lake districts, that they had benefited significantly with this process. Tom provided a sample of the form that would be filled out by anyone interested in serving on a committee. The form would be filled out, sent to the committee chair to review with committee and then a decision would be made. Tom also suggested that the website would have categories on the Committees section that would post minutes, meeting dates, and committee members as well as the form to be filled out.

Resolution 222418-1 Tom read the resolution and Roger seconded. Vote had one opposed, motion carries.

It was also stated that anyone currently on committees would be "grandfathered" in.

- a) **Dues & Finance**—The minutes of the 2/3/18 meeting were read by Ro. She stated that the budget was reviewed in detail and it was noted that unemployment was the biggest change as an added insurance cost. Scott reported that the military truck is getting old and cannot pull out cutters, particularly when the water level was low. Roger stated that he wants the labor, maintenance, downtime and any other detail like oil to be a separate line item. There was a lengthy discussion about the possibility of selling or making weeds available to the public. Also, the potential use of a district credit card for purchases was discussed. We could obtain better pricing and also possibly points or dollars back. A motion was stated by Roger to pursue the use of credit cards, to see what we could get, what credit limit, etc. Frank seconded the motion, motion carries.

There was also a discussion regarding the starting wage. Roger stated that he thought the starting wage of \$13.50 per hour was fair particularly due to the recent minimum wage increase.

- b) **Site**—Chuck reported, nothing at this time.
- c) **Lake Management Plan**—Tom recapped the outline of the Lake Management Plan's recommendation of the partial drawdown every few years. They would look at a partial study in 2019 to see the insurgence of invasive species and make a recommendation at this time. Tom reiterated that the Board needed to vote on the consideration of a partial drawdown after the results of this study. The vote is necessary to finalize the current draft status of the Lake Management Plan. Tom moved to consider the approval of the Lake Management Plan in the current status, Roger seconded, motion passed. Tom reminded everyone that now the newly approved map will be attached to the final Lake Management Plan.

- d) Harvesting/Equipment**—The updated map received from Onterra needed a few minor changes. There were only 5 cuts by culverts and we have 6. Scott replied that two of the cuts merge the two culverts and was not concerned. This is a guide for us. It was also noted that the cuts have been narrowed and this is a DNR recommendation.
The permit is good until the end of 2018 and Tom has paperwork for next year's submission. The current map, with changes approved by DNR will be "attached" to the permit. There was a discussion once again regarding cleaning out piers as was done in the past. This is tricky. The permit must state that we can do so, however, we must not disturb the lake bed and depending on the water level, we may not be able to do so. The priority is the map and if we had labor hours and wages left, we may be able to consider.
A question was raised whether homeowners could pay for it themselves, not expecting the District to pay for it. After discussion, Roger stated that we should include the ability to clean up piers if we have finances and time, Frank motioned, Roger seconded, motion carried.
- e) Dues/Finance**—Covered previously.
- f) Technology/Newsletter/Website** —Tom stated that the email communication program is ready to go, finally. We have 148 signed up and in database. Two people, one not in District (Nikki Russo) offered to assist in any way. Tom will take contact information.
- g) Ecology Committee**—
- h) Peoples of the Lakes**--Rich reported on Peoples of the Lake that he presented copies to the Board. Would like web address to be put on our website.
- i) Lake Restoration Fund**--Each property owner can receive up to \$1000 for shoreline restoration. Also put on website how to access information in regard to this. Tom requested Rich to draft what he would like. Would like Board to allocate \$4000 as was done in the past. Ro would like more ecology educational information on the website, particularly for shoreline restoration. Roger supports it for 2019 budget. Scott recommended possible putting up educational kiosks with map, permit, etc., at each boat landing. Barley bales were recommended to put on each pier pole and has been effective in significantly reducing algae.
- j) Golden Sands Contribution**—Al presented that we are active in and stated that a grant was received but doesn't cover everything. DNR wants contributions from local lakes. Others in area have contributed various amounts, \$500, \$1000, etc. It would be reimbursing for the grant received. All thought it was a good idea. Roger motioned to contribute \$500 out of miscellaneous fund. Seconded by Jim, motion carried.

5. Marquette County Lake Group

Next meeting—June 14, 6:00 pizza and pop will be provided. Eric Olsen from UW Extension will speak. Report will be provided from AIS coordinator and a roundtable discussion will follow regarding best practices.

6. Town/County— Frank reported the bridge downtown Rt. 22, and re-deck bridge downtown. Will be one way traffic and will start after Memorial Day.

7. Old Business/New Business

Scott reiterated about the barley bales. Scott will buy one on his own and try it to see if it works. Vikki wanted to set meeting dates. Ro is attending training and mentioned that she doesn't want to be reimbursed. Frank recommended reimbursing for mileage at least.

8. Next Meeting—Next regular meeting will be May 12 at 9:00 am.

Other meetings: September 8, November 10.

Annual Meeting: October—annual meeting.

9. Adjournment

Roger motioned to adjourn, Frank seconded, motion passed. Adjourned at 11:50 a.m.