



White Bear Lake Conservation District

Board of Directors Regular Meeting – Approved Minutes

August 16, 2022, 7:00 p.m., White Bear Lake City Hall Council Chambers

1. **Roll Call/Quorum** – Present: Bryan DeSmet, Mark Ganz, Mike Parenteau, Diane Longville, Chris Churchill, Meredith Walburg, Scott Costello, Darren DeYoung, Scott O'Connor, and Susie Mahoney. A quorum was present.
2. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Bryan DeSmet.
3. **Approval of Agenda**
 - Moved Unfinished Business and Board Counsel Report ahead of Public Comment; added Non-regulation Buoys in Lake to New Business; and struck Birchwood Buoy Removal from Unfinished Business.
 - Motion to approve agenda as modified made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded, and passed.
4. **Approval of July Board Meetings minutes** – Motion to approve made by Mark Ganz, seconded by Diane Longville, and passed.
5. **Unfinished Business**
 - Tally's Dock configuration actions and update:
 - A letter was sent today requesting Tally's to remove all tie-offs and cleats on the south side of the dock, and post a 'no parking/docking this side' sign.
 - The city stated that Tally's is only allowed to use it for service; however, the fueling hose does not reach that dock, so no boats can be serviced. Suggest that when next season's application is received with this diagram, that it is not approved.
 - There are photos of people parking 4 boats in a row on that side; Docks of WBL users would have to ask those people to untie their boats to get out, so that is an issue.
 - A letter was sent in June to Tally's asking to straighten the dock, and they complied.
 - WBLCD/BCA/State of MN Joint Powers Agreement and Resolution re: Originating Case Identifier (ORI) number request:
 - In order to access the State/BCA portal for any criminal charging, formal complaints, or other work, the WBLCD is applying for an ORI number, by signing the Joint Powers Agreement, and amendment through the State and BCA.
 - Motion to approve Resolution 22-01 (Approving State of MN JPA Agreements with WBLCD on Behalf of its Prosecuting Attorney) made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded by Darren DeYoung, and passed.
6. **Board Counsel Report:**
 - Alan Kantrud has been in contact with the Sheriff's department over the buoy situation, which has been resolved. In discussions with the Water Patrol Sergeant, Washington County is not interested in registering and marking buoys, however Ramsey County is willing to do that for the whole lake. If people on the Washington County side want to register their buoys -- it would be good for the Education Committee to (get that

information out there) – it just involves getting paperwork on file and getting a sticker (for the buoy) with ownership information.

- Activity on the lake has been busy, but responsibly used, according to the sergeant.
- It was noted that some buoys on the lake are not registered. If anyone sees, or hears of, unattended buoys, email Alan and he will contact water patrol to check on it; copy Cheri in the office, so it can be tracked.

7. Public Comments - none

8. New Business

- Approve purchase of locked file cabinet: Motion to approve up to \$300 for a lockable file cabinet made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded by Mark Ganz, and approved. Cheri will find the cabinet, and get it to the office.
- Rice Creek Watershed District data presentation: Matt Kocian, from the RCWD, shared a PowerPoint on water quality data, and issues for White Bear Lake. Some highlights:
 - The lake has excellent water quality, with phosphorus and chlorophyll-A levels below state standards, and water clarity above state standards.
 - PFOS, a type of PFAS (*per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance*), also known as 'forever chemicals', showed that fish tissue sampled from White Bear Lake is below PFAS state standards,
 - The RCWD has a grant program to partner with residents, and cities, to do shoreline stabilization. The link - ricecreek.org/grants – will be posted on the WBLCD website.
 - The WBLCD would like to coordinate more closely with the RCWD in the future.

9. Reports/Action Items

- Executive Committee - The committee met and discussed the items below.
 - The board has a responsibility to prepare a management plan for White Bear Lake. The DNR does not have a management plan for the lake we can tie into. Alan will request a sample plan of a similar lake from the DNR to look at.
 - Commercial Bay issues, and the BCA agreement items were reported earlier in the meeting.
 - A new, more efficient office laptop is needed to replace the old one. Cheri will choose a computer and bring a proposal to the board; there is money in the budget for 2023, but will move that item forward to this year and use money in reserve.
 - Cheri is working on resolving some phone equipment issues.
- Lake Quality Committee
 - Lake level – 923.23 ft. An ordinance states you can no longer appropriate/pump water when the level is below 923.5 ft.
 - Lake temperature – 71°F; it was 78°F last month
 - Phragmites Survey and Treatment: A survey with DNR personnel will be conducted on Thurs., 8/18, alternate date on Mon. 8/22; 5-6 sites were found and treated last year. The 2021 budget for treatment was \$2,500 last year, but Anoka County paid for it, so we didn't use those funds.
 - Motion to approve spending from the general fund up to \$2,000 for account 6045 for potential treatment of Phragmites for 2022 made by Mike Parenteau, seconded by Mark Ganz, and passed.
- Lake Utilization Committee
 - 4955 Lake Ave: Wooden structure in lake not in good shape; sent letter this summer to bring into compliance, but there are still old pilings in there; A letter will be sent asking to remove everything that is not serviceable

- 315 Wildwood Ave., Birchwood: Letters will be sent to neighbors on either side of a vacant lot regarding staying within their ADUA next year; they've been moving into its ADUA.
 - 2022 and 2023 Form 5 Permit Application revision: Motion to approve the changes to WBLCD Form #5 made by Mark Ganz, seconded by Mike Parenteau, and passed.
 - Your Boat Club status: They were notified that they did not complete an application for a permit; an application and fee has since been completed and returned. Motion to approve the permit application, on the condition that they pay the \$60 late fee made by Mark Ganz, seconded by Diane Longville, and passed. Cheri will notify them.
 - City of Birchwood amendments - Elm and Birch dock update: Last fall, the City of Birchwood Village asked that they move the dock over 10 feet, but they didn't note that change when they put out their application for the docks. They put in an amendment afterwards, and neighbors on either side of the dock are okay with it as well as the city, and associations. The LUC passed the amended application. Motion to accept the amendments to the Elm and Birch dock application made by Mark Ganz, seconded by Scott O'Connor, and passed.
 - Vrbo boat rentals are becoming popular; there are two that we know of:
 - NPQD Rentals, which we approved this summer for a runabout and a pontoon, has a license from the city to keep them on shore during the day at Matoska. However, they also have jet skis they are renting out. Mark will call them tomorrow to 'cease and desist', until they show proof of insurance for the jet skis; their application may be amended stating they may not rent out the jet skis, until everything is squared away. They want one jet ski to use as a service vehicle, but they can't be renting. It's noted that they didn't say anything on their application about the jet skis, but otherwise they did things right by applying for a permit, and they've done everything that we've asked from them.
 - SilverFinn Kayaking – they have a SUV and a 4-kayak/canoe trailer; they will meet you at a lake, and drop off and pick up the rental.
 - This is growing pains; we've never had to deal with this before - all previous rentals have been in the marina. This is something that is coming; how do we regulate this? Sheriffs aren't happy with this, and there are no ordinances against this, so we will continue to bring this issue forward.
 - Need to confirm whether permanent docks need to be permitted every year. Mark Ganz will review with board counsel. If it's an approved permanent dock, then maybe it needs to be marked at the end with reflective materials.
- Lake Education Committee
- Invasive Yellow Iris: Letters to City of WBL and Admiral Ds sent 7/14/2022, City has notified its landscape maintenance contractor to watch for this next spring when it is in bloom.
 - Adopt-A-Drain Program: Progress was made in the Adopt-A-Drain program. Feedback from Dellwood, which doesn't have a formal storm water system, suggests that the 21 drains listed for their municipality are not all storm sewer drains. They've asked not to highlight their drain adoption data until this is resolved. Not sure what the situation is in Birchwood; some may not be storm drains there either. (Storm drain data comes from the Mosquito Control district.) We'll be careful in the next few months to focus on the overall program, and not see it as a race due to the uncertainty of the actual number of storm drains.
 - Marketfest event: Had a booth on July 28 last Marketfest; it went fairly well, but exhibits with activities and freebies did better.

- Social media update: Will post about Phragmites survey, low water level means water cannot be pumped from the lake, information from the RCWD presentation, and link to shoreline stabilization grant. Also, put link to grants on WBLCD website.
- Treasurer's Report
 - August 2022 treasurer's report in packet.
 - Approval of payments: Motion to approve payment for checks 4780-4786 was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded by Mark Ganz, and passed.
 - USGS Survey account status: The WBLCD is operating the fund with \$599.60 dollars left over from the lake level study done several years ago. Mike called Perry Jones, who headed the USGS study, and has a wealth of knowledge of the lake; he is now retired, and is willing to work on a final report to the Board. The question is whether the monies, which came from various agencies, such as the DNR and RCWD, can be used to hire a consultant or does it need to be paid directly to the USGS.
 - Need to discuss what topics we would want covered. It would be interesting to tie together what USGS was doing with what the DNR has done with their model regarding lake levels.
 - Mike will ask Perry to call the USGS to see if he could subcontract through them; if that doesn't work, we can contact the donors and run our idea by them to build some consensus in that. Cheri will look for the original lake study agreement.
 - LMC annual policy renewal – Liability Coverage Waiver: Motion to approve not to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded by Mark Ganz, and passed.

10. Announcements – A thank you note from the WBL Fireworks Committee was received for the WBLCD's support of the Independence Day fireworks display.

11. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 8:28 pm was made by Mark Ganz, seconded by Susie Mahoney, and passed.

ATTEST:

Bryan DeSmet, Chair



Date: 9-20-2022

Cheri Howe, Administrator



Date: 9/20/2022