

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WHITE BEAR LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
7:00 P.M. WHITE BEAR CITY HALL  
MINUTES of October 17, 2017

~~FOR~~ APPROVED November 21, 2017  
*as corrected*

**1. CALL TO ORDER** The October meeting of the White Bear Lake Conservation District was convened by Chair Bryan DeSmet at 7:00 pm in the WBL Council Chambers.

**2. ROLL CALL** Present were: Chair Bryan DeSmet, Vice Chair Mark Ganz, Secretary/Treasurer Diane Longville; Directors: Mike Parenteau, Susie Mahoney, George St. Germain, Scott Costello, Geoff Ratte, and newly appointed representative from Dellwood, Brady Ramsay. We still have one vacancy (Birchwood). A quorum was present.

Chairman DeSmet reminded all to speak directly into their microphone for clarity on the DVD recording. He, also, welcomed Brady Ramsay, representing Dellwood, to the Board and thanked him for volunteering.

**3. AGENDA**

Add item 8d1: VFW Permits for winter events: Horseshoes on the Ice (Feb 10, 2018) and Softball on the Ice (Feb 17, 2018).

**MOTION #1 (DeSmet / St. Germain)** Move to approve agenda with additions. All aye, passed

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION #2 (Ratte / Parenteau)** Move to approve minutes as received. All aye passed.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME:**

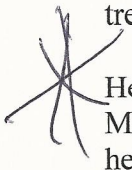
**Flotilla of Party Boats**

Shannon Foster, 5011 Lake Avenue, Chateauguet Condominiums, passed out a copy of their concerns about a "flotilla" of party boats which parked for hours in front of the condos and West Beach this summer (2017). The residents of Chateauguet and the young swimmers at the beach were subjected to loud and inappropriate music, jet skis, speed boats and swimming dogs. They blocked access to the condo docks and many times were rude when asked to move. Safety and health issues as well as the many ruined times this summer are a concern -- to the point where one resident has sold his condo and another is thinking of moving. The Sheriff's office was called many times. There would be a brief lull, but it would start up again as soon as the deputies would leave.

Mike Parenteau said "She is not exaggerating at all. It may not be all of them but it is a major problem." Geoff Ratte said, "We can hear them clear over on the Mahtomedi side as well." Chairman DeSmet thanked her for bringing the concerns to the Board although it is not something that is before the board at this time, it is good to have their information on record.

## **Eurasian Water Milfoil treatments (EWM) for 2018 -- Another Perspective**

Fletcher Driscoll, 28 Peninsula Road, in Dellwood, spoke to re-thinking the basis for decisions on Eurasian Water Milfoil control -- from a sailing perspective. He felt "we are losing the battle to Milfoil." Sailboats are no longer able to use a good part of the lake for racing". Early deeper treatment would be better. There is a time gap between survey and treatment.

 He introduced Jay ~~Reynolds~~ <sup>Rendall</sup>, 4740 Stewart Avenue, WBL. Jay is retired from the DNR of Minnesota where he worked for 20 years. Fletcher felt Jay could add the DNR perspective plus he has sailed White Bear Lake for over 40 years. Jay reiterated that Milfoil is growing in large areas. Even if it is not visible from the surface, sailboats require more clearance than motorboats to provide for the keels and center boards which can be as deep as six feet in the water. He thought it would be helpful to treat deeper and earlier. White Bear Lake has been a sailing/racing lake since the 1800s and he felt it is important to maintain those sailing opportunities.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **Mike introduced Steve McComas: here to present 2017 Lake Report**

Steve has worked on White Bear Lake for 20 years and is a well-respected EWM expert.

Steve said that the 2017 approach to treatment on WBL had mixed success (different results in different areas). He passed out printed photos and comparative charts and graphs to illustrate his points. Discussion is now going on to plan for 2018 based on the results of various treatments and timing used on a variety of Minnesota lakes. It is a complex problem. In addition to the variables of timing, treatment and product; when water is low, EWM can grow now where it was not a problem before. They thrive using the store of nitrogen in that bottom area. The Zebra Mussels clarify the water which allows more sunlight to stimulate EWM and other plant growth and rate of growth.

Steve felt the best results can be obtained by treating a larger area around the targeted Milfoil to allow longer contact and counteract drift. After 3-4 hours repeat on the same area --- which allows for maximum plant contact. It is called the "Dual Pass."

It has not been determined which of the chemicals is most effective -- both are a growth hormone selective to EWM. If EWM is treated too early in the season, there is, also, the possibility that it will start to re-grow by the last of July or early August. It is a judgment call by the Board which has to consider cost as well.

Susie Mahoney asked if there is a granular product (as opposed to liquid) that would settle to the bottom and treat longer as it would not be as affected by drift. Steve said there was such a product, but it was much more expensive and has not proven to be that much more effective. She also asked if the amount and number of treatments could impact the quality of the lake. Steve said, yes, treating large areas can cause die-off that stimulates algae growth. DNR only allows treatment of 15% of a lake's littoral zone. In WBL that would be about 160 acres.

The DNR will issue a permit earlier if they know EWM is present (takes about a week to process). When asked about a trigger point at which treatment should begin, Steve said that the plant(s) being treated needs to be actively growing so it can take up the chemical. One sign that growth is active is that the leaflets are a bright green.

Asked about the appearance of surface cottony or slimy green algae, Steve said it is natural and usually does not last long depending on the lake current. It does not appear every year. Not yet in White Bear Lake, but on the horizon, invasive species we should watch for: Rusty crayfish, starry stonewort (big algae all strung together) which is very invasive. New, generally seen at landings or public access. It can be treated with copper sulphate 2 or 3 times a year. Good to get it early and contain at access. Good to do boat inspections and educate public

Mike Parenteau mentioned that, this winter, there are groups studying the data on EWM Control from this year. They may come up with suggestions for best practices for next Year (regarding chemicals, timing, enlarging treatment areas to compensate for drift, and other issues – perhaps depth control (for sail boats) could also be put on their agenda.

## **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## **8. REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS**

### **8a. Executive Committee**

- 8a.1 City of Dellwood meeting was not available. However, Chairman DeSmet called the Mayor who thought the WBLCD Board is doing good work. He was interested in lake level lawsuit result and if it would impact our work
- 8a.2 Administrative Secretary recruitment. Ad will be placed on League of Minnesota Cities website, WBLCD website and Community Newspapers through Press Publications

***MOTION #3 ( Parenteau/ Longville ) Move to approve up to \$500 advertising expenses. All aye passed.***

### **8b – inactive**

### **8c. Lake Quality Committee**

- 8c.1 Water Level is 922.09'
- 8c.2 Water Temperature is 64 degrees
- 8c.3 John Redpath removed the shallow water buoys for us this year. The 2 new shallow water boys have been received and stored in the office

### **8d Lake Utilization Committee**

- 8d.1 **Permit Applications:** 1) VFW Softball and 2) Horseshoes On Ice; 3) Rotary Club, Bearly Open and 3)Special Olympics Polar Plunge .
- 8d.2 **License Applications:** 1) White Bear Yacht Club, 2) Snyder's Bay, 3) Alicia Heights ~~2) Scott Costello abstained~~

***MOTION #4 ( Ganz/ St. Germain ) Move to approve all) All aye passed.***

### **8e Lake Education Committee**

Website has recruitment advertisement and educational material links back to cleanup regarding Zebra Mussels. DNR has decided to count and monitor one more year. We did not put our Zebra Mussel control ad in Press Publications this fall. Consensus is you cannot transport Mussels dead or alive on public roads. If pulling out onto your own property, no need to scrape – winter exposure kills them. The shells are very sharp to walk on. We have links to DNR material. When new Administrative Secretary is hired, Scott would like to spend some time with her explaining website duties. There is cleanup needed and content needs to

be kept current. We should get information into Homeowner's Association's newsletter next spring.

**8f. Treasurer's Report**

***MOTION #5(Longville Parenteau) Motion move to approve October 2017 treasurers report and pay checks 4441 – 4446. All aye passed.***

**8g. Board Counsel Report**

Attorney Kantrud had a conflict and could not attend tonight's meeting, but he called Chairman DeSmet and said there was no activity to report.

**9. CONSENT AGENDA**

***MOTION ##6 (Longville/ Parenteau) Move to approve Consent Agenda. All aye passed***

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

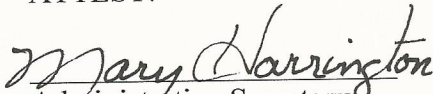
Geoff Ratte wondered if there would be a quorum for November meeting because it was the week before Thanksgiving. There was general consensus that there would be.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

***MOTION #7 (St Germain /Ratte) Move to adjourn. All aye passed.***

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Administrative Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
November 21, 2017

APPROVED:

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Board Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
November 21, 2017