

BLUE SPRING LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Board of Commissioners Meeting
August 03, 2019
Palmyra Town Hall
100 Taft St, Palmyra, WI 53156

Meeting Minutes



8:00 A.M. Call to Order (Quorum 4) – Roll Call

Board Members present at the meeting were Jim Hochman, Diane Knauer, Weenonah Brattset and Dick Natrop. Staff members Greg Twelmeyer, Jim Olson, and Mary Jo McMahan were also in attendance, as well as District resident Eileen Oelke. Staff member Dick Rohloff joined the meeting after roll call.

8:05 A.M. Secretary's Report - Diane Knauer

Diane reported that she had attended a Webinar recommended to her by Jefferson County regarding Open Meeting Agendas. A Webinar presenter recommended that public comments should be scheduled at the beginning of the meeting with a set time limit. In addition, Diane suggested that we change the order in which the agenda for the current meeting and minutes from the last meeting are approved. The Board agreed to make changes suggested in the Webinar as of the next Board Meeting. Weenonah Brattset added that new topics can be added to an agenda up to 24 hours before a meeting with Board approval, and a revised agenda posted.

Agenda – Approval of agenda for August 03, 2019 Board Meeting. A motion to approve the 08/03/2019 Board Meeting Agenda was made by Dick Natrop and 2nd by Jim Hochman. The motion carried without negative vote.

Minutes - Approval of minutes from June 22, 2019 Board Meeting. Diane Knauer asked that the Minutes be amended to include the word "Town" which was omitted from the second paragraph of the Town Report. A motion to approve Minutes from the 06/22/2019 Board Meeting, as amended, was made by Dick Natrop and 2nd by Weenonah Brattset. The motion carried without negative vote.

8:16 A.M. Sewer Report - Greg Twelmeyer

Report on sewer flow – Greg reported that the average flow for July was 28,000 gallons. The maximum flow occurred on Sunday, July 7, at 53,000 gallons. The average for June was 26,000 gallons, with a maximum of 31,000 gallons.

Greg also reported that an engineer from Town and Country accessed the District's computer, at Jim Hochman's request, to provide statistics related to the sewer contract discussion with the Village of Palmyra. They experienced some issues with the computer that L W Allen was able to fix by replacing a fan in the system unit. However, L W Allen mentioned that our computer is now 5 years old and uses the Windows 5 operating system. Microsoft has announced that support for Windows 5 will end on January 1, 2020. The software that L W Allen wrote for the District will not work on Windows 10. L W Allen estimates that it will cost \$10,000 or more to create new software that will run on Windows 10. Greg added that we have 3 original panels that also need to be replaced, and he has asked LW Allen for a quote for that as well. If we ask additional companies to bid, they would have to bid LW Allen panels for them to work with the computer software. Greg also stated that a roof over the panel that is located

near the pumphouse might be a good idea to protect it from the direct sun. Dick Natrop offered to speak with Dick Rohloff about building the roof.

Status on VisuSewer and alternate proposals for sewer repairs – Jim Hochman reported that the opinion of our engineer from Town and Country is that we don't have to do all the work that VisuSewer recommended in their proposal. He provided the names of several other companies that could possibly do the repairs: Michaels Pipeline, Terra Engineering, Lametti, and Insituform. Greg Twelmeyer asked if these companies would have to re-televise the system or if they would use the results of VisuSewer's work. Greg also asked if we are considering doing a formal bid, and what the cost of that would be. Jim asked Mary Jo McMahan to contact the other firms to see if they would be interested in bidding on the work, and to ask whether they would use the results of the televising done by VisuSewer. Once we have those answers we can determine if a competitive bid should be prepared.

Status on replacing manhole cover by the Herbst property – Dick Natrop reported that Dick Rohloff has made the repairs.

8:42 A.M. Dam Report - Jim Olson

Status of the dam – Jim Olson reported that while there were a lot of weeds and algae clogging the overflow earlier in the summer, that has mostly been cleaned up and everything is running smoothly. He has not heard from the DNR, but expects that they will do an inspection in November.

Update on lake level review with the DNR – Jim Hochman stated that he is still getting complaints about the lowered water level. Jim Olson said that it was 2 years ago that the DNR told us that we had to lower the lake level back to the what was originally approved by the DNR when the dam was created. For 18 years before that we were running at a higher level, but Jim lowered it to the DNR-approved level. This resulted in the lake water level being down 3 – 4 inches, and that's where the level has been for the last 2 years. The actual numbers approved by the DNR are 98.6 in summer, 96.6 in winter. Jim Hochman asked Jim Olson to investigate the cost of having an engineer do a study to determine if we could safely operate at a higher level, and report back at the next meeting. Jim Olson also mentioned that our Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and our Inspection, Operations and Maintenance Plan (IOM) should be updated before the DNR inspection, and he will take care of getting that done.

8:55 A.M. Town Report – Weenonah Brattset

Weenonah reported that the Town will be scheduling an open meeting to see if residents approve of the Town borrowing money to fix the roads. The State has a matching funds program which would help with the cost. The Town will take an advisory vote at the meeting to see if they should proceed with borrowing money. Dick Natrop, who is on the Town's road committee, said that potholes around the lake have been taken care of, but in general the roads in the Township are in pretty bad shape. Little Prairie Rd needs a complete re-build and is the highest priority, followed by Tamarack Rd. The meeting will be on August 17 at 9:00 AM at the Community Center. Weenonah will send Diane Knauer a notice for posting on the Website and post cards will go out to all Town residents.

Weenonah also mentioned that the red fire number address signs in front of each property need to be maintained. The Town will replace those that are faded and unreadable. She mentioned that property owners should not move the fire number signs and should trim brush around the signs to keep them visible. Diane Knauer will also put a note about this on the Website.

9:04 A.M. Treasurer's Report

Bills for approval – The Board approved payment of the final bill from Wolverine for the 4th of July fireworks, and authorized Mary Jo McMahon to get quotes for next year. Jim Hochman mentioned that our law firm, Stafford Rosenbaum, is raising their hourly rates. He said they haven't raised rates in 9 years, and the increase is reasonable. Jim gave Mary Jo receipts from Larry Larson for 4th of July expenses and asked her to reimburse Larry. Dick Natrop mentioned that a heavy equipment operator will be hired to deliver the new harvester, at Lake District expense.

Launch Fee update – Mary Jo McMahon reported that we have collected over \$2000 in launch fees through July.

Quarterly financials update (Quarterly Meetings Only) – In Greg Bauer's absence, Mary Jo reviewed the financial documents that had been sent to Board members in advance of the meeting. There was a discussion of funds available, capital expenditures, and the proposed 2020 budget that will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting.

9:29 A.M. Operations Report - Dick Natrop

New weed harvester, shore conveyor, trailer update – Dick Rohloff reported that he has operated the new equipment on Browns Lake, and it is ready to go. The Board authorized Mary Jo to wire the final payment to Inland Lake Harvesters on Monday, August 12th. The harvester and associated equipment would then be delivered to the Lake on Wednesday, August 14th.

Sale of the old harvester update – Dick Natrop mentioned that a group has looked at the small harvester, but they are not ready to buy. There is also a group interested in buying the big harvester, and they are working on securing financing. The old harvesters will remain on the lake so that potential buyers can operate them

Fixing the berm caused by power loading at the boat launch update – Dick Natrop reported that Dick Rohloff has identified two companies with the proper equipment to do the repairs. Dick will ask each of them for a repair cost quote.

9:37 A.M. Website - Diane Knauer

Diane reported that the number of residents registered on the Website has stayed the same at 181 members, 113 accounts. She said that activity has been highest on the Classified Ads and Community Calendar pages, followed by the By-laws, Requirements, Regulations and Announcements, News. New postings are as follows:

- New town representative on the Board
- Board and Informational Meeting Minutes
- Harvester Photos
- Auditors Report
- Ski club shows, raffle, brat and bake sale
- Lost tube, missing street sign, book club author visit, found jet ski (requests from residents)
- Boating Laws, Swimming Raft Regulations
- CMAR Resolution

Diane stated that she is getting requests from residents to post things, and usage of the site seems to be up in general. Diane also mentioned that she has posted boating laws and tubing regulations on the site. Dick Rohloff asked if Diane would put a notice on the Website about the Lake District having approval to shoot geese during the State hunting season, starting September 1. Even though the hunt has been approved by the District, individual property owners have the right to object to it on their own property. Diane agreed to post this notice on the Website.

There were no suggestions for improvement and the Board is pleased with the quality and timeliness of information contained on the Website.

9:46 A.M. Old Business

Follow-up on late fee and administrative handling fee for late sewer payments – The Board decided that it would not pursue charging fees for late sewer payments at this time.

Follow up on permit for Old School House building – Weenonah Brattset reported that the County Zoning Board has heard nothing from the owners since they initially requested a variance. The issue is that the existing building is too close to the road, and County Zoning ruled that the owners could not add on to the existing building. The owners did not ask for a conditional use permit to build a garage and have not approached the County for any other variances. They are not presently violating any County laws and have right to keep what they have on their property.

10:00 A.M. New Business

Independence Day Activities review – Jim Hochman reported that the 4th of July festivities went off without a hitch. The parade was one of the longest we've had, and everyone seemed to enjoy it very much. Next year the 4th of July is on a Saturday, so the date for Lake District activities needs to be decided. This will be put to a vote at the Annual Meeting. Jim also mentioned the idea of adding a golf outing to the scheduled activities.

Boating Safety and Lake Navigation Rules – Jim Hochman reported that there was a boating collision on the Lake on July 5th. The Lake is very busy over holiday weekends, and Board members expressed concern about this happening again. Jim Hochman suggested the Board sponsor a Boating Safety Course in the District after Labor Day. He said the DNR has been out at least twice that he knew of and tickets have been issued. In addition to State boating regulations, BSLMD has approved lake rules and boating hours that need to be followed. Diane Knauer will ensure that both the State and Lake District regulations are posted on the Website. Dick Natrop will begin putting the Lake District regulations in the box at the landing again. Jim Hochman asked everyone to make sure their families and guests are familiar with the rules.

Boat trailer parking issues – Jim Hochman said residents have noticed vehicles with boat trailers parked on the side of the road instead of in the parking lot. Weenonah said that if the vehicles are illegally parked, residents should call the County Sheriff on the non-emergency number, which is 920-674-7310, and they will respond. There are No Parking signs along the road leading up to the triangle, but it was noted that residents can allow vehicles to park in front of their property if they are off the pavement.

Open Commissioner position – Jim Hochman announced that Greg Wolak has resigned from the Board and asked for suggestions of residents who might be willing to serve out Greg's term. Suggestions were made and Board members will reach out to see if anyone is interested. Diane will put a notice about the

open position on the Website. In addition, Greg Bauer's term is up this year and he is running for reelection.

New Weed Harvester Christening – Dick Natrop proposed that we christen the new harvester and invite District residents to tour it over Labor Day weekend. The Board decided that the christening ceremony would be held on Sunday, September 1, at the site where the harvester is currently parked.

Annual Meeting Preparation – The Agenda and Ballot for the upcoming Annual Meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board. The Agenda and proposed Budget will be mailed to residents and posted on the bulletin boards 2 weeks prior to the meeting. Diane will modify the Board Meeting Agenda for the Board Meeting which will follow the Annual Meeting. Additional Board Meetings will be decided at the next meeting.

10:56 A.M. Future Board Dates

08/31/2019 – Annual Meeting

08/31/2019 – Board Meeting following Annual Meeting

10:57 A.M. Public Comments - There were none.

10:57 A.M. Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1) (e), a motion to leave the open session of the Board Meeting and enter closed session to discuss on-going sewer contract negotiations was made by Dick Natrop and 2nd by Diane Knauer. The motion carried without negative vote.

11:15 A.M. The closed session was adjourned, and the Board Meeting was resumed. A motion to adjourn the Board Meeting was made by Dick Natrop and 2nd by Weenonah Brattset. The motion carried without negative vote and the meeting was adjourned.