

**BLUE SPRING LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

**Informational Meeting**

**May 27, 2023 9:00AM**

Aurelian Springs Village Park  
1121 N. Blue Spring Lake Drive  
Palmyra, WI 53156

**AGENDA**

**(All times are approximate)**

- 9:00 A.M. Call to Order - Jim Hochman  
Welcome  
Introduction of Board Members  
Introduction of Staff  
Board Members with expiring terms in 2023 – James Hochman & Paul Cannestra  
Sewer Contract update  
Miscellaneous
- Independence Day Festivities – Lacey Schucht  
Sunday July 2, 2023 – 11 AM Parade  
Saturday July 1, 2023 – 6:00 pm Ski Show  
Saturday July 1, 2023 - 9:00 pm Fireworks  
Sunday July 2, 2023 – rain date for fireworks
- Sewer Report - Greg Twelmeyer  
Sewer Usage  
Generator Replacement – Paul Cannestra
- Operations Report - Dick Natrop  
Dam Report – Brent Miller  
1. Dam inspection and proposed repair  
Compost Site  
Boat launch berm  
Athletic Field Harvesting  
Citizens Lake Monitoring
- Town Report – Rob Martens
- Treasurer’s Report – Gerald Gerndt  
Financial summary  
Audit report
- District Business – Jim Hochman  
Timely payments of quarterly sewer bills
- BSL Social Committee – Roger Igielski
- Public Comments
- Adjourn



This agenda is subject to modification prior to said meeting pursuant to the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. Please be advised that the agenda items may be taken in an order other than which appears here.

Members of the Palmyra Town Board may attend the above noticed meeting in order to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibilities.

**BLUE SPRING LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
Board of Commissioners Meeting  
March 21, 2023 6:00 PM**



**Minutes**

Certification of Compliance with Open Meeting Law

6:00 pm Call to Order (Quorum 4) – Roll Call

Jim Hochman, Paul Cannestra, Mark Nicholson, Gerald

Gerndt, Dick Natrop, Weenonah Brattsett, John Kannard as well as approximately 10 residents.

Public Comments

- no public comments made

Secretary's Report – Paul Cannestra

Motion was made to approve the agenda.

Discussion: Jim Hochman made mention that the closed meeting statement at the bottom should read: *Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1) (e)*,

Agenda for March 21, 2023 Board Meeting, with above change, was approved

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2022 Board Meeting was made and approved.

Fourth of July Committee report and recommendations – Lacey Schucht

Lacey Schucht presented the Fourth of July Committee's recommendation for the parade time and date. The presentation is attached for review.

Parade time and date is: July 2, 2023 at 11:00 am start. Proposed check-in time is 10:30 am.

President – Jim Hochman

1. Status or update on the Sewer Contract

*Jim Hochman has conferred by Zoom with counsel and counsel will be submitting a contract proposal to the Village of Palmyra. The goal is to secure a 20 year contract. We have the financial information we have been requesting except for the total cost of the plant. Final proposed contract review should be completed March 23, 2023 and submitted to the Village.*

2. WebSite – proposed rules and website use

Weenonah Brattset The BSL website is a Government Site and should be used strictly for government purposes. We are not an HOA. Her recommendation was to err on the safe side and limit all posting on the BSL website to government related activities.

Two paths to consider:

1. Eliminate the non-Government activities, ie. classified ads or social postings, leaving only BSL Government related activities on the site, and create a Facebook page for all other postings.

2. As a second alternative, Jim Hochman submitted a draft of proposed terms of use of the web site that could be implemented. Board needs to review and have final recommendations and comments submitted to Jim before our next board meeting.

#### Operations – Dick Natrop

##### 1. Sewer Report - Greg Twelmeyer

- Flows have returned to normal for this time of year so the issue looks resolved.
- Generator continues to run as designed....still aging. Will need to get updated quotes on its replacement to proceed with ordering new.
- Discussion on the pros and limitations of requiring residents to provide emergency contact information if we notice any abnormalities in sewage flow.
- We are still waiting for two replacement control panels that have been on order for more than a year.
- Lift station near the dam had a repair. Annual maintenance is also completed. Invoices were received and approved.

##### 2. Dam Report – B. Miller

- Collins engineering to come out Friday March 24, 2023 or Monday, March 27, 2023.
- We were contacted by the DNR regarding our directives, which were to be completed in 2021.
- Inspection is due this year again.
- We have taken care of the vegetation along the spillway.

##### 3. Aquatic Plant Management requirement

- We are at the end of our 5-year plan and weed-harvesting permit.
- Lake and Pond has quoted BSL \$6000 to complete the work.
- Motion to sign contract:
  - Motion made to accept the bid, seconded, no discussion, unanimously approved by the board to proceed.

##### 4. Boat Ramp

- We do not have the final invoice for the big stone used to repair the ramp area. We need to pay that invoice first before seeking cost share. If we don't obtain cost share we have adequate funds from the launch fees to cover the costs.

#### Town Report – Weenonah Brattset

- Weenonah Brattset read her report, attached to these minutes.
- Weenonah Brattset closed by stating how it has been a pleasure to work with the BSL Board and community.
- BSL Board thanked Weenonah for her commitment, dedication, and work to support our community.

A motion was made by Jim Hochman and approved to formally express gratitude to Weenonah Brattset for all of her dedication and due diligence in representing the Blue Spring Lake Management District during her years of service as Town Supervisor for the Town of Palmyra.

#### County Report – John Kannard

- John K to contact Marisa Ulman for results for both the EPA Lake Assessment as well as the invasive species report on the presence or lack of presence of the spine water flea.

#### Treasurer’s Report – Gerald Gerndt

- Report was sent to Board Members via post.
- Coming up on end of Q1, and he will send financial report of actual expenditure vs the approved budget.
- Moved 200K in savings to the LGIP account now paying 4% interest
- \$273K in dam maintenance account.
- 10K in boat launch maintenance account. \$2700 was collected in 2022.

#### New Business

- Mark did attend the webinar on Lakes and Ponds webinar. Focus was oxygen levels. The discussion was geared to small ponds rather than lakes. Considering we are a spring fed lake and we would most likely not need aeration, but they would come out and look if requested. We did have some large fish show up dead on the lake last year however no definitive reason was determined. Dick Natrop to follow up with the DNR on the fish samples they took to determine cause.
- Based on public comment at our last meeting, a letter to all residents will be sent with the next billing cycle outlining the open positions on the Board for 2024 and the process and dates for submission of nominations to be included on the ballot for the August BSL Annual Meeting.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr board meeting for preparation for the annual BSL Informational Meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM
- Motion to adjourn, seconded, no discussion, approved:
  - Adjourned: 7:39 pm



# 2023 BSL 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Proposal

Tuesday March 21, 2023

Committee Volunteers: Patti Peplinski, Lisa Wright, Lauren Schauer,  
Stacey Kincaid, Emilia Twelmeyer, Lacey Schucht

BSL Board Representative: Jim Hochman



Red, White, and Blue

Spring Lake Parade  
2023



# Considerations for Parade Start Time

- Temperature
  - Animals/Participants
- Family Schedules
  - Young Families
  - Overnight Guests
- Allows for greater flexibility for overall holiday schedule; streamlines the day
  - Increase Spectator and Participant Attendance
  - Maximize Lake Time
- Feedback from Annual Meeting
  - Volunteer 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee formed
    - Proposal Discussions
    - Need for Resident Feedback

# BSL Community Straw Vote

- February 5, 2023 – BSL Community Straw Vote for Parade Times was announced
  - <https://www.bluespringlake.com/p/Classified-Ads/listing/BSL-4th-of-July-Parade-Time-VOTE-2099992034>
  - Straw Poll Open February 5 – February 20, 2023
  - Voting to be completed via Google doc or by telephone
    - 11am
    - 12:30pm
    - 2pm

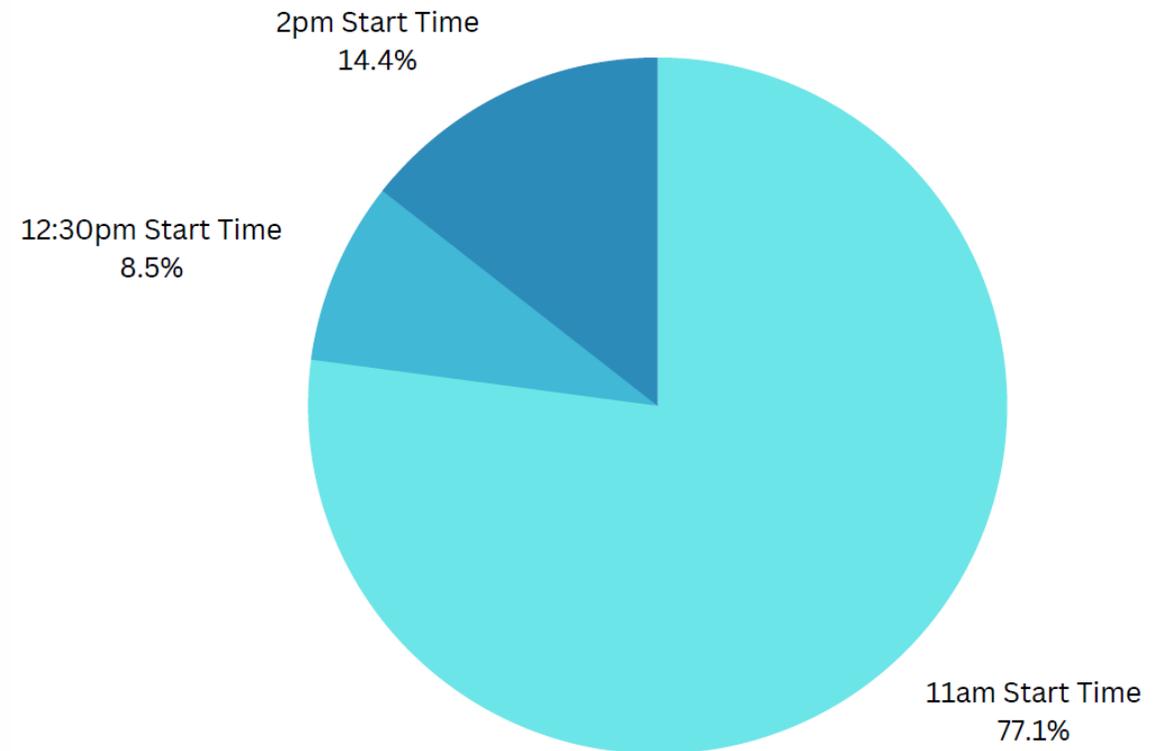
# BSL Community Straw Vote

- Eligible Voters, per by laws

Section 2 - NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY OWNERS: Every person whose name appears on the District assessment role prepared for purposes of real property taxation or who has provided proof of title to real property in the District, and who is a U.S. citizen 18 years of age or older, shall be an eligible elector of the District. [Sec. 33.01(9)(ar)] Any corporation, partnership, or association that owns real property in the District may appoint an official representative who shall be an eligible elector of the District. [Sec. 33.285]

# BSL Community Straw Vote Results

- 118 community members voted
  - 11am – 91 votes
  - 12:30pm – 10 votes
  - 2pm – 17 votes



New  
Start Time



# Red, White & Blue Spring Lake Parade

July 2, 2023

10:30am Check in @  
Access RD by weed cutter

11am Start

Finishing @ Aurelian  
Springs Park



New Finish  
Location

*\*Thank you for your consideration. The BSL parade committee volunteers are excited to work together to enhance the BSL 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade tradition.*

## TOWN BUDGET

A report from the Town should probably begin with the budget, and the largest item in the Town budget for 2023 is the Fire and EMS account.

In Wisconsin, Towns are required by law to provide fire and emergency medical services. Our fire and emergency medical service committee attempted to secure service, located in the center of the town, at a more reasonable cost, from a department with higher qualifications than the Village department, and one which we believed to be more sustainable over the long run. Having been unable to bring such an agreement to fruition, we were left no option other than contracting with the Village of Palmyra.

The contract with the Village for fire and emergency medical service went from \$108,000+ in 2021 to \$220,615 in 2023 (increasing to \$247,651 in 2025) plus a one-time payment of \$73,000 before the Village would agree to any contract. Our payment is 49% of the village fire and ems budget, and we receive about 33% of their service. At the budget hearing this past fall, the Town Board asked the residents in the Town to raise the levy to cover this increased cost. The levy increase was voted down, and the Town Board adopted a budget using the state-imposed levy limit. We took money from the savings account as well as various other accounts, including the road account to accomplish this. If you wish to see the final adopted budget, it is available on the town web-site but it says “proposed budget”. It is really the adopted budget. If you look at it and have any questions, feel free to call me. My phone number is on the town website.

## ROADS

Obviously, with the additional funds for fire and emergency medical services having been disallowed at the budget hearing, other accounts, including the road account were affected. We have already spent around 2/3s of the 2023 road funds. Snow plowing, brining and salting/sanding are extremely

expensive and those costs will not likely go down. As far as road repair and maintenance, we have submitted applications to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law grant program for work on three town roads--the roads around Blue Spring Lake, Marsh Road and the east portion of Hooper Road. We are hopeful that these projects will qualify for funding. Over 60% of Wisconsin roads are Town roads, but Towns receive less than 5% of state road funds—funds collected from licensing, fuel tax, etc. The system of road funding and revenue sharing in Wisconsin is simply broken.

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

This is not to be confused with emergency medical services. Each municipality in Wisconsin is required to have an emergency management plan in place to deal with disasters such as tornadoes, floods, train de-railments, etc. This plan includes, but is not limited to, such things as identification of persons in the chain of command, a plan for debris collection, a designated location for debris handling and management, a plan for debris disposal and designation of equipment to accomplish this. As the appointed person on the Town Board for this Emergency Management Plan, I am currently working on necessary up-dates to the plan and will have the up-dated document completed by the last meeting of the current Town board. The emergency management plan is directly tied to the Town airport.

### AIRPORT

The airport is our designated location for debris management and handling. The airport is the location of the heliport which available for flight for life when required. The Wisconsin National Guard utilizes our airport for training purposes.

For anyone who is not familiar with our Town owned airport, it has been here since the late 1940s. It boasts one of the very best turf run-ways in the mid-west, and it is, and has always been operated by volunteers at no cost to town

tax-payers. Funding for improvements and operations at the airport comes from grants from the Federal Aviation Administration and the Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics. For many years, the Town received the personal property tax on the private hangers at the airport. However, in 2013, the airport was annexed into the Village at the behest of Charles DuBois, owner of Standard Process. The town contested the annexation in court, but lost. Although the Town still owns the airport, today, the Village collects the personal property tax and levies a stormwater fee on the airport. That fee is paid by the airport, not by town tax-payers.

### FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Every spring, the Wisconsin Town's Association holds district meeting to educate Town boards concerning issues affecting Towns. Both in 2022 and 2023, a segment of our district meeting dealt with the use of Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act. We have been careful to utilize those funds prospectively as they were intended, that is for things with long-term benefits. We have been able to use some of those funds to up-date the Town hall to make it more user-friendly. We now have more space for monthly meetings and a much better office arrangement.

Under our former emergency management plan, the town had to rely on rented or borrowed equipment for debris management. We have also purchased a skid-steer and several attachments to be used for debris management should the town experience a "disaster". It is housed at the airport. Airport staff may use it to keep the heliport clear of snow, the runway clear and various other necessary chores to ensure safe operations at the airport. The airport is responsible for all maintenance and any necessary repairs to the skid steer for the next 20 years.

## FUTURE TOWN BOARD

Of course, you are aware that we have an election on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Only one incumbent from the Town is a candidate in the election and that is the current town chairman. The position for Supervisor 1 (my position) has only one candidate, and the position for Supervisor 2 has two candidates. There is a referendum question asking voters whether they wish to move from a caucus for choosing Town board candidates to a primary process. If you are a voter, I am sure you will vote thoughtfully and consider the wellbeing of the entire Town in your choices.

I have lived in Palmyra for the past 55 years. I think our Town is a really neat place. We have such a nice combination of public lands, agricultural lands, a very special airport, and a beautiful lake with a wonderful lake community. One of the most rewarding things about serving on the Town Board has been getting to know many of the people around the lake and being on this board. I hope I have represented you well, and wish all of you the very best in the future.