

Lower Spring Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

Board Meeting March 6, 2019 Minutes

Attendees: Chairperson Carol Dixon, Treasurer Vicki Bradford, Secretary Debby Bartolerio, and Village of Palmyra President Kathy Weiss were present, along with Jim Dixon and Village Attorney Stan Riffle.

Minutes:

At 9:00 a.m. at the Municipal Law & Litigation Group offices, 730 N Grand Avenue, Waukesha, a Board Meeting was held to discuss cost sharing options relative to the dam.

A history of the dam, reasoning for the Village to take dam ownership, and the stakeholders were topics of the initial discussion.

The lake lot owners, in both the Village and Town, as well as the residents of the area and Village of Palmyra are stakeholders. Relative to allocating the cost for the dam, State Statute 66.0703 details the procedure for municipalities to levy Special Assessments on property owners. The maximum repayment period is 10 years.

Several options exist for funding the dam:

1. Impose a Special Assessment on the lake lot owners in the Village to pay for the entire project.
2. Impose a Special Assessment on the lake lot owners in the Village and request that the Town allow the Village to send bills to the lake lot owners in the Town for the entire project.
3. Divide the cost between the lake lot owners in the Village and the general tax for all the property owners in the Village. Lake lot owners in the Village would be special assessed.
4. Enter into a contract with the Lake District that would increase our annual budget, causing all Village and Town lake lot owners' annual payments to increase. The entire cost would be divided between the Lake District and the general tax on all property owners in the Village.

The current estimate of the total cost of the dam is between \$1 million and \$1.2 million. 50% of the first \$400,000 and 25% of the next \$800,000 will be offset by a State Grant.

The Village Attorney stated that up to 50% of the remaining dam cost is a reasonable amount to expect the lake lot owners to absorb, although the ability to impose a Special Assessment for 100% of the remaining cost is available to the Board. The Village Board will make the decision relative to the allocation percentages soon.

After discussing the various alternatives, the opinion of the Lake District Board is that the most equitable option is entering into a contract with the Village for paying the portion of the cost not absorbed by the general tax levy. The final decision will be made at the Annual Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 10:15 a.m.