

**BASS LAKE REHABILITATION DISTRICT**  
**ST. CROIX COUNTY, WISCONSIN**  
[www.blrd.org](http://www.blrd.org)

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING**

Saturday, June 09, 2018 9:30AM  
St. Joseph Town Hall – 1337 County Road V

Commissioners Present: Tom Spaniol Town of St. Joseph Representative  
Bill Holmberg, Secretary  
John Haag, Treasurer  
Cecil Chally, Commissioner

Commissioner Absent: St. Croix County Board Representative  
Tim Riemenschneider, Commissioner  
Bill Lawson, Commissioner

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Spaniol called the Board of Commissioners Meeting to order at 9:30AM. **Roll Call:** All Commissioners but Bill Lawson, Tim Riemenschneider and County Board Representative present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. **Motion** to adopt the Agenda made by John Huss and seconded by Suzanne Silverman. **Motion passed.**

**2. Secretary's Report**

Copies of the draft minutes of the June 03, 2017, Annual Meeting were previously mailed. Secretary Holmberg reported edits needed to the draft minutes. (Nomination by Tim Riemenschneider of John Haag as a candidate for commissioner, Motion by Debbie Haag to adjourn the meeting, and correction of next Annual meeting as June 9, 2018) **A Motion** to approve the edited Minutes was made by Steve Engelhart and seconded by John Huss. **Motion passed.**

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Haag reported current bank balances and the District's financial condition. Checking Account Balance is **\$13,184.03**. Line of Credit Balance is **\$0.00**. He reviewed the entire budget and explained differences in actual versus budgeted amounts. He also explained that the bank the BLRD previously used was not able to provide the line of credit that was discussed and approved at last year's annual meeting. Other banks were contacted and First National Community Bank was selected. All accounts (checking and line of credit) are now with First National Community Bank.

**A Motion** to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by John Reiling and seconded by Scherryl Simon. **Motion Passed.**

**4. Election of Commissioners**

Chairman Spaniol reported 3 Commissioners positions are up for elections. The positions are Commissioner Riemenscheider, Commissioner Lawson, and Commissioner Holmberg. Chairman Spaniol reported that all 3 were interested in running again. John Huss moved to reelect all 3 by Acclamation. Chairman Spaniol reported there was an additional candidate – Fred Young.

Fred Young then shared info about himself and why he wants to be a commissioner with the BLRD. **A Motion** was made by John Haag to nominate Fred Young as a candidate for Commissioner and was seconded by Heidi Eckstrom. **Motion passed**

Chairman Spaniol read a letter provided by Tim Riemenscheider as to his desire to run for Commissioner. **A Motion** was made by Tom Spaniol to nominate Tim Riemenscheider as a candidate for Commissioner and was seconded by Bill Holmberg. **Motion passed**

Chairman Spaniol spoke on behalf of Bill Lawson, sharing the contributions Commissioner Lawson has made over the years. **A Motion** was made by John Eiring to nominate Bill Lawson as a candidate for Commissioner and was seconded by Donna Eiring. **Motion passed**

Bill Holmberg spoke on his own behalf as to why he wants to remain a Commissioner. **A Motion** was made by John Huss to nominate Bill Holmberg as a candidate for Commissioner and was seconded by Scherryl Simon. **Motion passed**

With 3 positions open and 4 candidates, an election was held. John Reiling and Kelly Spaniol passed out ballots. Chairman Spaniol instructed that each person in the BLRD can vote for up to 3 candidates. Ballots were collected and Kelly Spaniol and John Lehto counted the ballots/voting.

**Results – Holmberg, Young and Riemenscheider** were elected as Commissioners

## **5. BLRD Lake Management**

### **Clean Boats Clean Waters Grant (CBCW) –**

Commissioner Holmberg reported that Courtney Fowell was brought on as a Watercraft Inspector at the landing for the summer. Courtney is a UWRF student in Environmental Studies and Conservation. She is originally from Hudson.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> of July Blitz –**

Last year was the first time the BLRD participated in the statewide landing blitz. The landing was “staffed”, with volunteers and regular inspectors much of time Sat – Tues of the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. John Haag shared his experience as a volunteer at the landing. He said it was actually fun talking with the various people coming and going at the landing. This year we are planning another blitz if there is enough interest. The Blitz is planned from July 4 thru the following weekend. The CBCW inspector will be working most days. Sign up sheets were passed around. If interested in signing up alone, you would be paired with another volunteer or would be paired with the regular inspector. If anyone that didn’t sign up is interested in participating, or just having more information, they should contact Commissioner Holmberg.

#### **Lake Protection Grant –**

An update on the Lake Protection Grant that was presented at last year’s annual meeting was discussed. It is a 3 year grant and it is on its second year. The grant funding is primarily focused on shoreland improvements/protections. Funding in the grant has also been used to obtain equipment for lake monitoring. If weather permits it will be used for additional fish cribs the next 2 years. John Reiling is coordinating assessments of properties for potential projects. Thus far, 15 properties have been assessed. Mr. Reiling passed around a sheet showing sites that have had projects. People are to contact Mr. Reiling if interested in having their property assessed.

#### **Wastewater facilities update –**

No additional work has been spent on this. No additional work is planned.

#### **6. Lake Pumping Feasibility Presentation-**

As discussed at last year’s Annual Meeting, there are concerns about raising lake levels. In August of 2017 Chairman Spaniol and Commissioner Lawson met with the DNR. A permit is required to utilize the pump. The permit the BLRD had, expired. To get a new permit the DNR requires that two new things be addressed – zebra mussels and phosphorus levels.

Bids were requested from 4 Environmental Engineering firms to perform a feasibility study to address the DNR concerns and provide options to implement a plan to be able to utilize the pump again. After review of the details, one firm withdrew. Barr engineering was selected as the firm to use. Barr was involved in the initial pumping project. DNR grants were received via the Town of St Joseph, along with Corridor 64 funding to support the feasibility work.

Jennifer Koehler and Karen Chandler of Barr Engineering were present at the meeting. Ms. Koehler presented the final feasibility report. Copies of the report will be available on the Town of St Joseph’s website and/or the BLRD’s website.

In summary, because of the presence of zebra mussels at the intake of the pipe, and the seasonal high levels of phosphorus, water cannot be discharged into the Willow River as was allowed in the past. Various options were considered. These ranged from doing nothing and let nature take its course, to implementing an elaborate pipe intake and filtration system, to rerouting the pipe, purchasing land and creating an infiltration basin. Start-up costs for the different options, outside of doing nothing, ranged from \$280,000 to \$3.5 million. Annual operating costs ranged from \$12,700 to \$95,000. The recommendation from Barr Engineering was to do seasonal pumping. This would allow use of the existing pipeline, has the least start-up cost and has the least annual operating cost. The limitation is that the pumping would have to take place in late fall through the winter and wouldn't address the possibility to lower phosphorus levels. (Barr's review indicated that even if the BLRD could pump when the phosphorus levels are high, the end result would be minimal in reducing overall phosphorus levels). To do this, the DNR wants data to confirm the belief of zebra mussel presence and absence at various times of the year as well as the phosphorus levels. (at the pipe intake). Costs to do this monitoring are estimated at \$5,600.

Chairman Spaniol reported that FMEA grants might be available that could help support 50%-90% of the Implementation/Start Up costs. By the annual meeting next year data should be available to help make the appropriate decision on how to move forward.

**A Motion** was made by John Reiling to spend \$5,600 in the next year's budget for the DNR required monitoring and was seconded by John Huss. **Motion passed.**

## **7. Ordinance Enforcement, Landing/Signage, Fisheries**

**Ordinance Enforcement** – A formal Lake Patrol has not been found. The patrol boat will be put in the water on a “new” donated lift this weekend. The BLRD will continue to use volunteers to patrol the lake until a formal person is hired.

**Landing/Signage** – The county has appointed a new person to take on the responsibility of the landing.

**Fisheries** – Cribs are planned this season, weather permitting. The new DNR fisheries biologist, Casey Seifert, was looking at getting a new permit for the cribs. She informed Chairman Spaniol that the BLRD will need to apply for the permit.

## **8. County and Town Updates –**

**County** – Nothing to report. The county has not named a replacement representative to the BLRD at this time.

**Town of St Joseph** – Chairman Spaniol reported on road construction, bicycle lanes and trails and 8 different studies going on in the Town.

## 9. News, Updates, and Plans

**5 Goals from the Lake Management Plan** – Without support from other residents, the various goals from the Lake Management Plan will not get completed. The BLRD **needs your help**. Each Goal is being led by a BLRD Commissioner. But additional help for each goal is needed. Cecil Chally passed around the 5 goals from the Lake Management Plan for review and sign up. For those that did not attend, the goals can be found in the 2016 Lake Management Plan on the website. Please review and contact any Commissioner regarding your assistance.

**Annual Picnic** – John Reiling offered to host the picnic this year. A date was not set, but targeting the end of July or early August for the picnic.

**Mailings versus Email versus Website** – While not overly expensive, monthly mailings add up. Secretary Holmberg discussed opting out of receiving the postal mailing and just reviewing minutes on the website or receiving them by email. The sign up sheet for the meeting provided space to select the option you prefer. If you choose to receive by email, your email address will be blinded and not seen by others. **If you did not attend the meeting and would like to opt out of the monthly mailings and receive by email or just review on the website, contact Secretary Holmberg by email.**

## 10. Treasurer's Report – Next Year's Budget

Treasurer Haag reviewed proposed budget for the next fiscal year. During the review, \$5,600 was added to cover the lake monitoring discussed during the Lake Pumping Feasibility Presentation. **A Motion** to accept the Budget was made by John Reiling and seconded by John Huss. **Motion Passed.**

## 11. Public Comment/Resident Concerns

John and Ruth Huss brought up the use of fireworks. All should be respectful of others. Permits are required for most fireworks displays. If you are concerned someone is not compliant contact the sheriff office.

Mary Beth Arthaud said she has many boxes of BLRD documents that should get picked up if desired or they will be disposed of. Chairman Spaniol apologized. No one on the board was aware of these files. The BLRD will try to get these files soon.

John Haag brought up the Pier Planning guidelines the DNR has. Residents should consult this when putting in docks, piers, lifts etc. Ideally things should “blend” in to the surroundings. He also brought up the boat house on the east side of the lake that is in the water. He said he could get a group of volunteers to help take it down if that will help. It was brought up that he will need to contact the owner and offer that help.

**12. Review of Building Plans, Shoreline Restorations and Other Plans**

Nothing to report

**13. Discuss Meeting Schedule**

Next Annual Meeting Tentative date – Saturday June 08 2019 9:30AM., St Joseph Town Hall.

**14. Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn was made by Scherryl Simon and seconded by Regna Rippel.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:08PM.**

**Recorded by:**

**Bill Holmberg, Secretary**

<b>Attendance</b>	
<b>BLRD</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Name</b>
Susanne Brown Silverman	Frederick Young
Scherryl Simon	Kelly Spaniol
Robert Silverman	Heidi Eckstrom
Steve Engelhart	Mary Beth Arthaud
Ruth Huss	Regina Rippel
John Huss	Debbie Haag
Jim Boche	Tom Campeau
Lynnae Thompson	Karen Campeau
Dick Koats	John Reiling
Donna Eiring	Cecil Chally
John Eiring	Tom Spaniol
John Lehto	Bill Holmberg
John Haag	
<b>NON BLRD</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Jennifer Koehler	Barr Engineering
Karen Chandler	Barr Engineering