

(UNAPPROVED DRAFT)

**BASS LAKE REHABILITATION DISTRICT
ST. CROIX COUNTY, WISCONSIN
www.blrd.org**

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 9, 2020

St. Joseph Town Hall – 1337 County Road V

Commissioners Present: Bill Holmberg, Chair
Cecil Chally, Treasurer
Fred Young, Secretary
Tim Riemenschneider
Lynnae Thompson-Koats
Shawn Anderson, County Representative
Theresa Johnson, Town of St. Joseph Representative

Residents: Bill Lawson John Haag

1. Call to Order

Bill Holmberg called the Board of Commissioners Meeting to order at 6:01 PM. **Roll Call:** All Commissioners present. **A Motion** was made by Riemenschneider to adopt the Agenda, which motion was seconded by Chally. **Motion passed.**

2. Secretary's Report

Copies of the unapproved draft minutes of the August 15, 2020 Commissioners Meeting, the Agenda for the September 9, 2020 BLRD Board of Commissioner's Meeting Agenda, and the unapproved draft minutes of the August 15, 2020 Annual Meeting were distributed last month per the updated mailing list – Young noted the draft Commissioners minutes should be corrected to reflect 9:30 a.m. as the ordinary start time of the next year's Annual Meeting.

A Motion was made by Riemenschneider to approve the Secretary's Report (to include last month minutes with correction) and seconded by Holmberg. **Motion passed.**

3. Treasurer's Report

Chally reported that the checking account balance \$5,244.89, inclusive of deposits of donations towards the motor for the patrol boat of \$4,250 – an additional \$500.00 has yet to be deposited. Chally explained that total donations for the boat motor, inclusive of the \$500.00 check received by Chally today are \$4,750.00. Chally reported that payment still needed to be made for landing inspector hours – but one inspector has been paid.

It was reported that the water patrol officer has been paid to date. **A Motion** was made by Holmberg to accept the Treasurer's Report and seconded by Riemenschneider. **Motion passed.**

4. BLRD Lake Quality Planning and Grants

CBCW – Holmberg reported that the CBCW boat inspections are completed. Holmberg explained that a pre-application was not necessary for the coming year's CBCW grant since the BLRD has participated in this grant before.

LPT – Holmberg reported: the grant that was expiring this year has been formally extended; under the itemized spending for the LPT grant, \$26,000 remains available for shoreline restoration and lot improvement projects; additional dollars remain available under that grant for other activities, including fish cribs, site evaluations, and promotion of certain LPT grant activities. Holmberg recapped that there was a permit last year that was pulled for a three-year period for a total of 45 fish cribs, and that Tom Spaniol was willing to lead the fish crib building effort again for the BLRD.

Lake Pumping – Holmberg noted that there have been various emails received from folks at the DNR. Holmberg was contacted by the individual from the DNR who replaced Jodi, who had been the BLRD's contact at the DNR. Holmberg reported the discussion on lake pumping has been forwarded to another department within the DNR, and the DNR suggested that the BLRD apply for a grant in connection with the DNR's lake pumping criteria. Holmberg explained that the DNR representative prepared a pre-application grant that he provided to Holmberg. There was discussion regarding why the DNR might ask the BLRD to apply for a grant for the DNR to establish lake pumping criteria.

Holmberg explained that according to the DNR, water discharges have become more tightly controlled, even for pumping to dry land (to ensure that the water being pumped onto land does not contaminate ground water). There was comment about there being another survey marker on the Orf property. Haag inquired about using the Barr Engineering proposal in efforts to move forward with getting DNR approval. Holmberg explained that he brought that topic up with the DNR. There was discussion regarding water level issues – pumping being one aspect and boating related restrictions being another aspect. There was comment that the BLRD is at a bit of a loss on pumping strategy since the DNR has not defined its criteria to allow for pumping. There was discussion that filing of a permit to pump doesn't make sense, since it is generally anticipated that the pump would need to be retrofitted at a cost of approximately \$400,000.00, and it would be a gamble to make those modifications and potentially still not be allowed to pump. Lawson suggested that we get Barr Engineering to potentially assist. There was discussion that some residents have offered to help on the topic of water level. Holmberg explained that he will work with the DNR to follow up on the topic of pumping. There was discussion that water level be put on the meeting agenda for the regular 2nd Wednesday November 2020 BLRD Commissioners meeting.

Other Grants – Thompson-Koats explained that there was some interest expressed regarding the least expensive option for a boat cleaning station, and that she submitted a pre-grant application for that for \$3,500.00. Thompson-Koats explained that at least reserved the topic, but does not commit the BLRD to pursue obtaining that grant. Riemenschneider thanked Thompson-Koats for her work on the boat washing station topic, and recapped that John Reiling had expressed interest in pursuing such a grant, but there was no other clear support at the Annual Meeting for a boat washing station. Riemenschneider recapped the general issues that were expressed by others to him when he visited other boat landings at other WI lakes – those topics were discussed and included issues with non-compliance/non-use of boat cleaning stations and vandalism/breakage. There was discussion regarding whether to apply for a grant for a boat washing station. Concerns were expressed that if the

grant was made, but grant monies went unused, that may cause the BLRD to be less likely to receive other future grants. Theresa Johnson suggested that it may be better to not take the grant since there does not seem to be widespread support for the boat washing station. There was discussion that the landing is scheduled to have updated clean-in/clean-out markings and striping, and that those are designed to create significant compliance with boat cleaning – in addition to the boat landing inspectors. There was discussion that given the lack of support for the boat washing station, the already significant planned changes to the landing, and the concern that future grants may be more difficult to obtain if grant monies for a boat washing station went unused, it would make sense to not pursue a boat washing station grant at this time – and that a boat washing station could, of course, be discussed in the future.

There was additional discussion regarding following up with the DNR on the LPT grant and the topic of the CBCW grant for the coming year. Holmberg offered to prepare the new CBCW grant, and to work with the DNR to apply for a pumping strategy grant that the DNR suggested. It was discussed that it would be appropriate for resolutions to be created to authorize Holmberg to represent the BLRD on those grant submissions. **A Motion** was made by Riemenschneider for such resolutions: for Holmberg to be the authorized representative for the CBCW grant; and the other for Holmberg to be the authorized representative for the pumping strategy grant. Seconded by Thompson-Koats. **Motion approved.**

5. Update on and Discuss Ordinance Enforcement, Landing/Signage, Fisheries

Riemenschneider noted that he has been in communication with attorney Mike Brose in following up on enforcement/ issuance of a slow/no-wake ticket. Riemenschneider noted that Tom Spaniol has volunteered to take out the boat lift, and the water patrol officer was open to discussing serving again next year.

Holmberg recapped the following: at the Annual Meeting it was decided to not continue the internet service and extensive review of the ILIDS videos; the ILIDS provider noted that he had put the modem upgrade from 3G to 4G on loan; there was an offer made by the ILIDS provider to pay \$1,000.00 to repurchase the equipment; a concern had been raised about keeping the ILIDS device at the landing; Holmberg noted that he followed up with the DNR on that topic and explained that the purpose of keeping the ILIDS device at the landing would be to have it play pre-recordings at the landing as a deterrent – and the DNR had no problem with that; pre-recorded audio is to be re-recorded to remove the vendor's voice; and the 4G equipment would be made available to the ILIDS provider.

6. County and Town Updates

Shawn Anderson noted that if the BLRD desired to have a pay station on the honor system, it would likely be supported, and that \$5/day would likely be the upper limit of what would be charged for a day to park at the landing. There was discussion that state statute limits pay stations to \$8 for residents (higher for non-residents), and that there was also a limitation on what could be charged for a one-year pass. There was discussion that at the BLRD Annual Meeting many had the impression that the majority of the residents in attendance preferred to have an honor system pay station. There was discussion that ideally the highest permissible amount would be charged at the pay station and that the BLRD supports the placement of the pay station.

Theresa Johnson noted that Monday night at 7:00p.m. is the public hearing for a zoning ordinance, and that there will be a second public hearing sometime in October. It was noted that the County has decided that November 5 is the deadline for the Town Board to determine how to proceed with the zoning ordinance, and that it is anticipated that the Town will put in an interim ordinance in place to freeze zoning in place. Johnson explained this will freeze variances and some other things, but not necessarily home-building in general.

It was noted that upgrades are being made to the Town Hall (drain tile, waterproofing, etc.) It was summarized that there are major road projects in the works and that there is approximately \$2.5M of road work slated for next year.

It was also noted that the Town is in the process of hiring second deputy clerk.

7. News and Updates

Holmberg reported on his efforts to get a PO Box for the BLRD and that the cost will be \$10 deposit for the key and monthly cost is in the neighborhood of \$70/yr. Holmberg explained that the Barsness property formal removal process following grant of petition for detachment is being worked on.

There was discussion regarding agenda item for next meeting regarding topic of water level – it was noted that no one was at the meeting expressing concerns about the water level even though the topic of potentially holding a special meeting was to be discussed and concerns were expressed that there may be nothing new to talk about, given that the matters have been discussed at length. It was discussed that a summary of the water level and related matters could be presented at the next regular BLRD Commissioners meeting.

It was discussed that a gentle reminder could be sent to those who committed to making donations to the boat motor and that approximately \$1,500.00 of the amounts pledged as donations to a boat motor has not yet been received.

8. Public Comments/Resident Concerns

None.

9. Review of Building Plans, Shoreline Restorations and Other Plans

None.

10. Discussion for Next Meeting Schedule/Finalize Agenda

- **Next Board of Commissioners Meeting: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at 6:00 PM, St. Joseph Town Hall**
- **Next Annual Meeting: Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. (tentative) St. Joseph Town Hall**

11. Adjournment

A Motion to adjourn was made by Chally and seconded by Riemenschneider Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

**Recorded by:
Fred Young, Secretary**