

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

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

Monday, April 5, 2010

St. Joseph Town Hall – 1337 County Road V

Commissioners Present: John Coughlin, Chair  
Dick Allyn, Secretary  
John Haag, Treasurer  
Ron Laumeyer  
Tom Spaniol  
Linda Luckey, St. Croix County Representative  
Brett Bader, St. Joseph Town Representative

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman John Coughlin called the Commissioners Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**2. Secretary's Report**

Copies of the minutes of the February 1, 2010 Commissioners Meeting had been previously distributed. **Motion to approve the minutes**, was made by Dick Allyn and seconded by Ron Laumeyer. **Motion passed.**

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer John Haag reported that the checking and savings bank balances total \$14,095.79. All bills are current. **Motion to approve Treasurer's Report** was made by Tom Spaniol and seconded by Dick Allyn. **Motion passed.**

**4. Ordinance Enforcement, Landing and Signage**

This matter was taken up out of order on the Agenda because of scheduling needs. The District's consulting attorney, Mike Brose, offered the opinion that Bass Lake Rehabilitation District could, if it chose, continue to contract with Chuck Struemke as its Water Patrol Safety Officer as he appears to be qualified to write citations of Ordinance violations. This was based upon a legal review conducted by Mr. Brose's firm in New Richmond. There was then a discussion as to whether and how much patrolling would be reasonable prior to the Annual Meeting in June. John Haag mentioned the amount of enforcement budget that remained. It was suggested that 10 to 20 hours during busy times was appropriate. Ron Laumeyer expressed a preference for the hours of 7-9 or 10 am and 7-9 pm. Dick Allyn would extend to 9:30 pm, starting 5/29/10. **Motion to grant Chairman John Coughlin discretion to retain the water patrol officer for up to 15 hours of patrol prior to the Annual Meeting on June 5, 2010** was made by Dick Allyn

and seconded by Tom Spaniol. **Motion passed.** There was then a discussion about whether the Water Patrol Officer had to have the patrol boat stern lighted when he was anchored and sitting still. Tom Spaniol cited to Wis. Stat. §30.61(6)(2).

Once again there was a discussion about the Public Boat Landing. As reported, because the lake level has receded over the last several years the boat launch driveway slab does not extend into the water as far. Boats and trailers are having problems. (See the September, November and February Minutes.) Ron Laumeyer reported that there is a small “No Power Loading” sign posted by the dock.

**5. BLRD Lake Quality Management Plan 2009**

Bye Barsness, Chairman of the Lake Quality Committee could not attend so Tom Spaniol, who is on the Committee, gave an update. He mentioned that Anna Brady from the Beaver Creek Reserve was coming to the lake later in April to help with training for the “Clean Boat/Clean Waters” program the District is coordinating. We need additional volunteer inspectors for next summer to serve for a total of 120 hours in order to meet our grant matching requirements. The project is intended to help keep the lake as free as possible from zebra mussels, milfoil and other exotics. Tom then noted that they were still working on preparation of the map of the lake showing depths as required by the WDNR . The District will get the final \$2500 from that state when it is finished. The District will need to budget moneys for next fiscal year’s Committee budget. At this point it is unclear but the range is expected to be \$2,500 to \$5,000.

There was then a discussion about the falling lake level. Bill Lawson had reported that the level as of April 5, 2010, was **879.76** above mean sea level. This is a drop of **16.8”** since April 14, 2009. The District may have to take steps to further the pump exit pipe further below the surface at the Southeast corner of the lake. The District’s WDNR approved warning buoys have been placed by Ron Laumeyer. There was a discussion about the need for repositioning.

**6. County and Town Updates**

Linda Luckey spoke about St. Croix County issues that might be affected by the election on April 6. (Linda had previously reported that the county board is reducing in size from 31 to 19 members in April and that St. Joe’s is going to lose some representation as a result.) She said the Board’s committees would be reorganized and that as a result, there may be a new person designated by the county to serve on the Bass Lake District Rehabilitation District Board of Commissioners. **Motion to commend Linda Luckey for her service to the Bass Lake District** was made by John Coughlin and seconded by Dick Allyn. **Motion passed.**

Brett Bader spoke about Town of St. Joseph issues. He noted the upcoming election might affect his future status as the Town's representative to the District as well. Brett said that a high speed internet service for the Town is still being pursued as was a proposal to reduce the number of trash hauler permits. There will be a number of road projects. Brett alerted everyone that was going to be a public hearing at 7 pm on May 12, 2010 at the St. Joe's Town Hall concerning water and well problems.

There was then a discussion about continued problems with the Haase property on the west side of Bass Lake. ATVs are speeding around what appears to be part of the lake bed and, in addition, making prolonged loud noise that is bothering the neighbors. The WDNR has been contacted. Linda Luckey reported that she had conferred with county public health officials about citizen concerns with use of the vacant structure. Brett is checking with the Town regarding the house as a hazard.

**7. News, Updates and Planning**

There was then a renewed discussion about the annual 4th of July boat parade. Chairman Coughlin noted again that concerns had been raised past "boat battle of the balloons." He suggesting that a peaceful parade start at 3:00 pm and make one trip around the lake at reasonable speeds without balloon fights. After that, those inclined can proceed. People so inclined to launching balloons are requested to use biodegradable balloons which are readily available. Tom Spaniol agreed to host the annual District picnic at his home on August 7 in the early afternoon.

There was then a discussion of the problem of cattle coming down to the shore of North Bass Lake. Their waste contaminates the water and feeds the growth of algae. Apparently their owner, Gene Wirth, wants the District to pay him to maintain a fence 60' from the water. On the pasture west of the Public Landing, Mrs. Orf currently permits a fence on her pasture to prevent cattle from going down to the lake shore. Jerry Simon has been voluntarily maintaining the fence. John Coughlin will contact cattle owner Gene Wirth about fencing issues.

**8. Notice of Election**

There will be a Commissioners election at the Annual Meeting on June 5. There are two positions, one for a term of two years and one for three years. Incumbents are John Coughlin and Ron Laumeyer.

**9. Public Comment/Resident Concerns**

These matters were included in other agenda topics. Reminder: Bill Lawson is planning a memorial event for former lake resident and Commissioner Renie Howard who passed away August 14, 2010

**10. Review of Building Plans, Shoreline Restorations and Other Property Issues**  
There were no plans presented. However, it was noted that Tom Conway's cabin by the entrance to Kelly's Swamp appears to have been rebuilt. It is clearly within the setback from the OHWM. The district was never notified by the county or the owner. John Coughlin will contact the county and the new town zoning official, Jay Kimball, about restoring the advice and recommendation program that has been in place for a number of years.

**11. Next Meeting**  
June 5, 2010: Commissioners at 9:00 am and Annual Meeting at 9:30 am.

**12. Adjournment**  
**Motion to adjourn the Commissioners Meeting** was made by Dick Allyn and seconded by Tom Spaniol. **Motion Passed.** Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

**Recorded by:**  
**Dick Allyn, Secretary**

**NEXT MEETING – JUNE 5, 2010**

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