



# Devils Lake Water Improvement District

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[www.DLWID.org](http://www.DLWID.org)

## Quick Look:

- SolarBees
- New Cyanobacteria Research on Devils Lake
- SOLV by volunteering!

## AGENDA

### Regular Meeting

2009 May 7 at 6 pm. in the DLWID Office.

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|--|------|
| <b>I.</b> Minutes of the Previous Meeting  | 6:00 |
| <b>II.</b> Financial Report  | 6:05 |
| <b>III.</b> Public Comment (Agenda Items, Please limit comments to 5 minutes per person)     | 6:10 |
| <b>IV.</b> Unfinished Business (Agenda Support Item A)                                       | 6:15 |
| a. Boat House/Docks  |      |
| b. Land-use Complaints   |      |
| c. Lake Level  |      |
| d. The Devils Lake Plan  |      |
| i. DEQ 319 Grant   |      |
| ii. SolarBees  |      |
| 1. SolarBee Informational Presentation   |      |
| 2. Grant/Loan Updates  |      |
| e. DLWID Internship  |      |
| f. RARE Internship   |      |
| <b>V.</b> New Business (Agenda Support Item B)   | 7:30 |
| a. Financial Oversight Committee (Smokey Aschenbrenner)                                      |      |
| b. Wake Signage  |      |
| c. Cyanobacteria Research on Devils Lake   |      |
| d. SOLV: Down by the Lakeside  |      |
| e. Vacation Requests   |      |
| <b>VI.</b> Non-agenda Items  |      |
| <b>VII.</b> Public Comment (Non-agenda Items, Please limit comments to 5 minutes per person) |      |
| <b>VIII.</b> Announcements   |      |
| a. Budget Committee: May 11, 2009 10 am  |      |
| b. KBCH 1400 am: following Tuesday 7:15 am   |      |
| c. SOLV: May 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2009, Union 50   |      |
| d. Budget Hearing & Regular Meeting: June 4, 2009  |      |
| e. Oregon Lake Association: September 11, 12, 2009-01-30                                     |      |
| f. Erosion Control Seminar: October 8, 2009  |      |
| <b>IX.</b> Adjournment   | 8:00 |

Meetings of DLWID are handicapped accessible under the ADA.

If special accommodations are needed, please contact the District Office at (541) 994-5330 prior to the meeting.

I. Unfinished Business

- a. Boat House/Docks: Jerry Warner spoke with Dan Avery who suggested that ODFW would be finished with its recommendations by the end of May. I then sent a letter to Dan, acknowledging that timeline which I copied to the stakeholder group including the county. I have asked Dan to notify all listed when the final recommendations are available and to send copies out via email. From this point we can pursue a second hearing at the county level.
- b. Land-use Complaints:
  - i. 2551 EDLR: Property owners submitted a removal fill permit as I indicated in the previous meeting which would seemingly not resolve the issue of an armored shoreline having been created. I commented on the application as did Dan Avery of ODFW. Dan's comments were very extensive stating the detriment of the current proposal to Coho and the loss of a viable shoreline. I left similar comments recommending the project not be approved as received, suggesting a bio-engineering technique be employed over the concrete blocks. Comments can be read at [www.statelandsonline.com](http://www.statelandsonline.com) following the link Removal/Fill then to Lincoln County. I have pasted my comments below:

NAME: Paul Robertson

CITY: Lincoln City

STATE: OR

AGENCY: Devils Lake Water Improvement District

COMMENTS:

- Advise change to design or methodology.
- An alternate site or design should be investigated.
- Expect adverse impact to State- or federally-listed species.
- Expect adverse impact to water resources.
- Recommend permit denial.

The District recommends a bio-engineering approach for erosion and sediment control. The use of concrete or other armored material fails to provide a shoreline interface that supports aquatic life. Riparian vegetation is a critical component of aquatic systems. Further armored structures tend to cause erosion of neighboring properties, and eventually to the property itself. Walls are undermined by wave action and eventually fail.

The applicant has recently been sent a letter with all comments on their application and given the opportunity to address them. The letter which we were copied on also requests design changes relevant to soil "piping" and for plantings of native woody vegetation along the retaining wall. The permit decision is scheduled for July 6, 2009.

- ii. 11th & EDLR: No word from DSL or action noted at the property.
  - iii. Seid Creek Slide: No word from NOAA or DSL.
- c. Lake Level: The Board decided to use the dam and to set it at the maximum height legally determined by Oregon Water Resources Department. This is 9.53' above Mean Sea Level (MSL) or effectively 18" of wooden dam on the concrete which has an elevation of 8.03' MSL. This is approximately 2 ½ inches less than last summer and approximately 4 ½" less than previous years dating back to 1998 when it was established. The District had unknowingly been operating in excess of its storage right

when the dam was set 22 ½” above the concrete as in years past. To correct this, the District’s Lake Contractor milled down one set of boards such that then the height of the dam would be 18”. The dam has since been set in place, and has created approximately a 4”-6” head above where the height would seemingly be without the dam. As part of our efforts to reduce the impact of the dam on threatened Coho Salmon, the dam will be pulsed every other night in the second half of May. This is to facilitate outward migration of juvenile fish.

d. The Devils Lake Plan

i. DEQ 319 Grant: I have spoken with David Waltz, DEQ and he has since sent me some sample documents about the QA/QC checks required to achieve high quality data suitable for admission to their database. Basically we need to submit to DEQ a formal Water Quality Sampling and Analysis Plan for all parameters. I have created most of such a document in the past, but it needs review, which will have to be afforded time. This is but one step. The key to getting a functioning database is the historic data. There are hundreds of bits of back data that also need to be qualified to the same rigidity that current sampling protocols call for. This will require a large part of the time dedicated to implementing this grant. I am going to ask DEQ to take the lead on just what QA/QC checks need to be met (in the form of a simple checklist), such that historic data can be graded and included in the DEQ LASAR database. The septic tank GIS layer although not recently discussed will assumingly still be part of the project, as it was in part the match we offered for the grant. This will involve data mining at the County Planning Department details about all the on-site waste treatment systems in the watershed, compiling them into a workable database and GIS layer for mapping. We have the support of Sandy Gruber, Lincoln City GIS specialist, Bill Zekman, County sanitarian and other staff in the county for this element of the project. David said he would set up a voice conference with myself and others at DEQ to further discuss the project.

ii. SolarBees

1. SolarBee Informational Presentation: I recently created and have been dispersing a door knocker with information about SolarBees, our website, and our meeting times. I also had printed and posted 10 11”x17” laminated posters. As we may expect some new attendees to the meeting, I intend to go through a slideshow presentation about Whole Lake Circulation. This slideshow has been and currently is available on our website on the Project Page. Additionally complete copies of all of the presentation given to the DLWID Board of Directors from SolarBee representatives (dating back to February 2007) are available online at [www.DLWID.org](http://www.DLWID.org). I have recently given the Whole Lake Circulation presentation in full to the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council in February 2009 and at the NW Business Expo in April. It is a summary of other presentations given to Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, multiple presentations to PADL, as well as to a lesser extent the Rotary Club, Kiwanis and Lincoln City Chamber of Commerce.
2. Grant/Loan Updates: We have not heard back from any of the funding opportunities as of yet. Notification deadlines include May 1, 2009 for

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NOAA, spring 2009 for EPA, and I believe summer 2009 is DEQ's most recent estimate. In preparing the budget for 2009-2010, I did uncover an error in the submission we made to DEQ. Likely through cutting and pasting, the line item for the cost of Delivery and installation of the devices was erased, and thus the sum of money (\$97,880) was not included in the submission. It was however included in the total project budget, but not as part of the requested amount. I apologize for not finding this earlier, and wish that we might have had more time to work on the submission than the week we were given. This proposal also had to include the Septic Tank Revitalization Program, which was really only an idea prior to this application. I have not spoken with DEQ about this yet, awaiting the chance to communicate with the board.

- e. DLWID Internship: I have sent a letter to Jie Liu offering her the internship. She has been working with the International office on the necessary paperwork enabling her to work in the US. I have also sent her many links to housing opportunities to facilitate her transition. Her start date is scheduled for June 15, 2009.
- f. RARE Internship: I completed and submitted the pre-application for the RARE internship. I suggested a work program consisting of 50% development of the Septic Tank Revitalization Program, 20% landowner outreach, and 30% monitoring. The internship would run for 11 months, possibly beginning in September. The cost to the District would be \$19,000. As the internship would overlap in the summer of 2010 with what has been an internship the District has offered costing approximately \$10,000, the net cost might be more fairly considered \$9,000-14,000 depending on the extent of the overlap. To fund this internship I have proposed using surplus from the current fiscal year which will be transferred to the Improvement Fund. Given the 2009-2010 budget prognosis, this seems to be the only mechanism to fund the RARE internship. Concurrence of this assessment is being sought from the board such that I know to either fully pursue the application or know to forego the next steps and not pursue the RARE internship. The following has been included in the FY 09-10 budget describing the potential funding and cause for such funding:

RARE: As a means of developing and implementing the Septic Tank Revitalization Program, the District has sought a partnership with the University of Oregon's Resource Assistance for Rural Environments program (RARE). This program provides a graduate student matched specifically to a community's needs. Cost sharing for the program is \$19,000 per participating entity. Partners gain the benefit of Master Degree students working full-time within the community for a period of 11 months. Should the District fund, and later be matched with a RARE intern, this individual would be tasked with creating the Septic Tank Revitalization Program elucidated above. An estimate of 50% of the intern's time has been proposed for this project. Additionally the intern would dedicate approximately 20% of their time creating a "Shoreline Sharing" Campaign, educating lakefront property owners of the benefits of native vegetation, best management practices and general lake stewardship. Raising awareness through the development of a web-based resource for property owners, followed up with subsequent outreach, will lead to substantial improvements to the nearshore where development impacts tend to be the greatest. The last 30% of the work plan would be dedicated to participation in ongoing monitoring programs. As the funding of such a position is best identified as Consulting, \$19,000 has been allocated in the Improvement Fund to create this temporary position which will propel the District in its long-term goals and mission of enhancing water quality through watershed protection.

II. New Business

(Agenda Support Item B)

- a. Financial Oversight Committee (Smokey Aschenbrenner) The auditor recommended setting up a committee to have stronger oversight over the financials. This is the first step in organizing such a group. Concerns the auditor had include the inherent lack of segregation of duties due to the number of employees and offered a few suggestions including having a board member sign off on the reconciliations each month. She also recommended an audit committee to directly interface between the auditor and the District and added specific accounting procedures. There was also mention of devising an investment policy, which we have to a degree by stating we keep our money with the LGIP, but the statement is not all limiting, potentially allowing other investments. Establishing a committee and having first a review of the existing Financial Manual is staff's recommendation. I believe Smokey will be providing some insight as to how else we also might proceed.
- b. Wake Signage: We obtained some large signs I have asked Steve to post at the boat launches. It is an image of eye and a wave, under the words "Wake Watch" with another line asking boaters to "Please don't wake me". I have sought their Play Away signs, but they suggested that they had long ago used those up. I did receive some jpg images of similar signs we could use to print our own should we so choose.
- c. Cyanobacteria Research on Devils Lake: In the last month two researchers have requested assistance with sampling for cyanobacteria on Devils Lake. Dr. Wayne Carmichael, Professor Emeritus is seeking collaboration for an EPA funded analytical technique his is co-developing for cyanobacteria. The opportunity to work with Dr. Carmichael is truly an honor as it is through his work that the very idea of a Harmful Algal Bloom even exists. Any association that we can have with Dr. Carmichael will greatly raise the awareness of Devils Lake. Help with his project would consist of sending samples to his colleague using kits they will forward to us. The other research proposed for Devils Lake comes from Dr. Dave Stone of OSU. Many will remember Dr. Stone's presentation to the Board on August 11, 2005 while working for Oregon DHS. His current post finds him with a graduate student, Kara Hitchko, who is seeking to do analyze tissue from mollusks for microcystin concentrations. This could prove to be very significant as determining if there is evidence to suggest that the microcystin is entering the food chain tissue would be widely applicable. Shellfish harvesting warning are common in the marine environment, but this work would look at freshwater mollusks. I suggested to them that Devils Lake is home to a non-native clam which might prove to be an excellent target organism. The mollusk is likely a food source for birds and mammals.
- d. SOLV: Down by the Lakeside: to be held May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the Union 50, and seeking to provide food and t-shirts to the participants. We budgeted \$250 to support this, which is what I am proposing spending up to. This would mostly go to T-shirts for the 1<sup>st</sup> 20 participants, coffee and donuts for breakfast, and pizza and soda for lunch. In each of the last 3 years we have not only raised tons of materials out of Devils Lake (tires, farm equipment, fishing gear, you name it), but we have raised a lot of attention. We were even highlighted with a photo cover for the 2008 brochure SOLV puts out for its Down by the Riverside.
- e. Vacation Requests: per email to the board