



**MINUTES  
DEVILS LAKE WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING**

**DLWID OFFICE  
March 6, 2008  
6:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Otis Winchester  
Jack Strayer  
Smokey Aschenbrenner

**ABSENT:** Brian Green  
David Juenke

**AUDIENCE:** Doug Pirie  
Don Sell  
Ursula Sperry from DSL  
Kevin Erickson

**STAFF:** Paul Robertson

**MEDIA:** None

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Winchester.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Aschenbrenner moved to approve the Minutes from the January meeting and Strayer seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous. Motion passed.

**Goal-Setting Workshop Review.**

Robertson read and reviewed the summary points of the workshop. Strayer asked about the benefits of organic fertilizer. Robertson explained the advantages to homeowners, including the fact that organic fertilizer would not dissipate as quickly.

The Board reviewed the draft of a Devils Lake Recovery Path plan created and submitted to the Board by Strayer, who emphasized that it was simply for discussion only.

Robertson said it could be utilized as part of the Lake plan. Winchester asked Robertson if he would place Strayer's document on the agenda for discussion next meeting. Strayer said he would like to see a very simple Lake Plan. Aschenbrenner moved to adopt Strayer's summary and Strayer seconded making the draft part of the minutes for March.

**Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

### **Financial Report**

Winchester called for questions on the financial report. There were none. Aschenbrenner moved and Strayer seconded approving the financial report as submitted.

**Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Boat House/Docks.**

Robertson said the draft was still in the planning department's hands. He feels it is close to completion, but agreed that pressure on Matt Spangler might be in order.

#### **Native Revegetation: Jack Strayer**

Strayer went to warm-water working group with ODFW and presented Devils Lake's situation. He said there had not been time for feedback. One of the issues was the installation of SolarBees. He gave the group the SolarBee's website address and they agreed to research. One attendee called one of his friends in Florida who worked at an aquarium; he said he saw no reason to conclude that circulating water would control weeds. Strayer said the Board might want to consider the fact that SolarBees might not control the weeds, unless the SolarBee people can produce a study to that effect. They might be more beneficial for controlling cyanobacteria. Strayer said that he will ask Gary Galovich when he performs his electro-fishing survey to take a look at the carp and determine how healthy they are since they are nearing the end of their life span of 20 years. Galovich said he would ask within his department if anyone had any further information.

Strayer said the most vigorous vegetation is the unwanted kind and things need to be sped up before the grass carp disappear.

One of the guys Strayer met attended another seminar and returned with an aquatic plant management plan in support of fish and wildlife. Strayer showed it to Robertson and will lend it to him to peruse. Strayer said he is struggling with the terminology of these issues and with attempting to interpret information. He said the decision point for the lake is going to be when Bob Buckman and Galovich complete their electro-fishing project and advise the Board on what to do with vegetation—possibly late April or early May.

### **Boat Launch Signage.**

Robertson said he had requested a longer post for the sign. Weather permitting, it should be installed by the next meeting. Improvements can deal with existing signs.

PADL will pursue wake board signage. Strayer mentioned the television report on wake boarding issues in the Valley.

### **DSL and DLWID Brochure**

Robertson said that a second brochure from the State will be mailed with the DLWID brochure. Some of their verbiage will be changed. Brochures haven't been mailed because they are waiting for the second brochure that should be completed in about four weeks. He is hoping to get them out before May.

### **Office Improvements**

Robertson has not had an opportunity to talk with the attorney about the lease. It was determined that the District Board cannot commit five years in advance. Therefore, the proposal was for a three-year lease and two one-year extensions with a 3% annual increase, subject to the attorney's approval.

Aschenbrenner moved and Strayer seconded approval of the three-year lease with two one-year, 3%-increase extensions, subject to the attorney's approval.

**Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

### **[www.DLWID.org](http://www.DLWID.org) & Google Analytics.**

Kevin Erickson and Robertson demonstrated some additional information available from the Google Analytics site. They showed the hits from different states and some international hits. A variety of additional data was reviewed. Strayer asked if the Chamber link had referred any hits; however, none could be found. It appears that researchers are spending an average of more than five minutes on the site. Time and date of hits can also be determined.

Robertson said that the website contains the answer to a trivia question he will promote on the radio next Tuesday. The last time he promoted a trivia question, hits on the site increased. The answer: 20,000 fish will be planted in the lake in three installments, on March 10, March 24 and April 7.

## **New Business**

### **Budget Committee Appointments.**

There are nine people on the budget committee at this time. Another is needed to complete the committee, since Barbara Landhuis has resigned.

### **Lincoln SWCD & DLWID Agricultural Lands Brochure.**

The Soil and Water Conservation District came up with the idea to develop a second brochure, including information on the limited agricultural footprint in the watershed.

Much of the information was extrapolated from the web; there is no copy on a draft at this point, since it is in e-mail form.

### **Lake Steward Award-Nominations and Vote.**

Robertson stated that since the Community Days banquet is in April, a decision should be made today so that an award can be ordered. Aschenbrenner nominated Jerry Warner, who has worked on the boathouse/dock issue. Winchester and Robertson each agreed. Robertson said that he was also leaning toward a nomination of Lincoln City Parks and Recreation since they are “going green” by eliminating pesticides in the watershed area of the lake.

Aschenbrenner moved and Winchester seconded awarding Jerry Warner the Lake Steward award with Parks and Recreation a runner-up award.

**Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

### **The Devils Lake Plan.**

Robertson said that he placed the Goal Setting Workshop issue and the Devils Lake Plan in the agenda under New Business so that it could be continued each month.

Strayer asked if Robertson felt there should be completion dates included in the issues of the Goal Setting Workshop. Aschenbrenner said that a one-year period should be sufficient. Robertson said that the creation of the plan would be completed this year; however, if the Board wished to place a time line on specific items, he would agree with them—he would request their feedback.

Strayer said the closest SolarBee is in Blue Lake. He said he would attempt to set up a field trip to the lake so that they could assess its success. Robertson said that he felt it would be prohibitive for the company (Pump Systems Inc) to bring in one SolarBee as an experiment. Winchester said he remembers the SolarBee company’s offering to bring in one on a trial basis. Robertson said it is possible to lease machines. He reminded the Board that there is a return agreement for the SolarBees and they will allow 40% of any rental fee to be recouped toward the purchase price; however, their incentive is to sell the devices. Strayer suggested that if installation of the circulators were implemented on a phase-in basis they might be better received—particularly if they showed success. Robertson reminded the Board that one would perform inadequately—they would probably need at least three to six to show any benefit. It would be a safer approach and less of a culture shock. Regatta Grounds is the problematic area, as well as other swimming areas. Public access areas are the most concerning. He suggested the possibility of placing two at Regatta and three in an arm might offer some benefit. Restoring recreation year-round would be a good buy-in for homeowners and the voting community. Also, SolarBees have been around since 2001 and there are a lot of benefits to oxygenating the bottom of the lake.

Winchester asked what the Board thought about dates on the workshop issues. Strayer feels that dates should be established. Robertson said he would set up some tentative

goal time lines. Strayer said it is like prioritizing the work; the Board would take a look at it and make suggestions, particularly if this is a five-year plan.

### **Non-Agenda Items**

Robertson reported that cyanobacteria is not going to be funded with the grant from OWEB. They retracted that part of the grant. Robertson suggested since the monitoring equipment is in the budget it should be purchased. Aschenbrenner said he would like a proposal from Robertson and they would make the decision the following month. Robertson said he would work on it.

Kevin Erickson showed the Board a variety of documents that he had scanned and others he had obtained from outside sources for the District's database. He will complete a bibliography for the website with his remaining hours of time.

Strayer asked Don Sell if PADL was working on projects from time to time that might be of interest to the Board or assist them in decision-making. Sell replied that PADL is in tune with the District's issues, although they do deviate into bird-watching. Strayer asked if they had been working on the issue of wake boarding. Sell replied that they are planning on contacting the sheriff's department to determine what could be done to curtail ensuing problems. Strayer asked that Sell keep the Board apprised of any issues that PADL deems of interest to the District.

Robertson brought up the subject of an extra day of vacation allocation in exchange for his overtime duties. Aschenbrenner moved to approve awarding Robertson an extra day of vacation this year as compensation for his overtime commitment. Strayer seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Announcements**

Robertson will speak on KBCH 1400 am at 7:00 a.m. next Tuesday, March 11, 2008. The trivia question to the public will be on the issue of the number and dates of trout planting in the lake.

SOLV is Saturday May 17.

### **Adjournment**

The Board meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Burt