



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

**DLWID OFFICE
April 3, 2008
6:00 P.M.**

- PRESENT:** Otis Winchester
Jack Strayer
David Juenke
Brian Green
- ABSENT:** Smokey Aschenbrenner (excused)
- AUDIENCE:** Ursula Sperry from DSL
Raylene Erickson, PADL Recording Secretary,
Kerry Richards, Property Owner
- STAFF:** Paul Robertson
- MEDIA:** None

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

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Strayer moved and Aschenbrenner seconded approving the Minutes of the previous meeting on March 6, 2008, with the addition of Brian Green being noted as “excused.”
Vote: Unanimous. Motion passed.

Financial Report.

Robertson said there were a couple of corrected amounts due that were slightly higher than estimated.

a. Resolution 08-01

Juenke moved and Green seconded approving the resolution 08-01 to appropriate \$2,500 from “Material & Services: Contingency” in the budget to “Material & services: Office.”

Public Comment

None

Unfinished Business

Boat House/Docks.

Robertson reported that Matt Spangler said that the public hearing for the boat/dock issue is scheduled for April 28. On April 12 Jerry Warner received an award for his hard work on this ordinance. The County heard a preliminary hearing on the issue and was okay with it. One change Robertson would like to see added is that boat houses would not be built beyond the 50-foot maximum if deck clearance was less than three feet. A draft of the ordinance is on the DLWID.com website with a link. The County has created an entirely new ordinance—a much simpler document than modifying the existing one.

Native Revegetation: Jack Strayer

Strayer reports no additional contact with ODFW. Both the Blue Lake people and Bill Monroe have been in contact with him. Strayer told Monroe that *Oregon Field Guide* was creating a program on Devils Lake and he recognizes Devils Lake has a lot more potential than what is being utilized. Strayer distributed copies to the Board of the study by Scott Bonar—on three Western Washington lakes on introducing species of wild salmon where warm water fish didn't eat the small salmon. He said the U.S. Geological Survey was financing Bonar's study. Strayer said it might be worth the District's pursuing some funding from the U.S. Geological Survey. He will check further with Bonar.

Boat Launch Signage

Completion still pending. The new, more legible, 3-sided signs will be installed by the lake contractor at Regatta Grounds by the end of the month. Additional signs will be installed at other sites if this one is well received.

DSL and DLWID Brochure

The DLWID brochure is completed; Robertson is awaiting the Department of State Lands brochure printing that is in progress, and then 1,000 copies of both pieces will be mailed together. An e-mail was sent to DSL asking about progress.

Agricultural Lands

This brochure is one that combines information from DLWLD and Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District with information from the Department of Agriculture. This brochure will be distributed to the public.

The Devils Lake Plan

Nothing has been completed on this project. Green said a strategy needs to be created. The plan cannot feature SolarBees and re-vegetating of the Lake exclusively. Green said the most obvious plan would be a sequence of starting with SolarBees and then determining if they help vegetation. It might be that if invasive species reproduction can be stopped by Solar Bees, the natural vegetation might regenerate. Strayer said that invasive species will no doubt return faster than the native species. Juenke asked about

selective control of the weeds. Strayer replied the Corps of Engineers in Florida said they didn't see how water movement could inhibit the growth of anything. Green said oxygen in the water was supposed to inhibit growth of invasive species. Oxygenation of ammonia is less favorable to the weeds. Green suggested trying to encourage the natural growth prior to introducing any so-called native vegetation. Strayer said the carp will not be able to eat whatever is starting in the growth pattern, and any vegetation that grows the fastest will take over. Green said they need to get moving on the Solar Bees. Steilacomb, which is urbanized similar to Lake Oswego, tried copper sulfate to get rid of algae and have a sediment layer different from Devils Lake. They had nine Solar Bees on 420 acres—narrow with coves and pretty shallow—20 feet deep. Cyanobacteria are the primary problem, similar to the weeds in the '80's. Joe Eisler thought it would be good to experiment with the SolarBees. It was suggested there might be a marketing element to their reasoning—they don't want to partially treat the lake due to potential failure. Discussion was had about the best place to install the Solar Bees. Regatta Grounds would be a key place to begin. It would take two units to attack that cove, close in. The footprint would have to be one per 30 acres. Also attacking up in a cove, such as the Marina area, might be a good spot for maybe, three. Robertson reminded the group that they are not trying to experiment, they are trying to correct the problem. In 2005, Robertson said, core drilling was performed. Green suggested they are hesitating to cover the entire lake because of the cost. Regarding a grant or a matching grant, Green said Devils Lake should be an ideal candidate. Grant opportunities might be with OWEB and U.S. Geological Survey.

Juenke said Strayer's previous draft of a plan would help to prioritize the goals. The No. 1 priority, although there are multiple goals, is improving water quality, addressing cyanobacteria and re-establishing native wildlife in the lake, while maintaining recreational aspects of the lake. Juenke went on to say that if a test can be completed, they should get with it and address the most urgent issues. The Lake Management Plan should be the beginning. It shouldn't be a long tedious project. Green suggested investigating what potential grants would require in the form of a plan. Ron Ploger was suggested as a good person to assist in applying for the grant. Green said he feels they ought to try Solar Bees first, and then lead into whether a three- or five-Solar Bee study would provide enough information. Strayer said he feels the Solar Bees and the re-vegetation can be tried at the same time.

Discussion continued on which entities might provide grants. Robertson said obtaining six or seven grant applications might be possible prior to the next meeting. Juenke suggested that the Solar Bee people might have some ideas about funds available for grants.

There was further discussion about the number of carp remaining in the lake. It is estimated that there are probably 1,000 or so. Juenke would like to establish controlling cyanobacteria as the No.1 priority and making a decision on whether SolarBees are the best method of accomplishing this. He said it is clear that that this would be the most attractive avenue of pursuit. The question still remains—would it be best to attempt to do this on a trial basis in a controlled area. He suggested Robertson present 25 or so

vegetation management/cyanobacteria management ideas from the larger list and they could evaluate the best.

New Business

Bacteria Monitoring

The weekly monitoring program of seven sites around the lake will begin about the first week of May. Robertson is rewriting the bacteria monitoring manual to bring it into alignment with the sites' renaming. Results will be posted the second day on the parks' blue metal signs. The monitoring would be included as part of the Lake Management Plan. Robertson will check with the *News Guard* people to see if they will again post results.

Cyanobacteria Monitoring

This is the second year. Robertson is working on the methodology for toxicity monitoring. Phase I is visual monitoring along with the physical parameter monitoring performed weekly in the bacterial monitoring program. Phase II utilizes the existing contact for cyanophyte identification. A 48-hour turn around time is required after placing the plankton on the truck. (72 hours total). For warnings on getting people off the lake, caution signs could be placed on the lake. Other ideas might be a yellow sign on a stake, web access of information for those who live on the lake, or e-mail notification. There might also be a specific location for people to check for warnings for cyanobacteria, a reverse 9-1-1 or jet skis of the fire department. Phase III, if necessary, would be cyanotoxicity monitoring that would run approximately \$2,000 a month.

Toxicity Monitoring Equipment

This item was placed in the budget at an amount of \$5,000. Robertson said he attempted to get a grant, but was rejected. In October, it was decided to purchase the equipment if a grant was rejected. This would be a great way to notify the public on Phase I and II. One sample for Regatta would cost \$750. If this were completed three or four times, the budget would be spent. Therefore, Robertson said, the monitoring equipment should be purchased. Strayer asked what time commitment would be required of Robertson. He replied that it would be a great learning experience for an intern. Sampling, then getting it back to the lab would be a five-hour-plus project, 2.5 hours when the blooms are visible. There is also an estimate for the equipment and training of three people in the budget. Winchester suggested buying all the supplies in this budget and utilizing next year's budget for the monitoring amount. Green asked if training would be required every year, then suggested trying to get an intern to assist.

Green moved and Juenke seconded allocating the \$6,700 to buy the equipment prior to summertime.

Vote: Unanimous. Motion passed.

Earth Day

Robertson has been involved in planning for this year's event that will be held at the Cultural Center on Saturday and Sunday, April 19th and 20th. He agreed to be part of an online program to do Carbon Footprint Calculations. He hopes to have a DLWID info

booth on display free of charge. He will have some lakescaping ideas on display and lead-free fishing weights available.

Get the Lead Out

This project will be in its second year. The buyer at Bi-Mart will try to obtain lead-free weights in Lincoln City as a pilot project. Northwest Steelheaders and Robertson are going to work on some PSA's, together. They will continue working to get the lead out through education.

Winchester stated that the fishing tournament has been cancelled for this year.

Lincoln Land Legacy Program

Robertson is an advisory member for three projects for funding in the north county. There will be a celebration for the Gerdeman property being placed into conservation as an interpretive and educational center and biological reserve. This will be on April 12 at 1:30 p.m. in Yahcats. Robertson is attempting to obtain media coverage in Salem.

D River Dam

Robertson spoke with Steve, who said the installation is set for April 15. The lake is too high at this time; however, a forecast of dryer weather should permit the installation with a lower lake level. Robertson will work with ODFW to facilitate migration of Coho salmon in May or when needed.

Non-Agenda Items

Robertson drafted a letter for Winchester's signature to Lila Bradley with copies to Lincoln City Council, along with the mayor, regarding monitoring of the east side of the lake.

Robertson said that he received the new copy of the building lease (with a new date) and will pay the current rent at 1,101 after it has been reviewed by the attorney.

Public Comment

Raylene Erickson from PADL reported that Ken Hobson received grant funds from Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation for \$2,000 to create a rinse and wash station and a rain garden. Julie Sexton is also involved, and they will get boat ramps for the rain garden after obtaining draft of a drawing for the rain garden that was suggested by master gardeners. They met with Ron Ploger, and it will be located at Regatta Grounds. Bill Sexton has the equipment to create the garden.

International Migratory Bird Day will be May 10. Birdday.org has posters and educational information on this project. Tammy Wagner from ODFW may come and talk about their latest conservation plan on elk relocation and other projects.

Announcements

Robertson will speak on KBCH 1400AM at 7:00 a.m. next Tuesday, March 11, 2008.

Earth Days (April 19 &20, 2008, at the Cultural Center. Check out lcearthday.com Link on the DLWID site. There will be organic lunches. April 22 is when the “Silent Invasion” project will be aired on OPB.

SOLV’s Down by the Lakeside, May 17, 2008.

Adjournment

The Board meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Burt