



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

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
March 14, 2013  
6:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** David Skirvin  
Noel Walker  
Kip Ward  
Randy Weldon  
Brian Green

**ABSENT:** None

**AUDIENCE:** None

**STAFF:** Lake Manager Paul Robertson and Seth Lenaerts, Project Manager

**MEDIA:** None

Skirvin called the regular DLWID Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**Consent Agenda**

Green requested a change be made under the “Sewer” heading on page 6 of the February 14, 2013 Minutes. Corrected verbiage would read, “For one sewer system in the Atlanta, Georgia, area, the average time between maintenance calls was increased from three to seven years after some simple homeowner education sessions on what not to place in the system.” **With Green’s requested change, Skirvin moved to approve the February Minutes and the February financial report. Walker seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.**

**Unfinished Business**

**The Devils Lake Plan  
Septic Tank Revitalization Program**

Lenaerts said he is hopeful that some of the Board members will be able to attend the joint meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 9 at 3:00 P.M. in city council chambers. This meeting will include the city council and staff, DLWID Board members and staff and representatives from the onsite Waste Management Division of Lincoln County. This meeting will be an opportunity for discussion of the new parameters of the septic system program. Lenaerts said the Board had requested some information on the changes in parameters from the original language of Resolution 2010-03. He provided a hand-out to the Board on the changes. Two primary changes are that initial inspections would be conducted within the city limits, and the other was that the frequency of inspections be changed to ten years. Since the DEQ and EPA say inspections should be more frequent—from three to five years, Lenaerts is hopeful that the frequency can be changed to three to five years.

Skirvin asked for Lenaerts to provide his sources on this issue.

### **Save our Shoreline (SOS)**

Lenaerts said the second round of weeding and planting of the raingardens at both Regatta Park and East Devils Lake Park was conducted on March 6 and 7 with a crew from Spiro Landscaping. The plants are thicker and look very good. Plants from NORP were used at no charge, saving the District about \$1,400. Spiro came and moved rocks to complete the project. The grass is coming back very aggressively, so some additional weeding will need to be done at a later date.

Lenaerts reports that the shoreline and raingarden training has been confirmed and will be held on Saturday, March 30, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Community Room at the public library. Maria Cahill will conduct two hours of class time followed by site visits to the raingardens to evaluate and critique them. The course is free to the public. Cahill is a great instructor on shoreline plantings. Lenaerts provided an estimated budget and the room is free. The videographer's charges will depend on his time spent; however, some of the film could be used in the Save our Shoreline video. Up to \$600 had previously been allocated for this project, and it will be available in digital format for the website.

### **Vegetation Management**

Robertson reported that Max Depth Aquatics sent the approved submission to ODFW staff in Salem. There was a change in personnel and the lead person has requested a slightly different track. The report is being reworked to match their requirements—it will go directly to ODFW Commission, who will then offer a time to present our case at one of their meetings. They might then seek to consult with the Wildlife Integrity Review Board or the Director's Office, but that is after it is considered by them. The report now is to be formatted as a formal presentation. Rather than a linear progress, it will now go directly to the top and run through their process for a decision. In order to get a submission of suitable quality, we will have to have in place the stocking survey as well as the engineering study. Max Depth Aquatics has asked for the Board to be notified of this prior to the next step. Robertson has been focusing on the engineering study. This process will add a couple of months to the schedule.

Discussion ensued regarding a time line for a spot on the agenda. Skirvin is concerned about when the District can involve the public for their support of the process. Robertson said the District is in control of when they wish to submit to the commission.

Skirvin asked for a tentative time line plan to be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

Robertson reported that the survey by Max Depth Aquatics will take a couple of months. **Green moved to approve allowing additional time for Max Depth Aquatics to complete the Stocking Survey for the presentation to the commission on grass carp. Skirvin seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.**

### **Economic Impact Study**

Lenaerts said that the most recent draft of the economic study was e-mailed to the Board members. On the original document, he had not included improvement values of lakefront properties. Including improvement values increased the economic loss from \$25 million to \$29 million. Lenaerts reported that in creating this report, he worked with Lincoln County appraiser, ODFW, and many other agencies and people. Oregon State Parks provided campers' numbers. They determined that an overnight camper spent \$89 per night and a party of three would generate \$279 per stay, which is very close to the numbers that Lenaerts' report indicated. There are a few other changes, and Lenaerts requested the Board accept the report with the changes.

Green said he feels it is quite well done and noted that Lenaerts was limited by his resources; however, he has compiled the information as best he could.

Green asked that in the introduction, DLWID be included as a partner with the City of Lincoln City and EPA that worked to initially introduce grass carp into the lake. Lenaerts will make that change. He noted that changes can be made on an annual basis as needed.

Weldon said he thinks the reduction in property values is rather conservative.

**Green moved to adopt the Devils Lake Economic Impact Study with the minor changes requested. Walker seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.**

Ward noted that he does not believe the methodology used for the numbers is trustworthy, because he said numbers can be manipulated. He believes making assumptions of peoples' spending habits is very arbitrary.

Walker said some places are good for business and other places are good for living. Having the only motel on the lake, he can report that business is extremely good for about eight months of the year; yet the ocean holds a fascination for people even in inclement weather. He knows folks who have moved to the lake from the ocean because it was a better environment with less maintenance.

Ward said the greatest value of the lake is to the people who live on the lake. They have huge property investments and pay more taxes. He does not see huge area business loss as a result of negative lake issues.

Robertson thanked everyone for their input. He said staff looked at visitors in neighboring counties—Marion, Benton, Tillamook—and counted them as day trippers. They were removed from the lodging components. If visitors had a Portland area address, they were considered overnights. This caused the numbers to be more conservative. For fishermen, ODFW stats were less, perhaps just \$15. It is really the loss of real estate values and taxes that provides the largest component of loss.

There was further discussion on the economic impact of negative lake issues.

## **Sewer**

Green reported that the city still has not come up with a resolution. The last meeting of the council was cancelled and the city manager expressed concerns about whether the ADA might apply to the elimination of the requirements for curbs and sidewalks. Green said he has had some experience with the ADA and sent Hawker an e-mail that he did not believe it applies here. The mission of ADA is to provide access for handicapped to commercial and public buildings and facilities. Moreover, the only time curbs and sidewalks apply is when you already have them and you must make them accessible to the street level. There are many places in Lincoln City where they do not have access.

At this point, it is just a matter of the new city attorney catching up on the backlog of work. Green hopes to see this issue in the next meeting.

## **Engineering study**

Robertson said the engineering study is included in the budget at \$2,500; however, he is hopeful that no money will have to be spent. As a matter of expediency, he feels he should be authorized to do so if the funds are needed. If more is required, it can be made available through a resolution.

**Skirvin moved to allow the expenditure of \$2,500 for the topographical survey, if needed. Walker seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.**

## **Communications Report**

Robertson will appear on KBCH the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 A.M.

The meetings are streaming on the internet on Channel 4, helping to get messages out to the public. Staff is currently working on the ListServ Spring edition.

David Skirvin and Robertson are scheduled to speak at the Chamber of Commerce March 26 luncheon at Aces Bar and Grill at 11:45 A.M. Robertson suggested that Green attend also and report on the sewer issue. They will be sharing information on the key components of the grass carp application, East Devils Lake project, septic and the Devils Lake Plan. Robertson spoke to the Rotary Club a couple of weeks ago at their luncheon meeting.

Lenaerts suggested that the District might want to have a booth at the Jet Ski Races on May 18 and 19. There will be vendor and educational opportunities. The cost would be \$50 since the District belongs to the Chamber of Commerce. Skirvin agreed that they should obtain a booth and he said he would staff the booth part of the time. Green also agreed to volunteer.

Robertson reported that Community Days is coming up on April 17 through 27. Sandy Gruber is coordinating a kayaking event on Saturday, the 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 A.M. to Noon for lake tours.

## **Safety Report**

Robertson said that a meeting was held with the Special Districts Association of Oregon in February. They audit the District every few years. At this time, they are asking the District to work on developing new policies. One is a personnel policy about mandatory reporting if anything out of the ordinary is witnessed that could be a potential problem. If you are working with or holding an event with anyone under 18, you are mandated to report as of January 1. Robertson has requested some training information and assistance from the

Special Districts Association and he should receive a response soon. Skirvin asked if they could schedule a training session in July for board members. Green asked for Robertson to obtain samples of the items that are listed—procedures for safety, policy, etc. Since they provide the District’s insurance, Robertson can ask if there is anything they can offer relative to the insurance issue.

Skirvin noted that since the District’s next event is in May—the Dash event, we need to make sure we understand what our requirements are within the next two months.

### **MidCoast TMDL**

Robertson said there is nothing new to report since the meeting in February at the DLWID offices.

### **East Devils Lake Road**

Robertson reported that a chart was sent to the Board members listing all the grant agencies who have been working on this issue. The County has submitted for a grant on their own to the U.S. Department of Agriculture in January for \$4.2 million. Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council submitted to NOAA in February and they have an April submission to O-Web coming up. A large number of dollars are required for this project; the middle fix will be about \$5 million which is the one they are working toward. The situation on the road is deteriorating and fish are being destroyed. Most days someone is out there helping the fish. Regarding the signs, they were not removed by an official, the wind blew them away. Robertson will reinstall them prior to next winter.

Ward asked if the District could spend a few thousand to help until the larger dollar amount is secured. Robertson said that the District could make a pledge of hours or funds to an entity—it is within the purview of the District to protect the fish and there might be some grant opportunities for matching funds.

Discussion ensued regarding spending money to improve the road for the fish vs. for transportation.

Skirvin asked if it would be worth talking to the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council and if a line item should be included in this year’s budget for this project.

Green asked what the \$4.2 million project included. Robertson said it would comprise two 60-foot bridges, a widening of the road five feet and raising it three feet. The ditch should be a more meandering stream rather than just a ditch to aid the fish. He said it would probably be closer to \$5 million to accomplish the entire project.

Green noted that it would probably be a three-year project.

## **New Business**

### **Lake Steward Award**

There were two submissions for the Lake Steward Award—Joanne Daschle and Paul Katen. Joanne has invested tremendous time in the Taft 7-12 greenhouse and raingarden project and the S.O.S. program. She has worked on East Devils Lake Road rescuing fish. She has a landscaping business and also serves on the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council. She volunteered at the Devils Lake Revival and is coordinating an upcoming kayaking tour of the lake.

Paul has spent a tremendous amount of time rescuing salmon. He also worked extensively on the two dam removal projects as well as the Devils Lake Revival. He continues to reach out to lake property owners on a variety of issues.

Ward said he believes they should receive co-steward awards.

Green voted for both; Skirvin voted for Joanne Daschle; Weldon voted for Paul Katen; Walker voted for both; and Ward voted for both.

**Skirvin moved to authorize \$500 for Lake Steward Awards to be given to both individuals and Green seconded.**

**Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.**

### **Devils Lake Revival**

Lenaerts reported that a date needs to be set for this annual event. He believes the budget this year should be \$3,500, since Dave Price is no longer able to provide the free advertising as owner of *Oregon Coast Today*. Also, Lenaerts said in the past, his friends were able to provide the band music. He noted that the VCB does have grants for these types of events and since people do come from out of town, this event might apply.

Discussion continued about the event and, depending on the date chosen, some of the funds would come from this year's budget and some from next year's budget. The date chosen was July 20. Green and Skirvin both volunteered to be on boat duty. Weldon suggested a push pin poster to determine how many people came from out of the area vs. local attendees. Lenaerts said he thinks it is about 50/50.

Walker asked Lenaerts to check on the Regatta Park Band Stand project for which the District purchased a brick to support.

### **Board Comments and Announcements**

Skirvin reminded any interested applicants to apply for Positions 4 or 5 prior to the deadline of next week. Both Skirvin and Green have reapplied.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be April 11, 2013 at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Burt