



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

**LINCOLN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
September 11, 2014
6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Brian Green, chairman
David Skirvin
Kip Ward
Randy Weldon
Kent Norris

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC SPEAKERS: Miles Schlesinger
Mark Hiland
Gary Pickett (?)

STAFF: Paul Robertson, Lake Manager
Ava Laszlo, water quality and outreach intern

Chairman Brian Green convened the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

All five directors are present.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Green moved to approve the consent agenda (including the minutes of the August 2014 meeting and the financial report). Skirvin seconded. Unanimous vote in favor.

III. COMMENTS from CITIZENS on NON-AGENDA ITEMS (0:01)

Green outlined the public comment policy. Comments were limited to 5 minutes apiece.

[Intermittent gaps in the meeting's audio and video recording occurred over the next 15 minutes.]

Miles Schlesinger, 1192 NE Lake Drive, Lincoln City: Discussed Devils Lake Dash, scheduled for next May. Promoter in Salem asking DLWID for guarantee that any outlay for fees required by city and other agencies will be reimbursed in case the dash has to be cancelled. Fees might run to \$6,000. Asked about water quality, particularly E. coli. Urged board to decide on dredging channel, replacing dam with water retention gate, so lake can be restored.

Board members asked for more information on requested guarantee.

Mark Hiland, 2170 NE Lake Drive, Lincoln City: Asked about Know Your Lake column in News Guard. Questioned basis for some information presented as fact. Questioned statement that at least 50% of septic systems around the lake are beyond their useful life. Called for testing to see how many drainfields are not functioning correctly. Asked that basis for factual statements in Know Your Lake be provided in the column. Questioned whether the high cost of installing a sewer system around the lake is justified. Said no one knows how much nitrogen and phosphorus in lake is coming from septic fields. Questioned whether homeowners should be blamed for problems with lake. Asked that the newspaper ad be more positive and focus on solutions.

Board members said the statements in Know Your Lake are well-supported. Green said the information in the newspaper ad is intended to tell people what the district is doing and why.

Gary Pickett, Salem, Oregon: Representing group interested in purchasing property on Devils Lake. Group has concerns about blue-green algae. Asked about the board's involvement in finding a solution. Asked about possible solutions, time frame to correct the problem.

Board members briefly reviewed work in progress on trying to address blue-green algae.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(Meeting: 0:35 / Video: 0:20)

a. The Devils Lake Plan

i. Septic/Sewer

SEE STAFF REPORT re: prospective Urban Growth Management Agreement (UGMA) between city and county to regulate development around lake if sewer system installed; proposed Lincoln City contract for a Sewer Master Plan and Environmental Review; buildable lands inventory; potential for state funding for sewer system; Voyage LID may be ready for bid in October; Regatta Grounds pump station design work expected in December 2014.

GREEN: re: Voyage LID, construction schedules are being prepared.

ii. Save our Shoreline (SOS)

(Meeting: 0:53 / Video: 0:38)

SEE STAFF REPORT: Ava Laszlo worked with Dave Price (OCCC Small Business Development Center) to create a door flier to be distributed to promote the project that gives financial support to homeowners who want to add plants along the shoreline to fight erosion and to reduce the flow of nutrients into the lake; will deliver seed packets.

Norris moved to increase the financial match for an individual property to \$1,500 for Save Our Shoreline. Green seconded.

Weldon asked about the total budget. Skirvin asked about the average cost of projects so far (Robertson: they have been kept in line with budgeted amounts of \$650-\$750). Green supported increase as an attempt to encourage more participation. Skirvin opposed increase because projects in past have used less money; would rather do more projects with less money than fewer projects with more money. Weldon said the door knocker fliers could bring in more participants than expected.

Call for vote. Green, Norris aye. Ward, Weldon, Skirvin nay. Motion rejected 3-2.

Board discussed benefit of adding vegetation to shoreline if property is protected by a seawall. Robertson said deep-rooted vegetation will keep shoreline in place after a seawall eventually and inevitably fails. Trees also absorb nutrients now entering the lake and feeding the algae.

iii. Vegetation Management

No update on grass carp application before Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Board members discussed project and Robertson reviewed status.

b. Communications Report

(Meeting: 1:16 / Video: 1:01)

SEE STAFF REPORT re: strategies for public outreach (Internet, Channel 4, social media (YouTube, Facebook), AM radio 1610 broadcasts, radio interviews, e-newsletter, 100 Years on the Lake, Know Your Lake column ad in News Guard); Lake Manager to speak at Lincoln City Chamber and Lincoln City Kiwanis meetings; Senior Fair at Chinook Winds; Oregon Lake Association in October in Astoria (Robertson is chairman of conference and incoming president of association, which originated at Devils Lake.).

c. Safety Report

SEE STAFF REPORT re: updated safety policy and manual.

d. MidCoast TMDL

SEE STAFF REPORT re: Total Maximum Daily Load, state-funded evaluation of restoration needs at water bodies.

e. East Devils Lake Road

SEE STAFF REPORT re: county road department examining bridge supports in high-water area, but unable to exclude water for proper examination; may consider raising bridge 24”.

f. Policy Updates

Postponed until further notice

g. Harmful Algal Blooms

(Meeting: 1:34 / Video: 1:19)

SEE STAFF REPORT re: scope of potential aeration projects; research into jurisdiction of various government agencies; needs assessment for projects; fill removal permits; possible large cost related to acquiring easements from the Oregon Department of State Lands in order to run aeration lines across bottom of lake; possible need to seek State Lands rule change if easement is too costly; Oregon Department of Environmental Quality concerns about dissolved gases in lake; federal agency review can be expected if federal dollars support the project; Army Corps of Engineers review; possibility requests for information from aeration contractors; possible need for engineer to evaluate the quality of the proposals.

Skirvin moved to authorize Lake Manager to draft and release requests for information from aeration contractors. Green seconded.

Board discussed possible role of engineer in evaluating aeration proposals. Board discussed whether a request for proposals might be more productive than a request for information. Board discussed possible parameters needed to determine success of aeration.

Skirvin withdrew motion.

Skirvin moved to authorize Lake Manager to draft and release requests for proposals from aeration vendors for the design and installation of an aeration project covering the entire lake. Green seconded.

Board discussed potential for altering project once it has started. Board discussed wisdom of seeking RFP without knowing possible excessive costs of acquiring easements. Board discussed inclusion of permitting in RFP. Board discussed referring to engineering evaluation in RFP. Board discussed option of calling for a partial pilot project versus a total lake project. Audience question re: why was aeration not pursued two years ago when a vendor suggested it. Board explained that costs seemed prohibitive at the time, and aeration seemed more appropriate for smaller ponds and had not been used in a lake this large. Board discussed whether aeration should extend into private canal beds. Board continued discussing pros and cons of a pilot project, particularly a concern that a partial project would yield inconclusive results. Board discussed likelihood that aeration project will have positive results. Audience asked about leasing equipment. Board agreed to include leasing option in RFP.

Call for vote. Unanimous vote in favor.

[Recess]

(Meeting: 2:43 / Video: 2:28)

h. Water Quality Update

(Meeting: 2:56 / Video: 2:41)

SEE STAFF REPORT re: continued HABs, monitoring reduced after Labor Day recreational period, water quality testing will continue monthly, storm sampling data.

Water contact advisory issued on July 31, 2014, continues. SEE WATER QUALITY REPORT: <http://www.dlwid.org/Water%20Quality.html>

Board asked about E. coli virulent strain that was fatal to local girl recently. Lake Manager said E. coli generally harmless, but it is monitored because it's a marker for fecal contamination that can be more dangerous. Lake Manager said dangerous E. coli could appear in lake but not likely.

- i. Intern** (Meeting: 3:12 / Video: 2:57)
SEE STAFF REPORT for Ava Laszlo discussion of water monitoring, training documents, public outreach, other planned projects.

V. NEW BUSINESS (Meeting: 3:18 / Video: 3:03)

a. Life-jackets

WELDON: Discussed proposed life-jacket loaner station kiosk at Regatta Park. City Public Works Department approved if DLWID maintains kiosks. Government entities do not qualify for grants. Since grants require extensive paperwork and funding comes from taxes, decided not to pursue grant. Next month, expects to have sample sign for approval.

b. Extension of internship program

ROBERTSON: Outlined benefits to district if internship extended from October to December. Intern would work on safety manual, website, lakeside radio broadcasts. By winter break, time to start advertising for next summer's intern.

Green moved to retain the current intern through December 19, 2014, at the current rate. Weldon seconded.

Board discussed quantity of work that can be done by an intern and commended Laszlo's work to date.

Call for vote. Four votes in favor, with Ward abstaining.

Green moved to establish an internship for Summer 2015 similar to description and duties of past interns. Weldon seconded. Unanimous vote in favor.

VI. NON-AGENDA ITEMS (Meeting: 3:29 / Video: 3:14)

NORRIS: Asked about moving October meeting to October 2 because of a prior commitment.

Board noted that earlier date would free Robertson for October conference. Would have to check with city for room availability.

Green moved to have next meeting on October 2, 2014, instead of October 9. Norris seconded. Unanimous vote in favor.

VII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS from CITIZENS on NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Audience member expressed concern about leaving door knockers on vacation homes because residents might be away for extended periods. Laszlo was instructed to leave them in discreet places not easily visible from road.

Angie Wright, 4763 NE East Devils Lake Road, Otis: Asked about county not knowing structural integrity of the bridge. If they can't determine quality now, how can they do that in the spring when the water is higher? How long before they raise the bridge? [ROBERTSON: County road department needs to answer these questions.] Asked about water monitoring equipment that was provided to high school lab. Can other students come in and use that equipment? [ROBERTSON: That's up to the high school.] Can student field trips visit the DLWID lab at OCCC? [ROBERTSON: Absolutely.]

Mark Hiland: Re: civil engineer for aeration project, might want to budget travel time so an engineer can evaluate sites that have had success with aeration. Small District Association of Oregon (SDAO) can help district interact with other state agencies. Noted reference in June 2014 minutes to Know Your Lake newspaper ad.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NORRIS: Coordinating with state agencies can be daunting, so it's good we have Ava here to help.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Green adjourned the meeting at 9:49 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be October 2, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.

| Respectfully submitted,
Rick Mark