



**MINUTES**  
**DEVILS LAKE WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Lincoln City Council Chambers**  
**JULY 14, 2016 -- 6:00 pm**

**Kent Norris, Chair** called the Devils Lake Water Improvement District Regular meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

**I. Roll Call**

**Directors Present:** Kent Norris, Tina French, Bill Sexton, Brian Green, David Skirvin  
**Interim Lake Manager:** Tom Wood

**II. Election of Officers**

- a. **Chair** – Tina French nominated Kent Norris for Chair. Bill Sexton seconded the nomination of Kent Norris. Nomination of Kent Norris for Chair for another year was passed unanimously. **Kent Norris accepted the nomination of Chair for the next year.**
- b. **Vice Chair** – David Skirvin nominated Bill Sexton. Bill Sexton did not accept the nomination. Kent Norris nominated Tina French for Vice Chair. Bill Sexton seconded the nomination of Tina French for Vice Chair. Nomination of Tina French for Vice Chair for another year was passed unanimously. **Tina French accepted the nomination of Vice Chair for the next year.**
- c. **Treasurer** – Kent Norris nominated Bill Sexton for Treasurer. Tina French seconded the nomination of Bill Sexton for Treasurer. Nomination of Bill Sexton for Treasurer for another year was passed unanimously. **Bill Sexton accepted the nomination of Treasurer for the next year.**

**III. Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The Board members were given a copy of the June 9, 2016 minutes as they were not available on the web page due to computer issues.

Tina French, “Moved to approve the June 9, 2016 minutes as presented.” Kent Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed. Brian Green and David Skirvin abstained.

- b. Financial Report

No financial report was available for this meeting. Kent Norris said that all bills have been paid and the books have been balanced and he is hoping to have a yearend report at the next meeting.

**IV. Comments from Citizens Present on Agenda/Non-Agenda Items:**

Mitchell Moore he is a member of sewer and septic committees. There has been talk on merging or working together the two committees and he is making a case for keeping the separation of both committees. The Sewer doesn't have a time line and knows that some homes will still be on septic in the water shed Septic will still be on septic. A window of time to hook up. Ability to educate people on the septic systems with a window of time for owners to hook up. There needs to be education on

septic systems and a State program from DEQ will be implemented that all septic systems as part of a sale must be inspected. There is work to be done in both areas.

Steve Brown reported on the Special Project Committee and the first Solves cleanup that hit the ground running and did clean up on Devils Lake on July 4<sup>th</sup>. There were 20 Volunteers and they collected 200 pounds of debris. He appreciated all of the volunteers.

## V. Unfinished Business

### a. The Devils Lake Plan:

**Tom Wood** reported that staff met on July 5, 2016 with the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council to discuss water quality issues in tributary creeks to Devils Lake specifically Thompson Creek. It was a good discussion. Josh, the executive director would like to do some projects with it and has in mind creating some artificial wetlands on properties owned and cannot be developed because of their status. There is a real interest to take a look at all forms of water quality especially Thompson Creek.

**Tina French** has a real concern about the e-coli continuing coming out of Thompson Creek and should be a high concern for Salmon Drift Creek because that is there body of water.

**Tom Wood** said it is under their advisory control as they are not property owners. They are doing monitoring with land owners and haven't gone to the upper reaches. Work continues on sampling and monitoring.

### b. Septic/Sewer

**Brian Green**, gave a summary of the Sewer Committee that they have met with city officials to know how to go about communication and outreach primarily to the folks on the east side. There are a lot of question for this big, complex project and the starting point is that the City has to drive this. There is a Special meeting for the Committee on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> 10 am and attending will be the City Manager, City Engineer, and Public Works, Stephanie Reed in the conference room of the City Manager's office.

**Tom Wood** reported that Sen. Roblan along with DEQ staff on June 27, 2016 presented a Town Hall meeting in Newport to discuss the potential benefits of Senate Bill 1563 relating to grant funds unfortunatly totaling \$250,000 received by DEQ. Ultimately, a lender will be identified to grant loans to coastal property owners to fund septic sewer repairs, replacements, or sewer hookups. DEQ staff said the funds are earmarked for the counties of Coos, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln, Tillamook, Polk, and Marion. Very little specific information was presented and is currently available but he has requested DLWID be put on the funding project mailing list to receive all updates for this opportunity and was ensured that more and detailed information will be presented by DEQ.

**Tina French** asked if this money would be available to the DLWID to repair several properties? Tom Wood said this will be entitled to Property owners.

**Brian Green** asked if this would be available for sewer hookup. Tom Wood said there was more of a political meeting or town hall meeting with very little information given.

**Tina French** reported on the Septic Committee and talked about combining the septic and sewer committee to work in conjunction and meeting two goals. Not too many interested in having their septic inspected at this time when they have a sewer bill around the corner.

**Brian Green** said it is sending a mixed message or conflicting message by trying to be both at the same time of promoting a sewer and inspection program which requires repairs. Inspection shows a failed system and the owner can be required to by DEQ to make corrections and then asked for

sewer connection a few years later don't need to be promoting a sewer inspection program. He has concerns.

**Tina French** said some of this is out of their control with the DEQ laws if a home is sold. With the Septic Smart program inspections are needed. Whether it is voluntary or educational program we want to help educate and involve the community.

**Kent Norris** said it will only affect the people around the lake and how it affects the watershed. We should be promoting the proper maintenance of septic systems throughout the water shed. The sewer systems will affect those around the east side lake area and not those above.

**Brian Green** said there was talk about a mandatory septic inspection program and the City was moving to draft an ordinance to do this. It became apparent to Dave Hawker and the City that sewerage the east side of the lake to have either a septic inspection or sewer inspection program. A sewerage program may be more beneficial to the lake. Brian suggests to pursue the sewer and if it fails then turn to a septic inspection program due to the length of time property owners can hook up to hook up sooner.

**David Skirvin** said this is a time line issue. As long as the timing coincides then doing an inspection program people have an option to hook up. Don't want to force people into inspecting if there is sewerage coming behind it. If decided to combine the committees then they would have to be rewritten.

**Kent Norris** said that the sewer system that is going into place will affect a small house hold compared to the water shed.

**Brian Green** said doesn't see any way to avoid mudding the waters if both are promoted at the same time and creating a situation if the end result of a septic inspection is to repair or replace and we are putting people in a position to have to do that and then turn around to require sewerage.

**Tina French** said for every septic system that is repaired on the lake there has been talk about septic inspections and none have been done. Seems if you repair one septic system on the lake you have done one and less stuff flowing into the lake if in fact it is.

**Brian Green** the City is ready to move forward for sewerage and is a lot closer to happening. It is a time line issue.

c. Save our Shoreline and Water Quality

**Kent Norris** reported that basically has taken over water quality testing and posting the results on a weekly basis. Mariellen Rich and Kathy Kremer test for e-coli and run test in the lab and they get the result and post those results. Haven't experience an algae bloom and had intern, Elizabeth show how to test for harmful algae blooms. In the past this was not tested. The test found zero harmful algae bloom results. Today gathered samples and will stay up on the testing. Two people are doing all the testing and are in the middle of a 16 week testing time and could use more volunteers to help out. Elizabeth has taken two days out of her time and would like to have the board move to present her with a small honorarium for her time given. Tina French said she was in favor of that. Kent Norris suggested around \$200. Brian Green suggested adding \$50 for gas.

**Brian Green**, "Motioned to pay Elizabeth Daniel an honorarium of \$250 for her fine work in educating the volunteers on the lab testing procedures." Tina French a seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Kent Norris** asked that if anyone is interested in helping please contact himself or Tom.

d. Vegetation Management: No Update

- e. Safety Report: No Update
- f. Communications Plan Report

Miles Schlesinger, Chairman of the Events and Communication Committee reported that at their meeting they talked about a revival meeting later in the year. Working on their 2016 and 2017 programs concentrating on; Devils Lake Dash, Devils Lake Revival, Christmas Boat Parade, Boat Safety Event, Dragon Boat Races, and a Solar Eclipse Program. He has done work with the Visitors and Events Bureau as they are an asset to help with economic improvement for the City and working with the restaurants. He is suggesting a Fishing Derby as a two-day event with three prizes of \$10,000, \$5,000 and \$2,500 if the fish with a tag for each prize is caught. There would be an entry fee charged for those that would want to try to catch the prize. This would happen about two weeks after the kids fishing derby when the lake is full of fish. Miles handed out copies of the Events and Communication Committee budget for this event. This would use the lake a lot more and the city will benefit by it.

**David Skirvin** asked that the board consider this fishing event over the next month. Miles suggested asking BiMart to promote the event plus Cabela's to sponsor it.

- g. MidCoast TMDL No Update
- h. Devils Lake Dredging Project

**Tom Wood** reported that Staff meet with ODFW on June 23, 2016 to discuss permit issues and impacts to fish species. ODFW listed three issues for staff consideration and action: Determine presence of Pacific Lamprey rearing or emerging in the work zone (terminal lake end/lake outlet into D River); If large woody debris is moved, re-install it within the lake waters shoreline; ODFW will extend the in-water work period from October 1 to February 1, to September 15 or moving forward to February 1<sup>st</sup>. This allows work on the lake at its lowest possible point.

Tom said he approached them with the possibility of changing dredging mythology from mechanical dredging or track hoe to suction dredging. They feel that is a more effective way of doing business however there is a concern about the Lamprey presence.

Tom shared that staff met on July 6, 2016 with the Fish and Wildlife Program Manager of the Siletz Tribe to discuss all issues relating to Pacific Lamprey presence within the work zone and to request tribal assistance in identifying the Pacific Lamprey and moving them east within the lake waters. Permit progress is continuing and will include a new analysis based on the conversation with Siletz Tribe biologist. The door is open to talk more. Tom said help would be student interns and volunteers and would take 2 days and the Tribe would donate their time toward this project of moving the Lamprey.

Tom said that staff spoke with the project excavator on June 28, 2016 to discuss sediment removal methods.

- i. Devils Lake Aeration Project

**Tom Wood** reported Alex Horne Associates, in partnership with HBH Engineering Consultants is progressing on Phase 2 of the project design. Staff participated in a meeting with the design team on June 27, 2016 to review progress to date and upcoming work products/requirements for the next 3-4 months. HBH will complete preliminary drawings indicating the layout of compressors, diffusers, and air piping arrays. These will be presented in plan and section view but not much more than that. These will be preliminary drawings and Staff will use those documents to meet with both the US Army Corps of Engineers and Newport ODFW staff to discuss the potential impacts to Devils lake threatened species. The permit for this project will begin after the receipt of the above preliminary drawings and a detailed discussion of design alternatives.

**Brian Green** asked if the data logger have been installed.

**Tom Wood** said that he needs to read the instructions etc. and they are close to being ready to install. Showing that the lake is shallower than Dr. Horne has said. Need to analyze oxygen and temperature. Depth is not as deep as prior records show which is in the middle of the lake. They should be installed by next week.

j. Lake Manager Search

**Kent Norris** said that they meet with John Stein and how moving forward and outlined general time lines. Placed ads in the local papers, Craig's list, and more and set up time line starting July 11 Closing Aug 8. Screening Candidates on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August plus assessment of each candidate. Community meet and greet will happen at this same time. Work date would be October 1<sup>st</sup>. If you see any issues with these date let Tom know as these are not firm.

**Tom Wood** said that Aug 26 and 27, 2016 is an afternoon and evening meeting and come back on the 27<sup>th</sup> for an additional offer. Tina French said she is not available the weekend of the 26,27<sup>th</sup> and is available 22 – 25<sup>th</sup>.

**VI. New Business**

**David Skirvin** asked to start up again the insight on what is going on and sent to all the members. A summary once a week would be good from the Interim Manager.

**VII. Non-Agenda Item**

**Kent Norris** shared they accomplished his shore line project this past week. Started on the 6<sup>th</sup> and it took only a day and a half. Volunteers showed up about 16 and 18 another day. It looks different and it is a nice job planting plants in water and on shore line Project went well. All the plants planted in the water are staying where they were put. Monitoring severability of the plants in the water and shoreline. Will be monitoring over the next 5 years. Taking pictures and sending report to Army Corp of Engineers. Kent Thanked everyone that volunteered. He has 200 ft. of shore line.

**VIII. Additional Comments from Citizens Present on Non-Agenda Items**

Larry Brown commented in regard to dealing with state agencies and dredging the D River and let state know that two storms will bring all the sand back and other debris.

**Tina French** said the agency has been told and know the debris will be moved.

Larry Brown said with regard to aeration they have depth finders in boats and know what that is.

**IX. Board Comments & Announcement**

**X. Adjournment**

**Kent Norris** adjourned the Regular DLWID meeting at 7:37 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joann Glass