



**MINUTES**  
**DEVILS LAKE WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Lincoln City Council Chambers**  
**April 13, 2017**

**Kent Norris**, Chair, called the Devils Lake Water Improvement District Regular Business Meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

**I. Roll Call**

**Present:** Kent Norris, Tina French, Bill Sexton, Brian Green, David Skirvin

**Lake Manager:** Josh Brainerd

**II. Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes of Previous Meetings
- b. Financial Report

**Kent Norris** motioned, "To accept the Consent Agenda as presented."

**Tina French** seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

This is an opportunity for members of the audience to bring to the District's attention any item not listed on the agenda for public hearing.

Chester Noreikis thanked those responsible for the workshop on Saturday it was very educational and encouraging. He thanked Mr. Norris and Mr. Sexton for their commitment to the improvement and quality of the Lake.

**IV. Unfinished Business**

**a. Committee Briefings:**

**i. Sewer and Septic Inspection Committee - Brian Green**

**Brian Green** reported the Board approved the present form of letter with specific dates of forum and specifics of the time and dates. Working on the overview with a first draft and the goal is to develop a final draft then present it to the Board to review at the next meeting for approval. The Committee will be meeting tomorrow at 4:30 at the College.

**ii. Special Projects/Events and Communication – Bill Sexton/David Skirvin**

**Bill Sexton** reported the Committee established to coordinate and initiated a road clean-up around the lake and the first garbage pick-up will be May 16 at 9 am to Noon. They will meet at the Baptist Church parking lot for the plan of action. They also had an update on the fireworks on the lake and setting up a meeting on water safety on the lake and safely dis-ban. There was an update on the Regatta grounds and permits and they will pursue involvement with the City to know what is going on with that process. Thompson Creek is in his control and determination on the water monitoring device. The next meeting will be June 8, at the Community College to review fireworks and pick up around the lake and safety. They will be publishing their meeting and times for anyone that may want to participate.

**Kent Norris** said there is almost ten miles of roadway around the lake and there are volunteers wanting to help. Josh Brainerd will contact the volunteer coordinator.

**iii. Save our Shoreline & Water Monitoring – Kent Norris**

Mariellen Rich reported the workshop was very successful and started around 10 am and planting with John Strayer and Kent Norris was discussed first and then the second half was with John Tucci talking about the aeration pro. They handed out the garden smart work books and these books will also be on the web site.

**b. Projects:**

**i. Devils Lake Sediment Removal Project**

**Josh Brainerd** reported they are continuing to collect data from the Airstream Pilot Project and still deciding whether they can use this technique by the dam and are on hold until they decide how the unit performs.

**ii. Student Intern Coordination Progress**

Josh has heard from OSU and they need a bit more commitment to provide an internship. As an alternative Matt Fisher from, OCCC, said that this would be a great fit for their biology students. Josh reported he has drafted and submitted a \$3000 grant fund proposal as a reimbursement for these intern students. OSU would like a better commitment with more control over the project itself for individual graduate projects.

**iii. Airstream Pilot Program**

**Josh Brainerd** reported the airstream project is going well and thanks to **Bill Sexton** for his help in setting up the initial test site near Blue Heron Landing. Currently monitoring the waters and has seen a bit of improvement.

**Bill Sexton** reported the unit is working a little bit every day and in four days has improved the clarity of the water. Can see fish eating the organism around the unit. Bill explained how the equipment works and how the prop puts oxygen in the water. The machine impacts about 978 thousand gallons an hour and is getting the water to a healthy condition. He will try to put pictures on web site.

**Josh Brainerd** said he would like to procure a drone to use to make flyovers over the lake to show the changes of the lake.

**iv. Web site update**

**Josh Brainerd** reported that the viewer numbers keep going up and the hits are up from 5000 to 9000.

**V. New Business**

**a. Lake Contractor Contract Discussion**

**Josh Brainerd** reported that he spoke with Special District about procedures required for needing help for various projects around the Lake and they said he will need to publicize the position for bid as a general contractor.

**Kent Norris** shared that **Bill Sexton**, before he became a member of the Board, was the Lake Contractor and since on the Board has been volunteering and has done a lot of work. They need someone that can be available for those specializing things that are needed.

**Tina French** asked if the contract to include the airstream task and description of the job.

**Kent Norris** motioned, "For Josh Brainerd to seek a new Lake Contractor according to the old contract they have and have someone that will be paid and not relying on a volunteer."

**Tina French** seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** **David Skirvin** suggested to include in the contract the work done with the airstream project which will be a regular activity. All Board members agreed to add the wording to the contract of extra work related to the airstream project.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. Non-agenda Items**

**Josh Brainerd** reported that there was a lot of conversation at the SOS workshop and from some of those discussions John Tucci has offered to get an aeration system design and cost estimate for comparison with Dr. Hornes and HBH report. John Tucci cost report would be approximately \$120,000 which would be financially without grant funding compared to Dr. Hornes and HBH cost estimate of \$300,000. Josh gave an overview of the information that he gave to the Board with their packet. The main difference is the cost for the central aeration system. This was what Dr. Horne decided was the most important. John's system has less diffusers compared to Dr. Hornes proposal.

**David Skirvin** questioned the number of diffusers between the two designs. They have an engineered design with Dr. Horne and Fish and Wild Life may not look at these as being good. One is an engineered design and the other is not.

**Bill Sexton** said the \$300,000 is engineering only and there is no system with this and whether it works or doesn't.

There was a discussion among the Board members on the pros and cons of the two options and the need to look at the two designs with balance.

**Brian Green** suggested to put a stop on the Horne design. Brian suggested sending John Tucci's design to Dr. Horne to get his review on the project.

**David Skirvin** said Dr. Horne could compare the two options. Let the two bounce it back and forth. Get the best system for the least dollar.

**Tina French** likes the fact they have a contrast and compare now. She wants to be fiscally responsible and what is the cost savings of the specific type of diffusers that Dr. Horne wants to use. The Board should be able to see a design and build for the system which will educate them as a Board.

**Kent Norris** said he has concerns and wants to make sure the Board knows what is taking place. It doesn't hurt to take a look at the two designs as this is a lengthy process. They will need to have the same permits no matter who they use.

**David Skirvin** asked if John Tucci has reviewed the design by Dr. Horne to compare. There is a preliminary design that John Tucci could look at and get his input and look at the differences of the two to get the job done.

**Bill Sexton** said the engineering firm currently doesn't have real documentation and John Tucci has documentation that shows it does work. Need to get HBH to show proof of what their systems have done. He wants to see systems that work and are working.

Recommendations from the discussion: Stop engineering, have John Tucci review Dr. Hornes and HBH proposal, Dr. Horne review John Tucci proposal, and look at performance.

**Kent Norris** asked Tom Wood, DLWID Project Manager for the Lake Manager, has reviewed the two proposal. Tom Wood explained that Dr. Horne has completed his work which is design development with HBH and they are in design development at this time. Tom explained the two design differences to the Board. He likes the idea of bringing on another set of eyes to this project. Having two systems available for review is a good place to be. Through the Phase I reporting by Dr. Horne a lot has been learned.

**Bill Sexton** asked about the diffuser types that some are patented and Tom's opinion on material used.

**Tom Wood** said that the steel is perforated – flexible. Ceramic is ridged and hard. John Tucci version is less expensive than the Richard Steel method and is more expensive. Two different systems doing the same thing doesn't know if one is better than the other. He has a question on the runs of the diffusers. There is also the compressor cost to consider.

**Tina French** asked about the report they received from the Cherry Creek Reservoir. Is it possible to get reports from John Tucci.

**Brian Green** said that there are reports on the internet that can be looked at and the reviews of what John Tucci has done and he does have experience on recreational lakes.

**The DLWID Board** made a directive for Josh Brainerd to stop further work on what Dr. Horne is doing.

**Kent Norris** said he appreciates all the work that Josh Brainerd and Tom Wood are doing and appreciates they want to do the job right.

**Bill Sexton** asked the Board approval to install the stanchions as this is April.

**Kent Norris** said when it gets down to 9.3 put it in.

All Board members agreed to Bill putting in the stanchions.

**David Skirvin** asked for approval for funding for life jackets.

**Kent Norris** said they will need them for the fishing derby April 22<sup>nd</sup>. They will also look in the storage shed.

#### **VII. Additional Comments from Citizens Present on Non-Agenda Items:**

Miles Schlesinger said he is on the City Planning Commission and is speaking for himself and would appreciate it if a good group could come to the Community Days Banquet April 29<sup>th</sup>. He would like to encourage everyone to come. The Chinook Winds Casino serves the banquet. This would generate publicity for the DLWID Board and Devils Lake especially for the Regatta Park and the use of it.

#### **VIII. Board Comments and Announcements**

**Tina French** said she appreciates Josh Brainerd and the work he is doing and keeping the Board updated and also Thanks Bill Sexton.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

**Kent Norris** adjourned the Devils Lake Water Improvement District Regular Business meeting at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Joann Glass