



Minutes

Devils Lake Water Improvement District Regular Board Meeting Online Presentation ORS Chapter 192 October 13, 2022

Call to Order

Tina French, Chair called the Devils Lake Water Improvement District Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

DLWID Directors Present: Tina French, Mitch Moore, Keith Fowler, Susan Elworth

Excused Absent: Robb Ellis

Lake Manager, Executive Director: Joshua Brainerd

Approval of Consent Agenda and September Meeting Minutes

Mitch Moore motioned, "To approve the Consent Agenda and the September minutes as presented."

Keith Fowler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Monthly Financial Report

Tina French motioned, "To approve the monthly Financial Report as presented."

Mitch Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Joe Manning asked that two years of minutes be placed on the web site.

Eric Johnson, Public Information Officer, reported he is in the process of having this available.

There was discussion on how well the harvester is working and a thank you to Bill Sexton for taking on the project and concentrating on where it is most needed at this time.

District Projects ad Operations

Communications Report

1. A press release regarding the progress of vegetation management efforts in Devils Lake has been drafted and released to the media. The focus of the press release is the grass carp re-stocking efforts. It was picked up by the Newsguard and can be viewed here: <https://www.thenewsguard.com/news/trending-devils-lake-health-grass-carp-to-help-managementwaterway/article 37b7dc64-3065-11ed-a11ed-a7f6-ff55c1815bfe.html>
2. DLWID staff was interviewed by the Statesman Journal last week regarding our SAV management efforts. The article should be published sometime within the next 2 weeks.
3. DLWID staff has completed a draft info flyer for our ballot measure to be voted on in the upcoming Lincoln County elections on Nov. 8, 2022. The flyer is scheduled to be mailed out approximately one week before the elections.

Devils Lake Conservation/Aeration Project

All equipment is fully operational and maintained per schedule. A compressor service and diffuser inspection are due this fall.

Devils Lake Aquatic Vegetation Management

1. The new Aquarius Systems Harvester has been leased and transported to Devils Lake. It has begun working in the lake and initial results are very encouraging. The removal of the vegetation is far more efficient with substantially less debris ejected into the water. We have leased the equipment for 4 years Currently Bill Sexton of B.X. Sexton Construction has agreed to operate the equipment for an hourly rate. The district is currently working on additional options for disposing off the extremely large volume of harvested plant material.
2. District staff continue to work with the ODFW to complete the necessary information required for the OAR revisions and grass carp stocking permit. The district is scheduled to present the grass carp application to ODFW at the January Commission meeting. A draft SAV management plan and grass carp permit have been completed and are being finalized this month prior to submitting to ODFW for comment. The plan includes a great deal of historical information as well as several updated maps and figures to support our application. NOAA, ODFW, and DLWID are currently in discussion regarding satisfaction of Section 7 of the Endangered Species AT (ESA) and Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Emergency Consultation.
3. District staff continue to evaluate alternative methods and equipment to aid in the control of the nuisance invasive SAV growth in the lake.

Devils Lake Flood Protection

The permit is almost complete. We are awaiting signatures from the 4 involved property owners prior to submittal of the Joint Permit Application (JPA).

Actions Items

Obtain signatures from property owners. This is in the process of completing.

Water Quality Briefing

1. Due to unusually high levels of visible algae the lake for this time of the year, additional HABs monitoring continues. Results from samples collected by DLWID staff were received from the Oregon Health Authority last month and did NOT indicate any detectable toxic algae constituents.
2. Depressed oxygen levels continue to be observed at the southernmost sample point. The level was approximately 5 mg/l. Healthy dissolved oxygen levels for fish and wildlife range from 3-5 mg/L. The level has decreased significantly from 1mg/l since its last measurement approximately 30 days ago.
3. Testing in the lake itself continues to show record low detections of Ecoli. The E.coli sampling season for 2022 has concluded with no detections above any action threshold. This is good news.

New Business

Mitch Moore motioned, "To approve the Devils Lake Strategic Plan update."

Susan Elworth seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OWRD Funding for Blue Heron Landing – There will be a preliminary work out presented, at no cost, after a walk through on the project.

DEQ Regional Solutions Team -- The D River project will need help.

Upcoming Board Positions and Officers – Applications are being accepted for a DLWID Director as Robb Ellis will be leaving in the next 30 - 60 days.

Legal -- **Josh Brainerd** and **Susan Elworth** will be the representative contacts for the two Attorneys that will be working on the rule language with ODFW.

Meeting Location -- The Community College is being pursued if the time of the DLWID meeting is changed to possibility 4 p.m. while staff and security are available.

Action Items

None at this time

Non-Agenda Items

Josh Brainerd will contact ODFW on how many fish to get and give the information to John Spangler.

Adjournment

Tina French adjourned the Devils Lake Water Improvement District Regular Business Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Reorder
Joann Glass