



Devils Lake Water Improvement District
Regular Board Meeting
Taft Conference Hall
1206 SE 48th Place, Lincoln City, OR
and via zoom

March 14, 2024

MINUTES

Called to Order at 6:01 pm by Vice-Chair Mitch Moore

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Dayton Mays, Susan Elworth (in person) and Mitch Moore (virtually)

Board Members Absent: Tina French, Keith Fowler

DLWID Staff Present: Boone Marker

Approval of March Consent Agenda and February 8, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Discussion: Susan asked Boone if he had talked to Jimmy about his bill. Boone said he has not had a chance and would do that

MOTION: Moved by Susan Elworth, seconded by Dayton Mays, to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2024 regular board meeting as presented. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

Discussion: Boone said he has made no significant purchases.

MOTION: Moved by Dayton Mays, seconded by Mitch Moore, to approve the monthly financial reports as presented. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Ron Holland, who lives on SE 2nd Court, said he is curious to know what is happening with the lake/river and who is planning to do dredging. Dayton said the earliest would be summer of 2025. Mr. Holland said that he has been fighting for at least 3 years to get something done. Mr. Holland said that now there are environmental problems, birds, water fowl, deer have disappeared. Susan said that there is an extensive permitting process to dredging and DLWID doesn't have funding to do the dredging. She went on to say that at this point City is doing work under the river and DLWID may be able to work with the City to get work done. She went on to say that the process should be easier. Boone said a plan was not approved a few years ago, and he is communicating now with K&E to work with them. When houses are flooding and cats are dying, things need to be done. Mitch said that he shares the frustration and the board has been at this for three years and it shouldn't take this long. There is encouraging news now, but it still will take a long time. He said he appreciates the comments.

Jay Roelof said that they live behind a common space in Indian Shores, and their neighbor has a dock that goes up and down with the level of the lake. On the DLWID website, he found the measurements of the lake and it shows little difference in February. Boone said the measurement is taken at the impoundment structure near the bridge. He also said that at the marina, there is a lot of fluctuation. Mr. Roelof asked that a better measurement procedure be found to determine the lake water level. Someone suggested the State Park dock. Discussion took place about the effect of vegetation on depth sounder readings. Mitch said this is something that could be worked on and suggested it be put on a list.

Someone asked if DLWID is connected to the canal side, and talked about trees being removed, but it hasn't stopped the flooding. They also asked about more gravel on their roadway, and concerns about fire department access. He was told to contact the City public works department about the gravel. Mr. Holland talked about his seawall. Susan recommended that they reach out to the public works department.

STAFF REPORT

District Projects & Operations

Devil Lake Aquatic Vegetation Management

- Initial survey complete. Will have a finalized report in a few weeks.
 - Approx. 70% of the lake is without vegetation.
 - Apparent lack of vegetation at bottom isn't fully representative of conditions that will occur during summer.
 - The 2nd survey will take place in August 2024.

Discussion: Boone reported that the survey last month showed not much vegetation. At this time of year the weeds are not growing, so this is a waiting game. He will continue to use the aqua harvester, and resurvey in August (same time of year as the initial survey in 2022).

Blue Heron Landing/Marina

- Blue Heron Project – next meeting in March
- Multiple inquiries about boat slip rentals in February. Looking into early bird specials and pre-registration for summer.

Discussion: Boone said he is still looking for people to serve on the Blue Heron Project committee, and has big plans in the next few years. He recently put out on Facebook and on the District's website to register for a slip at the marina now for a discount. He is hopeful that the marina will be full this summer.

Devils Lake Flood Protection & Dredging Project

- Met with K&E Excavation on Mar. 4 regarding City project in 2025. Looking to partner with K&E for dredging project.

Discussion: Discussion took place about the methods that need to be followed to pick a contractor to do the work.

Communications Report

- Lake level data is now available on DLWID website. Will post monthly reports for temp, level, and rainfall.
- Attended Chamber meeting with flyers about joining newsletter. Have had a positive response thus far.
- Bill Sexton providing quote on fixing the display board structure at Regatta Park.
- Still working on new "recreation" info for website.
- ODFW adds 3,500 Trout in Devils Lake March 11.

Discussion: Boone said that he will work on a new method of determining lake water level. He has been pushing for people to sign up for the newsletter. Boone reported that the structure at Regatta Park with lake information needs to be repaired and updated. He has created a new page on the website about birding and fish in the lake and emphasizing recreation on the lake. He is making most of the website updates now.

3500 trout were brought to the lake this week, and two more plants are scheduled this spring.

Events

- Free fishing weekend – June 1
 - Partnering with Lincoln County Sheriff's Dept. to host boat inspection and lake information day. Additional partners may include LCP&R, OSMB, ODFW.

Discussion: Boone reported that he is working on promoting the free fish weekend with other agencies.

Grants/Fundraising

- STCCF – Due Mar. 1 – Funds for harvester submitted on 2/28 for \$10K.

Discussion: \$10,000 was awarded last year to help fund the harvesting, and his grant this year is asking for the same amount.

Budget Committee

- Begin working on 2024-25 budget and narrative. Will set committee meeting starting in March.
 - Proposed dates:
 - Feb. 28 – Prepare Budget
 - Mar. 25 – Publish 1st Public Meeting Notice
 - Mar. 25 – Proposed Budget available
 - May 9 – Budget Committee Meeting & Approval
 - May 9 – Publish Budget Summary & Hearing Notice
 - June 13 – Adopt Budget and Resolutions
- Attending budget training March 12 – Dept. of Rev.

Discussion: May 9th will be the budget committee meeting, prior to the board meeting, with the same budget committee as last year. Boone reported that his trainings have been good so far, more are available, all online.

Public Comment

Jay Roelof talked about information from Randy Weldon and discussion about natural flushing of the lake. Mitch said that he thinks King Tides will erase any dredging work, and the sand dune came from the beach, not the lake. Mitch said that the lake will go up and down, usually the highest lake level is about 24 hours after a big rain event.

Susan asked for Boone to check on the contract for the harvester before next month, to make sure another vote is not needed, and to look at the minutes from May 2023 at the motion to approve the contract with NLSS, and check if there is an ending date. Motion was only for 2023 – Dayton suggested out to bid again – discussion about how to ask for bids for this summer's work. Boone will look at proposals submitted to determine if new proposals are needed, or if the Board can just extend the contract.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Submitted by Susan Wahlke