

Shamineau High Water Committee Meeting

January 7, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Caribou Coffee St. Cloud

Present: Jeremy Walgrave, Tim Swanson, Nancy Hanson, Dale Williams, Jen Buckentine, Sandy Williams, Al Doree, Chuck Ross, Dave Graning, Don Ogilvie, Bob Koll

Meeting Notes

Jeremy and Bob reviewed the historical lake level data and some historical photos, illustrating difference in water level and development over time.

The group discussed damages caused by the rising water levels: shoreline ice jacking/erosion, cabin/home flooding, cracked foundations and walls, landscape damage, habitat and tree loss, and compromised/failed septic systems.

Jeremy listed options: do nothing, stabilize/protect shoreline, re-route inflows, build/reconstruct outlet, build pumping station, irrigation, home buy-outs.

Jeremy recommends: find clogged and buried culverts, and drainage pattern blockages along the southeast to west area of the lake (south side of CO. 203 Bugle Rd. to Hwy. 10); research road construction and grading records in this area over the last 50+ years; physically walk this area; take aerial high resolution photos of the area where the watershed is flowing into the lake where it historically drained toward Fish Trap Creek and the Long Prairie River.

Jeremy also recommends walking and, taking aerial high resolution photos of the south end of CO 202 (Aztec Rd.) in the area of the former Tesch's Resort, currently Deryl and Nancy Ramey's property. There are several questions that need to be resolved. Are there water flow blockages of the wetland on the West side of Aztec Rd. preventing natural flow toward Hwy.10 and South? Are there blockages on the South side of CO 202 or Aztec Rd. blocking flow to the south? What was the elevation of the Aztec Rd. area back in 1920, before Hwy. 10 was built along the lake. In 1932 Hwy. 10 was straightened out and the old state highway became CO. 202. Was there a culvert in that road to allow lake water to flow to the wetland to the West when the road was initially built or did the road become a dam preventing the natural flow of the watershed?

The buffer study may show some of this area, currently. Terry Sandstrom mentioned that there is a buried culvert just south of the Friendly Inn which may be blocking some flow. Terry delivered the buffer study data and photos. We presented them to Jeremy for study and interpretation at the meeting. (Lots of material including over 270 some culverts)

Chuck Ross's brother has his drone license with the FAA. He can fly it in a 4-mile radius and take detailed high resolution photos. The environmental engineering firm we hire must have this type of equipment and include elevation readings.

In 1972 we had 17" of rain in 24hrs., creating flooding in much of our low land in this area and south toward Randall.

Dave Graning said many of the riparian property owners along the South shore of Shamineau were given money from the DNR to raise their cabins. We are thankful, but wonder why the money was given at that time and not available now? Ken Zeik, can you research that for us? Since that flood and for several years after, the water returned to lower levels each fall. The last 20 or so years the water level has been rising. Lake level has been 1-2 feet over the OHWL since 2011.

Next Steps: Jeremy will review the Buffer Study of Scandia Valley Township roads and culverts. He will write a technical memorandum summarizing our information, evaluations and recommendations. This will include potential options for mitigating high water levels and associated damages as well as potential permitting implications. He will also include significant points, reflecting our needs, for an

appropriate RFP. He recommends collecting any pictures of the lake from property owners dating back as far as possible. Fred, we know you have some that would be very helpful.

Jeremy thought he could get his work done in about 2 weeks or by the end of January.

Also, we need to get a survey out to our property owners listing their losses and prevention expenses due to high water, ice-jacking and wind/wave damage (rip rap, shore repair, aeration, etc.) to assist us in any grant applications. Jacquie, will you please send such a survey to our property owners and include a request for historic lake photos?

The LID Board will then need to agree to post a RFP. The committee proposes early February or March for the posting.

Thanks to all for your support!

Stay warm out there!

Bob Koll

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