Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District (LSLID)
Lake Shamineau Lake Owners Project Review Meeting

August 11, 2017

Attendees:

- LID Board: Bob Koll (Chair), Rick Rosar (Vice-Chair) Fred Comb (Treasurer), Cindy Kevern (Secretary), Dale Mashuga
- Jeff Langan and Ted Rud (Houston Engineering)
- Approximately 105+ Lake Shamineau Lake Owners in attendance

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Welcome/Intro

Chairman Bob Koll called the meeting to order at 2:45 PM.

I. Bob Koll welcomed the group to the meeting and talked about the high water problems on Shamineau. Bob also noted that we hired Houston Engineering to validate our concerns and develop possible solutions. He introduced Ted Rud and Jeff Langan to review the feasibility study and conceptual information.

II. Ted Rud reviewed the presentation agenda which included project purpose, project alternatives, the recommended alternative, and would end with comments and questions.

III. Ted reviewed the project purpose and need to significantly reduce future damages and costs. He also noted that property owners, through a survey, have reported $1,230 million in costs due to the high water.

IV. Ted reviewed three alternatives: 1) Do nothing, which would not provide any relief, 2) develop an outlet in the NE, and 3) develop an outlet in SW. In addition, they also reviewed opportunities to limit inflows to the lake. Houston recommends the SW outlet. For the outlet, Ted reviewed the need for pumping requirements due to topography, design discharge and filtration. He also noted that this outlet would flow to a natural drainage area near Co Rd 203. Ted reviewed the detailed information regarding the pumping, piping, boring and ditching. Ted reviewed a map that showed the flowage corridor through Lake Lena, under Highway 10, ditching on the West side of Highway 10, through Cass County Lake and onto Fish Trap Creek. He also showed a picture of an example lift station.

V. Ted reviewed the project hydrology including the amount of increased rainfall in recent years which has caused significant increase in groundwater. He also reviewed the current elevation of the lake which is 1276.0 in relation to the Ordinary High Water Level (OHW) which is 1274.1. He also reviewed scenarios for lowering the lake level, which would take approximately 7 months of pumping. Another scenario looked at was a high rainfall event (24 hour, 4.8 inches) would take 15 days of pumping to eliminate.

VI. Ted discussed the historical correlation of lake elevations between Crookneck and Shamineau. That is, the two lakes tend to rise and fall in a similar manner. On average, Crookneck is 1.1 feet above Shamineau. Ted stated that Houston believes that the reduction of water in Shamineau could have an effect on reducing water on Crookneck, due to ground water movement. He also reviewed the LIDAR maps for the hydrology. There were various questions regarding diverting water flowage south and east of the lakes.

VII. Ted reviewed the permitting process, right of way review, and the need to coordinate with other government units. Ted mentioned that if Zebra Mussels were ever found in the lake, the filters for the pump would need to be modified. Ted reported that they have in their preliminary review they have not found any environmental issues. The project would need to have permanent easements developed with an associated payment for the downstream property owners.

VIII. He reviewed the preliminary costs for the project with construction costing $900,000 to $1,100,000. Other projects costs would be about $400,000. In addition, there would also be ongoing operation and maintenance costs about $200/mo for the building and $5,000/mo when pumps are running. Houston is also suggesting that an escrow be developed of about $15,000 for unforeseen issues. The costs range from $2,700 per month with 6 months pumping to $1,450 per month for 3 months of pumping and $200 per month with no pumping.

IX. Ted discussed the target elevations of up to 18 inches below the OHW. The operations plan would take into consideration the needs of the downstream property owners and Crookneck Lake.

X. Ted reviewed the funding sources including LID Assessments, Flood Mitigation Funds (not available until after July 2018), and Clean Water Funds (not available until 2019).

XI. Ted reviewed the next steps in the process. August 26th would include a vote by the lake owners on moving forward with the project. If the project moves forward, the project would move toward the formal MS 429 process. There will be future opportunities for input through public hearings before any funds are expended.

XII. There were a number of questions and comments from the audience. Following are some of the questions and comments that were made:

- A question was raised about the Army Corp of Engineers. Jeff responded that they haven't discussed with the project to the Corp but would get them involved at a future stage of the project regarding the wetlands. Since other governmental units have been involved they don't believe this would be an issue with the Corp.
- Would legacy funding be applicable? Jeff mentioned that the legacy funding schedule would delay the project until 2019 or later. This type of project also does not generally apply; the grants are generally for clean water projects.
- Are there other lake projects? Jeff reported that his company has worked on several projects such as this since the mid-90's.
- What would be the start date for pumping? Houston reported that it could be as early as late summer or early fall 2018, but the timing would depend on permitting and other required processes.
- Have you done lakes this size? Jeff reported that they have completed projects of a similar size.
- The Long Prairie River has algae and this project could be used to improve the water quality.
- What are the considerations for Lake Lena? Houston reported that there would be a bounce with the initial pumping that would increase the level about 4 inches, but the level would be regulated.
- Assuming there is bonds, how would they be offered? Jeff reported that it would be similar to a city assessment process.

- Pumping would be a continuous expense so why not look at building a ditch and Stanchfield Lake? Houston responded that mitigating water through ditching would require work to drain the wetlands that may not be approved by the DNR or the Corp of Engineers. Jeff reported that he does not believe it's a feasible solution. Jeff did report that there is some work that could be done to inflows to push some of the water west and not north. The challenge will be working with the private property owners to resolve it. In addition, Jeff reported that this will assist, but not solve the high water problem.

- What is the date of the LIDAR map? Houston was not sure of the date, but it was later reported that it was created in the fall of 2011.

- Did Houston look at the small dam going into Shamineau? Houston did not believe that this would not move any more water to the West. They have had discussions with the DNR and they would manage the area as an aquatic management area and Houston wasn't sure who/how the Dam would be managed. This could be discussed through the permitting process. Bob Koll gave an overview of the history of the dam. Al Doree also mentioned that the dam was originally built by the DNR/Township, and he believes water no longer flows due to a beaver dam.

- What would be the size of the discharge pipe? Ted stated that a 30" pipe would be required at the pumping station. Where would ideal location of the pumping station be? Ted stated that currently the plan is to have it close to W Shamineau and Aztec since 3 phase power is available. Would the LID have the authority for placing mechanics over private property? Jeff responded that easements would have to be purchased.

- When was the OHW mark established and can it be changed? Jeff stated that the OHW does not change. We are now looking at lowering the lake level to 12 inches (rather than 18 inches) below the OHW which is 2 feet lower than the current level, since Crookneck Lake has concerns that their lake will also be impacted.

- There was discussion that if the lake was lowered to 18 inches below the OHW at the west end of the lake there may not have a need to aerate. Jeff stated that some compromise would need to be looked at, but the permit would be requested at 18 inches below the OHW.

- Will Houston look at assisting with the grants? Jeff responded that the documentation that has been developed will assist with the grant requests.

- Is a contingency plan needed if the water is lowered too much? Jeff reported that this project is trying to stabilize the maximum lake level elevation and it will be operated at the high level.

- How far from the lake is the pumping station? Jeff reported that they are looking on the Highway 10 side of Aztec road.

- How noisy is the pump house. The building will be insulated and the pump is pretty quiet. There should be no noise.

- There were a number of comments from one Lake resident regarding his concerns about the LID, other lakes, the cost of the assessments, and the amount spent on engineering.

- There was a question about condemnation by the County for running the corridor? Deb Lowe, County Auditor stated that this is a LID project and the LID does not have authority to condemn and the County will not generally get involved.

- Is the pump house south of the public access? Yes – near Ramey's

- I understand that the vote is 26th is only to move the project forward. Will the future public hearing be held with the members? Jeff clarified the process and stated that it will be with the entire membership.

- Will there be a proxy process available for those that cannot attend the meeting? The LID Board responded that they would look into it, but unless notified otherwise, the lake owners would need to be present at the meeting on August 26th to vote.

XIII. Bob noted that the notes will be posted on the website. The meeting was closed with a discussion about project next steps and schedule.

The meeting ended at 4:40 PM.

Respectively submitted by Cindy Kevern.