

# Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District (LSLID)

## Annual Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2019

*Present:* Bob Koll (Chair), Rick Rosar (Vice Chair), Fred Comb (Treasurer), Cindy Kevern (Secretary), Don Ogilvie  
LID members, Commissioner Mike LeMieur, County and other agency staff, WSN, and other audience members

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### Check-in

LID members checked-in to register for the meeting. All attendees received the following handouts: Agenda for the Annual Meeting, the Treasurers Report for the period ending July 31, 2019, the 2020 LID proposed budget, High Water Project Timeline and Costs, and Frequently Asked Questions. There were approximately 170 attendees at the meeting.

#### I. Welcome/Introductions

Chairman Bob Koll called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM. He introduced the LID board members; Morrison County Commissioner Mike LeMieur; Chelsey Robinson, County Auditor; Deb Gruber, County Administrator; Mark Anderson, DNR; Brian Ross and Paul Strong from WSN and Morrison County Deputy Matt Messerschmitt. Cindy Kevern reviewed the agenda and Code of Conduct.

Deb Gruber the County Administrator from Morrison County spoke to the audience about the recent actions taken by the County Board to deny the petition to terminate the LID and adopt the Revised Orders of Establishment of the LID. Deb clarified the role of the County Board which is to initially establish the LID and to approve the Orders of Establishment which establishes the rules that the LID follows. She also stated that the County Board heard concerns raised by LID members and they incorporated changes in the Establishment Order to address those concerns. She also noted that the revised orders would become effective on September 24, 2019.

- She was asked whether the vote was unanimous, and she answered yes.
- An audience member also asked about the petition and Deb clarified the petition process.
- She was also asked about the types of taxation and Deb explained that options include user charges, ad valorem, and benefit-based charges.
- A property owner asked how to change their address with the County, and he was told to call the Auditors office.

#### II. Minutes of 2018 Meeting

Bob Koll asked for a motion to approve the 2018 Annual Meeting minutes that have been posted on the website. Motion was made by Tom Heltemes to approve the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes, seconded by Louella Jagielski. There was no discussion and two opposed. So, approved.

#### III. Treasurer's Report

Fred Comb gave an overview of the Treasurer's Report providing information on the 2019 year-to-date revenue and expenses for the Lake Improvement District. Fred noted that the second half taxes and some bills have not yet been received for the year. There was a question about the 429 process and Fred explained that it was the statute governing the bonding and financing process. Another question was asked whether the Board could post quarterly treasurer reports on the website and it was noted that the LID Board would post them. It was also asked whether AIS expenses could be reduced and it was noted that the expenses would be explained in a later agenda item.

Motion was made by Mike Chronquist to approve the Treasurer's Report for 2019, seconded by Neal Schneider. There was no discussion and one opposed. So, approved.

#### IV. Recap of 2019: EWM, Signage, Brochure, Citizens Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP)

Rick Rosar reported on work completed in 2019 to reduce the amount of Milfoil in the lake which included both hand pulling and Chemical Treatments. Rick noted that the SW bay was treated with herbicide in 2018 and the NW bay was treated in 2019. Both areas were followed up in 2018 and 2019 with SCUBA divers hand pulling the remaining EWM out by the roots. The results have been successful with substantially less EWM being found and pulled by the divers. Rick also noted that a new herbicide was used in 2019 and it had a lower cost. In response to an inquiry, Rick stated that the herbicide is safe for swimmers and for eating fish. He also noted that the LSLID does not treat for Curly Leaf Pondweed.

Bob Koll also discussed the Morrison County Quad Lakes Grant which pays for Brochures, Aquatic Vegetation Survey, AIS treatment, Public Access Signage, and the new Ambassador program. Bob noted that we have three Ambassadors who are staffing each of the landings to greet and educate visitors to inform them of the locations of the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and requirements to drain clean and dry their boats and trailers before entering and exiting Lake Shamineau. Bob also noted that the County funded the annual sampling for Zebra Mussels and Spiny Water flea which found no infestation. This year volunteer samplers were: Don Ogilvie, Chuck Ross, Mick Farber and Bob Koll.

Cindy Kevern reported on improved Communications in 2019 including:

- Board of Directors Board meetings - meetings are announced on the website, held at a local location or through an online conference tool, are open to the public, and notes are posted on the website.
- Cindy noted that beginning in February monthly newsletters have been emailed and noted that currently there are 176 subscribers. Cindy also reminded attendees to sign up to subscribe at the back of the room.
- Cindy reported that four mailings were sent out to Property Owners over the past year.
- Cindy also reported that the LID website has been reorganized and noted that property owners can send email to [LSLIDBD@gmail.com](mailto:LSLIDBD@gmail.com) with questions, comments or to subscribe to the newsletter.

Cindy Kevern reported on how financial information is provided to property owners:

- Cindy noted that budget information is provided at each Annual Meeting for the following year for approval.
- The budget is also approved by Morrison County and the approved budget is posted on the LID website.
- A Financial Report is completed at the end of each calendar year which is provided to Morrison County and the report is posted on the LID website and noted that copies were available at the back of the room.
- Cindy also noted that monthly LID expenses are reviewed at Board Meetings and the amounts are included in meeting minutes which are posted on the LID website.
- Cindy reminded property owners that if they have inquiries regarding financial detail send an email to [LSLIDBD@gmail.com](mailto:LSLIDBD@gmail.com).

Cindy Kevern explained new processes for Director Nominations and voting. In response to a question, Cindy noted that MN statute requires that a majority of Directors must be permanent residents.

Cindy Kevern reported on 2018 High Water Project activities which included the following. (She also noted that much of this information is available on the website):

- RFP issued for Engineering Services January 2019
- WSN selected, agreement approved April 2019
- Gravel Pit Identified for Infiltration with Testing
- Preliminary Engineering Report Completed June 2019
- Agreement signed with DNR for \$65,000 Grant June 2019
- Project Team Formed for Input on Project
- Informational Meeting Held July 6, 2019
- Work Completed on Design and Route Alternatives in July
- Meetings with DNR, Soil/Water, BWSR, Corp of Engineers, Morrison County
- High-Water Outlet Project cost estimates developed by WSN
- She also noted that several activities are in-process: Modeling; Surveys; Operations Plan; Wetland Delineation; Environmental Assessment Worksheet; Permitting, Utilities, Right of Way and Easements

Cindy Kevern introduced Brian Ross, Project Manager from WSN to provide an overview of the High-Water Project. Brian gave an overview that included:

- Background to the project
- Hydrogeology of the NE area of the lake
- Sand models
- NE discharge options
- Review of another outlet project
- Review of project sizing, alternative route, intake screen design, pumping structure and piping
- Brian also reviewed the design of the infiltration basins, groundwater modeling, downstream properties and required permitting.
- Brian also noted the future steps required to complete the project.

A number of audience questions were asked about watershed flow, whether springs affected the lake, the transfer of invasive species, and pipe sizing.

## **V. 2020 Work Plan**

Rick Rosar reported that in 2020 control of the Aquatic Invasive Species will again include hand pulling, and chemical treatments. Rick also noted that they would be again applying for a Morrison County Grant to fund

brochures, the Aquatic Vegetation Survey, AIS treatment, the Ambassador program and public access signage. Rick also noted that the ambassador program will continue if funding continues through Morrison County grant and noted that LID members should urge the County to fund de-contamination stations.

Cindy Kevern reviewed the High-Water Project Timeline and Costs handout. She noted that if the project is approved today and with approval by the County Board for the budget and approval to move into the Finance and Bonding process, then a public meeting would be held prior to moving into the Finance process. Cindy also noted the design Tasks (vote 3) would need to be completed and specifications determined prior to issuing bids for construction. She noted that once the bids are received that Bonding would be issued. Once funding is in place, the project could move into construction. Once construction is complete, the final assessment amount would be determined (could be less than bonding and could account for DNR grant amounts) that are estimated to begin in 2021.

#### **VI. Proposed 2020 Budget**

Cindy Kevern reviewed the five budget items for voting and noted that the estimated charge amounts have been changed in the handout to account for changes in the revised Establishment Order. Cindy also noted that there will be several committees formed over this next year to help with some specific tasks such as working on bylaws, communications, inflows, etc. She asked members to use their index card to indicate a committee that they would like to volunteer to help out with. She also noted that the LID Board will be announcing needs for volunteers throughout the year.

There were several questions from the audience that included the following topics:

- Estimated charges for associations and how the amounts will be calculated for individual members.
- Estimated charges for the commercial properties.
- The bonding process.
- The estimated High-Water project amount of \$2,091,475 and how firm the amount is.
- The DNR Grant process and how likely it will be that grants are received.
- Interest Rates and payoff options for bonding.
- The plan for acquiring easements for the route.
- Operating plans
- The likelihood of acquiring needed permits.
- Whether there are any plans to utilize eminent domain. The directors and Commissioner LeMieur commented that there are no plans to utilize this process.

#### **VII. Candidate Forum**

Cindy Kevern announced that there would be a forum for each of the three candidates (or representative) to speak for up to 3 minutes. The following candidates spoke and no questions were taken:

- Ardis Sandstrom (Ardis was not present, so a prepared statement was read by Mark Murphy)
- Herb Bloomquist
- Bob Koll

#### **VIII. Open Forum for Comments/Questions**

Cindy Kevern announced that there would be an open forum and advised that any members that would like to make a comment or ask a question should step up to the microphone to speak as well as sign their name and address on the sheet provided. Speakers were also asked to state their name and address to the audience, to be concise and respectful, and to limit their comments to 2 minutes.

- One member noted that the water has been rising for several years and he is looking for a project that will be successful. He had questions about permitting, easements and operational plans.
- One member asked questions about the charges, operations and various questions about the project plans and oversight over the contractor.
- One member commented that one of the candidates stated that he could do the project for 30% of the costs but no specific plans have been provided.
- One member noted that the project route has changed, and that access and easements are still a concern. He also noted that he was concerned about the possible use of Eminent Domain and that Board meetings could be improved.

#### **IX. Voting**

It was announced to members to put their voting cards in the ballot box at this time.

The voting cards were collected, and together with mail-in voting cards were tallied by Deb Gruber and Chelsey Robinson. Pat Held, Fred Comb and Commissioner LeMieur also assisted.

**X. Other Business**

While the vote tally was in process, Cindy Kevern announced that the 2020 Annual Meeting will be scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 2020.

After the vote tally was complete, Cindy Kevern announced the following:

**Election of Directors:**

Ardis Sandstrom	155
Bob Koll	126
Herb Bloomquist	110
Write-In: Mike Wilhelmson	41
Write-In: Curt Sievert	1
Write-In: Chris Renko	1
Write-In: Mother Nature	1
Write-In: Tom Gold	1

It was announced that Ardis and Bob were elected to a two-year term.

**Budget Questions:**

#1 Non- Project Budget-\$22,515	YES - 196	NO - 29
#2 AIS Budget - \$26,528	YES - 208	NO - 17
#3 High Water Project - \$156,034	YES - 147	NO - 77
#4 Establish Project to Construct Outlet	YES - 141	NO - 83
#5 Finance Authority	YES - 143	NO - 80

It was announced that all five budget questions were approved.

**XI. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45.

Respectively submitted by Cindy Kevern.