

January 31, 2020

Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District Members,

As you know the have faced increasing problems with heavy rains in late fall and recent winter storms causing more flooding around the lake and increasing water levels. The Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District (LSLID) Board of Directors has continued to work on the High-Water Outlet project and other LID tasks and would like to provide an update on these activities.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Lake Improvement District was held on August 24, 2019 at the Lincoln Evangelical Free Church. The minutes from the Annual Meeting can be found on the LID Website. The following items were approved by the LID members at the Annual Meeting on August 24, 2019:

1. A Non-Project 2020 budget of \$22,515.
2. An AIS Project 2020 budget of \$26,528.
3. The Lake Shamineau High-Water Outlet Project 2020 budget for Pre-Construction and Operations at an amount of \$156,034.
4. The establishment of a project to construct a High-Water Outlet on Lake Shamineau at an estimated cost (as of August 2019) of \$2,091,475.
5. The authorization for the LSLID Board of Directors to seek delegation of authority from the Morrison County Board of Commissioners to exercise the powers of a city to finance a Lake Shamineau High-Water Outlet Project according to MN statutes chapters 429 and 444.
6. Ardis Sandstrom and Bob Koll were elected to the Board of Directors for two-year terms.

2020 LID Budget Approved

The LSLID Board of Directors attended the Morrison County Board meeting on September 24, 2019 to provide an update for the Lake Shamineau LID. The letter to Morrison County providing the update is available on the website. During the meeting the County Board voted to approve the 2020 budget items. In addition, the County Board approved a resolution delegating authority to the LID for construction and financing for the High-Water Outlet project.

Public Hearing Held

A Public Hearing was conducted on October 17, 2019 at the Lincoln Evangelical Free Church. The notes from the Public Hearing, and the presentation can be found on the LID Website. The agenda for the meeting included the following:

1. A review of the Engineer's Report and High-Water Improvements was presented by Brian Ross from WSN.
2. A review of the Statutory 429 Process was presented by John Person, Breen & Person.
3. A review of the estimated timeline and proposed costs of the High-Water Outlet project was presented by Brian Ross and Cindy Kevern.
4. There was a comment period for speakers to provide input.
5. The Public Hearing was adjourned.

At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, a brief LID Board Meeting was held and the LID Board of Directors voted to approve a resolution to move forward with the construction of improvements for the Lake Shamineau Outlet Control Structure and to let the contract for all or part of the work for said improvements.

High-Water Outlet Project Update

It has taken time to finalize agreements with property owners, but we are pleased to announce that we now have completed Letters of Intent (LOI) with all affected property owners along our current route, including at the pumping site, the force main (pipe) route, and with the property owner of the infiltration area. Note that the location of the infiltration area has changed. A map of the pumping site, force main route and infiltration area has been posted to the website. This new infiltration site has several advantages:

- The new infiltration area is a larger acreage site with larger infiltration areas, which allows for lower infiltration rates and less groundwater mounding.
- There is already an observation well just north of the area for observing water levels during infiltration.
- The regional water table beneath the new infiltration areas are at a lower elevation, providing a thicker unsaturated zone for groundwater mounding and flowage away from the infiltration area.
- The new infiltration area is farther east and closer to Stanchfield Lake, which will allow the infiltrated water to move more east and northeast and seep into Stanchfield Lake, which has an adequate outlet to the north.

In addition to determining the design and route for pumping, the following tasks have been completed:

- An Archeological Study has been completed.
- Additional borings, surveys and design work for the infiltration area, the force main route and pumping site.
- Initial drafting of the documentation required for permitting.
- Beginning the work on an initial draft of an Operations and Maintenance Plan.
- There have been good meetings and positive communications with the DNR and other agencies.
- The LID and WSN has met and corresponded with neighboring property owners to the project to continue to address questions and concerns.

We have modified the timeline for completion of the High-Water Outlet Project. (A detailed task and timeline are available on the LSLID website):

- Completion of plans and permitting - March 2020
- Completion of final design, plans and specifications, bidding and bid review - April/May 2020
- Public Assessment Hearing for Temporary Financing - May 2020
- Construction - June to October 2020
- Begin Pumping - Late Fall 2020
- Hold a Public Hearing and adopt the final project assessment roll and issue bonding - Late Fall 2020
- Finalize assessment and certify budget for 2021 with project assessments - Nov 2020

Legislative Update

Our local legislators, Rep. Ron Kresha and Senator Paul Gazelka, have agreed to author a bonding bill during the 2020 legislative session to assist with funding of the Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District High-Water Outlet Project. We urge you to call or send letters to your legislators in support of the DNR Bonding bill for the Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant including funding for the Lake Shamineau High-Water Outlet Project. These funds will be used to offset the cost of the High-Water project. You can find the contact information for your MN Representative or MN Senator at <https://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts>.

The Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District is proposing a Lobby Day at the State Capitol. The plan is to have Shamineau property owners meet near the capitol for an information session and then go to the offices of our legislators to tell our stories and to encourage support for the bonding bill. Please let us know at BLOLL@icloud.com if you would like to participate. We will let you know the date, time and place when it's set. A special thanks to our LID Legislative coordinators - Cheryl Koll, Nancy Hanson and Ardis Sandstrom.

Emergency Task Force

While the LID continues to work hard on a long-term project to begin pumping next fall, an Emergency Task Force has been formed to explore additional steps that can be taken to alleviate the flooding problems. These steps include mitigating inflows and improving outflows, as well as looking at the possibility of emergency pumping later this winter or next spring. The Task Force includes members from the LID Board, the Lake Association Board, and other property owners. An update on recent activities of the Emergency Task Force includes:

- Permits to clean the ditch on private property has been received from the 10 property owners on the South side of CR 203. The task force has secured an excavator and Scandia Valley has agreed to manage the operation.
- The Lake Association conducted a fundraiser to help pay for ditch cleaning and has raised \$7,500 with a Lake Association match of \$5,000 bringing the total available funds of \$12,500.
- Task Force members have been meeting with various agencies including Todd and Morrison County Soil and Water departments, as well as the Scandia Valley Township. They have been working very close with them for approvals and to obtain financial assistance from the Township due to the impact on roads.
- Further discussion of emergency pumping has started again with plans for late winter or early spring.

Thank you for your support. Be sure to visit the LSLID website for updates on meetings, treasurer reports, project status reports and other documents and information. Let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Cindy Kevern, Bob Koll, Rick Rosar, Fred Comb, Ardis Sandstrom

Lake Shamineau Lake Improvement District Board of Directors
LSLIDBD@gmail.com