

Minutes: LSLID Board Meeting – June 1, 2020 at 6 PM (Via Zoom Conference Call)

Attendees: Cindy Kevern (Chair), Bob Koll (Vice-Chair) (joined meeting at agenda item 6), Rick Rosar (Secretary/Administrative), Fred Comb (Treasurer/Finance), Ardis Sandstrom (Director). Fourteen audience members attended.

1. Welcome

Cindy Kevern opened the meeting by welcoming Board members and the audience. She noted that the audience would be able to ask questions at the end of the meeting by using the chat feature on Zoom.

2. Minutes of Board Meeting

Rick Rosar noted the minutes from the May 16, 2020 Board meeting. Board Members have had a chance to review and they have been posted to the website. Cindy Kevern asked for a motion to approve. Rick made the motion and Ardis seconded. Cindy called for a Roll Call Vote.

Rick Rosar	Yes
Fred Comb	Yes
Bob Koll	N/A
Ardis Sandstrom	Yes
Cindy Kevern	Yes

3. Treasurer’s Report

Fred Comb reviewed the current Treasurers report ending May 31, 2020. Cindy Kevern asked for a motion to approve. Cindy made the motion and Rick seconded. Cindy called for a Roll Call Vote.

Rick Rosar	Yes
Fred Comb	Yes
Bob Koll	N/A
Ardis Sandstrom	Yes
Cindy Kevern	Yes

4. High Water Project Update

Cindy Kevern provided an update on the high-water project. The following items were noted:

- Last summer the LSLID announced a plan to pump water to an infiltration site at a gravel pit to the NE of the lake.
- After the Annual Meeting and through the Fall, the LID, through the engineering firm of WSN, now called Widseth, developed more detailed plans, including a route from the lake to the infiltration site. Letters of Intent were obtained from the property owners at the pumping site and along the route to the infiltration site.
- This past winter we learned that there was a lack of consensus with the owners of the gravel pit for the use of the infiltration area. Given this lack of consensus, and at the suggestion of an adjacent property owner, we moved the design of the infiltration basins to an area east of the gravel pit (East site). Drafting of documentation for permitting began and an initial draft of the Operations and Maintenance Plan was completed. The LID and Widseth held meetings and corresponded with neighboring property owners to the project.
- The LID issued a discretionary Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) on February 24, 2020 regarding the need for an Environmental Impact Statement, which included hundreds of pages of detail on the high-water project. A 30-day public comment period closed on March 25, 2020. Thirteen written comments were received from agencies and from the public. The responses have been completed and posted on the website. The responses will also be sent to all commenters.
- On April 10, 2020, the LSLID Board voted to delay the issuance of the Finding of Facts, Conclusions and Record of Decision for the EAW issued on February 24, 2020 regarding the determination of the need for an Environmental Impact Statement for the Lake Shamineau High-Water Control Project, to no later than June 30, 2020.

- It was then determined that the LID will not be able to obtain needed flowage easements from key property owners. For this reason, we believe the infiltration site to the east of the gravel pit is no longer be viable as a primary infiltration location.
- On May 16th at the LID Board Meeting, the LSLID voted to withdraw the EAW. The reasons for withdrawing the EAW included: 1) the LSLID will be exploring another water deposit site; 2) the LSLID needs to gather more data and conduct more testing in the area and 3) the LSLID will be working with adjacent property owners.
- Over the last two weeks, we held meetings to explore the gravel pit again as an infiltration site. The LSLID has had recent positive conversations with the owners of the gravel pit infiltration area. However, we unfortunately were not able to obtain agreement with other property owners that were necessary for the use of this site.

Cindy Kevern made a motion to 1) alter the High-Water Outlet project away from infiltration in the NE part of the lake and 2) determine alternative water deposit locations. Specific steps will be developed by Rick Rosar and Cindy Kevern over the next couple of weeks and reported on at the next Board Meeting. Rick seconded it.

Rick Rosar	Yes
Fred Comb	Yes
Bob Koll	N/A
Ardis Sandstrom	Yes
Cindy Kevern	Yes

6. Widseth Agreement

Rick Rosar provided an update on the Widseth agreement which included the following fixed price tasks and steps:

1. Step 1 which included the route analysis, data collection and preparation of feasibility report. This step was completed in the summer of 2019.
2. Step 2 which included the surveying and preliminary design, data modeling, borings, plans and design. This step was completed in late 2019. Costs for this step were matched with a DNR grant.
3. Step 3 included the preparation of the EAW and work on easements. This step has been completed with the finalization of the EAW responses and the withdrawal of the EAW. Costs for this step were matched with a DNR grant.
4. Step 4 included tasks for gathering additional geologic data, preparing final design, plans and specifications which included permitting information and landowner meetings. This portion of Step 4 have been completed with design, technical data collection and meetings for the infiltration sites. Step 4 also included activities for preparing bidding documents, reviewing of contractor proposals and preparation of contractors which have not been completed.

With the change in the project to move away from the infiltration sites and to look at alternative deposit locations, the remaining tasks in Step 4 will not be completed. Rick Rosar offered a motion to end Step 4 service agreement with Widseth and to provide authority to Rick Rosar and Cindy Kevern to work with Widseth on terms for final payment. Ardis seconded it.

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

7. AIS Updates

Bob Koll provided an update on the Ambassador program which the LSLID is funding this year. The trained Ambassadors who worked for us last year are working again this year. The DNR West Access is closed because of flooding, so, our Ambassadors are working at the East Scandia Valley Township Access. They will be working am. and pm. shifts, Fridays through Sundays over the summer. Bob also said that the traffic on the Scandia Valley Township Access was terrible Memorial Day weekend, but it has been reasonable other weekends, so far.

Rick Rosar provided an update on surveys and treatment for aquatic invasive species on the lake.

8. Legislative Updates

Cindy Kevern reported that we understand that funds for the DNR Flood Mitigation Grant remains in the bonding bill, no specific details are known at this time. However, the timing of the legislature taking up the bonding bill is not known at this time. The LSLID Board will be sending a letter to local legislators to urge their support.

Bob Koll also reported that Jeff Forester of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates reports that all their important measures were moving through the House, the Senate or both. Then the Legislature shut down due to the Covid-19 pandemic. When the legislature adjourned May 18th the House and Senate had not reached agreement and issued no conference committee report. However, the Legislature will meet in a special session on June 12th or later to consider Covid-19 and budget related legislation. They may well hold special sessions over the course of the summer and fall.

The Board will also be urging property owners around the lake to again contact their legislators for support of the bonding bill which could provide needed funding for the flooding problems on Lake Shamineau.

9. Other Updates

- **Emergency Task Force Update** – Ardis Sandstrom provided an update on recent activities of the Task Force. Ardis reported that the task force has voted to continue work on the ditching process that started with the three miles of ditch cleaned earlier this spring. At this time the task force is working with Morrison County and Soil and Water to create a plan for an impoundment area on County road 203 that will direct water away from Culverts 1 & 2 and pump the water to the newly cleaned ditch on 30th avenue. On behalf of the task force, we want everyone in Scandia Valley to understand that restoring the watershed to its original flow entirely impacts Scandia Valley Township. This is not just a Lake Shamineau issue. At this time, the Scandia Valley Township has identified that the watershed effects the whole township and has dedicated funds in the past and for a future project. Farmers have fields that have standing water and cannot be tilled and have voiced concerns of the water backing up in their fields. The three miles of ditching completed from 30th Ave to the east has flowed the spring melt away from Scandia Valley and alleviated flooding in 9 landowners' properties. Crookneck Lake Improvement District stated in their recent board meeting that the ditch has effectively stopped the flow of water into Crookneck Lake this spring which has helped with their flooding issues. We are asking Morrison County to mirror Scandia Valley's commitment to addressing the watershed and the manmade damage to this wetland. We are asking for funding support, expertise in creating a viable project and or support through materials that will help the project come to a successful finish.
- Bob Koll reported that there was an inquiry as to whether a kayak could be launched at the West Access. It was clarified that carry-in of non-motorized watercraft was OK, but no trailer/vehicle launches.
- Cindy Kevern mentioned that Jacquie Rognli has provided an update on the survey that is in process by the Lake Association. To date over 100 responses has been received and will complete an analysis and report.
- Cindy Kevern reported that there will be Board meeting scheduled for mid to late June, but no date has yet been established.

10. Other Business

Audience Questions and Comments – There were audience questions regarding:

- An audience member noted some stained water at the east end of the lake.
- There were questions about payments to Widseth and the usability of the engineering work.
- There was an inquiry about alternative deposit locations.
- There was an inquiry about the work that had been done on inflows.
- There were questions about the 2020 project budget
- There were questions about moving away from the NE area of the lake.

11. Motion to Adjourn

Rick made a motion to adjourn and Fred seconded the motion. The Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Minutes Submitted by: Rick Rosar