

# LAKE WAPOGASSET & BEAR TRAP SANITARY DISTRICT

## MEETING MINUTES—September 19, 2016

The September meeting of the LWBT Sanitary District was called to order by President Dave Erspamer at 7:00 in the District Office.

Commissioners present: Dave Erspamer, Commissioner-President; Mark Tryggstad, Commissioner-Treasurer; Paul Elbing, Commissioner-Secretary; Dennis Badman, Commissioner.

Employees present: Chad Ruff, Ken Baillargeon and Heidi Erspamer.

Guests: Chuck Pedersen, Wood by Chuck, representing the Dan Raether variance request.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Total Income for the month of August was \$9,565.20. Total expenses were \$9,679.16. Our expenses this month were about \$4,000 less than last month. Year-to-date net income is \$35,688.26.

### **OPERATIONS REPORT: Maintenance**

Chad reported that so far this month it has been pretty quiet. Our only repair was the replacement of a float on Lift Station #9.

### **OPERATIONS REPORT: Office**

Heidi reported that she is working on delinquent accounts so they can be turned over to the townships in October. Mark outlined the process for her and we will take action on this at our October meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Harvester Update. Maintenance needs to be completed on the harvester before putting in storage for the winter. Apple River recommended that we don't change oil on the machine this year. However, we do need to change the filter. Heidi will contact Ed Gullickson to confirm that we still have storage space in the Garfield Township building. We are targeting next week for getting this done. Dave asked about truck storage and staff thought it could be stored in our shop.

Lift Station #8. We received responses from both Tri-State and Total Control to the letter we sent regarding the issues (incompatible equipment) we had with #8. Both vendors stated that specifications could have been made clearer. However, the commissioners felt that more initiative could have been taken by Tri-State to make sure they were asking the right questions related to the compatibility of their pumps to the rest of the system. It was suggested that we contact Les Mateffy to see if he could recommend other vendors to us. Mark also suggested we contact someone he knows from Flurry Pumps in Grafton to see what they have to offer. Denny asked who the City of Amery uses for their pumps and general repair. We will find out names so we have some other options.

Ryan Development. Heidi reported that she contacted SEH Inc. to begin the process of having them review the sewer extension plans for this backlot development. The District has not heard back from SEH, nor have we heard anything from Lake Superior Consulting (LSC--Mateffy's firm) regarding the status of this project. We were told earlier this summer by LSC that there was no immediate timeline for this project.

Lakecrest Farm. We received a response from David Christenson to our most recent letter. There seems to be confusion as to the locations of the 14-acre parcel on which the District granted Lakecrest conditional permission to plant and the 20-acre parcel we purchased from Neil Christenson in the 1970's. Heidi was asked to schedule a time for Neil and David Christenson, along with available commissioners, to walk District property in order to clarify.

Generators. We revisited the generator discussion from our last meeting. We have a generator for Lift Station #1 and we also have a tow behind, which hasn't been taken out for several years. As one consideration, maybe we could sell these generators and get a newer, smaller one that would better meet our needs. (All lift stations have a hook-up for a generator). Chad reminded us that, realistically, as long as we have pumper trucks available, we would use those first in the event of a problem.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Raether Variance. Chuck Pedersen, Wood by Chuck, presented a variance request for Dan Raether (750 South Shore Drive). Mr. Raether was proposing an addition to his house that would come within 13 feet of the sewer line. We have been advised by the Sanitary District engineer to not allow variances for buildings within 15 feet of the sewer. Mark moved that we keep within our ordinance and not grant this variance. Seconded by Denny and passed.

Williamson's Sewer Connection. The District learned that the Williamson's (767 Hickory Point Lane) disconnected their sewer last fall and then reconnected to a stand-alone bathroom this summer without a permit. Heidi noted that Dr. Gehrig Williamson called the District office to inquire about the permit process and agreed to send his plumber to obtain the necessary permit. The permit was never issued. The Williamsons were encouraged to come to the next Sanitary District meeting to explain why and how they proceeded without the proper permit. (Or, they could provide a written explanation.) It was reminded that both the homeowner and the plumber could be subjected to separate fines. Heidi was asked to send a letter to the Williamsons.

Steve Schieffer. Heidi reported that Steve Schieffer will attend our next meeting to discuss 2017 CLP harvesting.

Next meeting date will be Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the District office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Erspamer, Recording Secretary

