

LAKE WAPOGASSET & BEAR TRAP SANITARY DISTRICT

MEETING MINUTES—FEBRUARY 6, 2017

The February 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; Paul Elbing, Commissioner-Secretary; Dennis Badman, Commissioner. Employees present: Neil Pickard, Chad Ruff, Ken Baillargeon and Heidi Erspamer. Guests: Ryan Hanson.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Heidi gave the treasurer's report in Mark's absence. Our net income for the month of January was approximately \$80k. In the last few days, however, a considerable number of checks have come in, so as of today, our books show \$140k in user fees and nearly \$26k in harvester fees received.

OPERATIONS REPORT: Maintenance

Our new blower has been installed. Also, the panel has been set for Lift Station #8. Hopefully we will have this up and running within the next couple of weeks.

OPERATIONS REPORT: Office

Heidi informed the board that our audit with Carlson Highland is coming up at the end of the month. Adam Honl, our auditor, suggested that we capitalize the major repairs made to Lift Station #8. Heidi will discuss this with Mark. Heidi will also be meeting with Bart from Noah Insurance to go over our policies (coverage and costs) per the board's request that we look for cost saving options.

The District's CMAR results came in and we received a B+ score from the DNR.

OLD BUSINESS

Ryan Backlot Development. Heidi asked Les Mateffy for an update on this potential sewer addition. He indicated that the project is going through the zoning review process now and he will keep us posted as the project progresses. It was encouraging to find Les back at work and to learn that his health has improved.

Steve Schieffer's Lake Monitoring Bid. The board reviewed Steve Schieffer's proposal for 2017 lake monitoring. After some discussion on the need for a turion analysis and multiple phosphorus measures, it was agreed to hold off on both of these this year. Dave made a motion, seconded by Denny, to accept the portion of Steve's bid for monitoring and delineating the CLP beds for harvesting (\$2,200). Motion passed. Heidi will contact Steve to let him know of our decision.

2017 CLP Harvesting. Heidi reported that the harvesting permit applications have been completed and we are now waiting for a response from the DNR on a couple of fee related questions. She also reported that Neil has agreed to take the lead on organizing the harvesting project this season.

A discussion was held around staffing--- and also the need to get an employment ad written soon. Much of this depends on how many hours our current team wants to harvest. Staff has been asked to consider this, and come up with some idea of a schedule before the next meeting. If we put in place a morning and afternoon shift, it was estimated that we may need up to three additional staff. Both staff and commissioners requested to be part of the interview process. It was noted that we ran the harvester for 4 weeks last year and this year we should try to harvester for 8 weeks. This is all dependent upon the weather!

Denny asked staff if they got their harvester “wish list” for upgrades, and for the most part, everything has been ordered other than the depth finder and the fuel pump. On a final point, Chad suggested we check with the YMCA camp to see if we can put some traprock down in order to use their location for harvester unloading. We will check into this.

NEW BUSINESS

Conservancy/Healthy Lakes Program. Heidi reported that she called Tim Ritten from Polk County Lakes for an update on the projects he is looking into for the conservancy. We did not receive a return phone call. Ryan Hanson reported on the Healthy Lakes program. We didn't get information on this in time to include in the District's annual mailing; however, Marty Noonan will be covering Healthy Lakes in the Lake Association spring letter. We are looking forward to the Sanitary District, Conservancy and Lake Association working together on this important project.

Sewer Lateral Connections on Ferrozzo Lots. Ryan Hanson attended the meeting to discuss possible sewer connections on two newly platted lots off of County C (between the Beaudette and Ferrozzo properties). Our connections are designed for only one user, so any proposed change to that or any new sewer extensions would require a review by the District's engineer and approval by the board. An availability fee would be assessed for any new extensions.

Sewer Connection Process and Availability Fees. Heidi asked for clarification on the process for new connections and fees. It was explained that if someone calls regarding a new sewer connection or extension, a recommended first step would be to have them contact Gille to assess the overall feasibility of digging new lines. The homeowner would then hire their own engineer for the connection design, which would be followed by the District's engineer review and finally approval by the board. Availability fees are in place to offset the initial cost of the sewer system. Dave made a motion that we amend our ordinance to reflect an increase in the availability fee to \$1,500. Paul seconded the motion, which passed by the board.

Fireworks. The board set Sunday, July 2nd as our fireworks date. Rain date will be Monday, July 3rd.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00. Our next meeting Sanitary District Board meeting will be Tuesday, March 21st at 7:00 in the District office. (Amended)

Respectfully Submitted, Heidi Erspamer, Recording Secretary