

# LAKE WAPOGASSET & BEAR TRAP LAKE SANITARY DISTRICT

## MEETING MINUTES—November 6, 2017

The November 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 Tryggestad, Commissioner-Treasurer; Commissioner-Secretary, Paul Elbing; Dennis Badman, Commissioner.

Employees present: Heidi Erspamer, Ken Baillargeon and Neil Pickard.

Guests: Barry Eklund

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as distributed. Publication of the open meeting notice was acknowledged.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

We recorded no income for the month of October. Expenses were \$18,336.51. Our October net income is comparable to last year at this time. We have a CD maturing in a few days and the research Heidi did confirms that Westconsin has the best rates. She will call about our renewal.

### **OPERATIONS REPORT: Maintenance**

Neil reported that there has been nothing out of the ordinary this month with respect to maintenance.

### **OPERATIONS REPORT: Office**

Heidi and Commissioner Tryggestad worked together on preparing the 2018 annual budget, which will be presented later in the meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Gregg-Hanson Legal Agreement. Commissioner Erspamer summarized the draft of the Legal Agreement prepared for the Gregg and Hanson properties which will be filed with the Register of Deeds. This Agreement indemnifies the District of any liability related to their shared "Y" connection to the sanitary sewer system. Commissioner Erspamer noted that the Agreement appears to be in conformance. Commissioner Tryggestad moved to accept the Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Badman and unanimously passed by the board.

Harvest Report. Neil prepared a written summary of our 2017 CLP harvest compared to the previous year. We harvested 133.4 tons of Curly Leaf Pond Weed in 2016 and 292.9 in 2017. We are moving in the right direction, but there continues to be room for improvement. We hope to get an earlier start on harvesting next year and also add more harvesting staff for the season. Having staff work one long day, rather than having two shifts per day seems to be the more efficient approach. We made several safety and efficiency improvements in 2017. The harvester is currently being stored in a pole shed (Ulrich's) on Hwy 8.

Barry Eklund inquired about the possibility of getting a second permit for navigation to allow the harvester to cut up into the flowage (Balsam Branch). Commissioner Tryggestad responded that if our DNR harvesting permit does not allow us to cut Curly Leaf Pondweed into the flowage, they are not going to allow us to cut for navigational purposes. Our DNR permit strictly forbids us to cut into this area. Homeowners can look into getting their own weed cutting permits, at their own expense; but it seems unlikely that the DNR will allow this, as it is a protected area. Commissioner Erspamer

took the opportunity to reinforce the purpose of the harvester, which is to eliminate phosphorus from our lakes in order to improve overall water quality. He added that harvesting was not intended to be of personal benefit by removing weeds from outside peoples' docks or in front of individual homeowners' property.

Clean Boats Clean Waters. Heidi reported that we received the final CBCW grant payment for 2017 and that we were again awarded a grant from this program for 2018 boat landing inspections.

Fireworks Date Update. At our last meeting we selected Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> as our fireworks date and were hoped to have Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup> as our rain date. Unfortunately, that did not work out for our pyrotechnics company, so our new rain date is set for Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2018 Budget. Commissioner-Treasurer Tryggestad reviewed the 2018 proposed budget with the board. He highlighted areas where changes were made compared to last year's budget. Specifically, we are planning to make some significant improvements to our equipment in 2018. We plan to update our SCADA system, at a cost of approximately \$2,000 per lift station, and we will also be adding a flow monitor to Pump #1 to help to improve the accuracy of our monthly DMR reports to the DNR. Commissioner Tryggestad also went over the 2018 harvester budget. Commissioner Erspamer moved to accept the budgets as prepared, seconded by Commissioner Tryggestad. Motion passed. It was also noted that there will be no rate increase again this year for property owners.

Resignation. Commissioner Elbing reported to the board that he has purchased a place in New Richmond and his last meeting as a commissioner of the Lake Wapogasset & Bear Trap Lake Sanitary District will be in January, 2018.

On a motion by Commissioner Tryggestad, seconded by Commissioner Badman and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15.

Our next Sanitary District meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8th at 7:00 in the District office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Erspamer, Recording Secretary