

LAKE EAU CLAIRE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes:

October 4, 2017: 7:00pm @ Bridge Creek Town Hall

S9515 State Road 27, Augusta Wi 54722

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Marlo Orth at 7:00 pm

1. Marlo welcomed new members Patrick Bethke and Mike Lea to the board

2. Roll call: Mike Lea

Members present: Marlo Orth, Dean Boehne, Gary Gibson, Patrick Bethke, Mike Lea

Also present: Kristin Charlton, Fred Poss, Rod Zika, Loren Larson, and Glenn Johnson

3. Minutes of June 7, 2017 and July 24, 2017

Motion by Dean Boehne and second by Gary Gibson to accept June 7 minutes as presented

Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Mike Lea and seconded by Gary Gibson to accept July 24 minutes as presented

Motion carried 5-0

4. Treasurers report: Dean Boehne presented the financial report for Jan-Sept 2017. The report showed total receipts of \$142811 and total expenditures of \$133118. There is a cash balance of \$28086 which includes \$3940 in the siren fund.

Motion by Gary Gibson to accept report subject to audit with second by Patrick Bethke. Motion carried 5-0

5. Public Comment

Fred Poss showed the new Lake Eau Claire Association brochure that was distributed to the county board among others. He thanked Gary Gibson for his advocacy at the county level for the support of Lake Eau Claire. Loren Larson suggested doing a brochure to promote the entire Watershed Coalition project. He also stressed the importance of having a study done to determine the economic value of natural resources such as the lake and watershed as a means of gaining support for rehab projects.

Rod Zika spoke about the importance of forming a technical committee to address lake rehab issues and to determine if progress is being made with the projects that have already been done. Rod has offered to be on the committee and is currently getting more members to volunteer. Rod would like the board to endorse the idea of forming the committee.

6. Bills: Dean Boehne

Dean presented a bill from AEC for surveying and engineering of the new deposit site in the amount of \$1830.26.

Motion by Gary Gibson to authorize paying the bill with a 2nd by Patrick Bethke. Motion carried 5-0.

7. New Deposit Site Update : Marlo Orth

Marlo presented that Josh Pederson of Eau Claire County Parks and Forest is in contact with the DNR regarding the removal of the new deposit site from the county forest. This has not been officially approved yet but it should be soon.

8. Eau Claire River Watershed Update: Rod Zika

There was more discussion on the details of forming the technical committee to monitor progress on lake rehab etc. Rod shared a study showing that voluntary conservation programs are not effective in the long run.

The board recommended the formation of the technical committee as discussed and Rod will be bringing it up at the next watershed coalition meeting as well.

9. Northside Creeks Update: Fred Poss

Fred presented a report on the Hay Creek, Muskrat Creek, Bedpost and Beach Creek projects. Fred and Dale Zank met with Opelt trucking to look at the creeks which need cleaning out. Opelt can do the work at Beach and Bedpost and will be presenting a bid. Hay Creek is full and the bank is washed out and the idea was brought up of increasing the size of the trap and rip rapping the bank. Fred brought up some pros and cons of this project.

Pros: A larger trap will capture more sand

The association might be able to cover the cost, avoiding adding it to the tax levy

This would help even if an upstream trap were installed later

Cons: It is not the permanent fix that an upstream trap would be

It does not address the upstream sediment sources for Bedpost and Beach traps

10. GPT & TBWT discussion : Marlo Orth

Marlo noted that the traps are both full and in need of emptying. Rod shared that finer particles of sediment are entering the lake and studies need to be done to determine the effects. There was discussion on whether the new equipment purchased by the county could be used for this.

11. Eau Claire Energy solar discussion: Dean Boehne has contacted Eau Claire Energy Coop regarding using the member solar program to purchase solar energy for running the aerators. He did not recommend it since on April 1 of each year any unused solar credit is lost. The timing of this would cause the district to lose all of the energy generated between the shutting off of the aerators and April 1. The project would not be economically feasible due to this.

12. Lake Management Plan Director report: Rod Zika stated that it has not been cold enough to allow for the shutting down of the aeration system yet. The water has to get cold enough to begin the fall turnover. Upcoming temperatures will be the determining factor.

13. Other Business: Marlo shared an email from Cathy Friedl regarding looking into ways that district members can vote at the annual meeting without being present. She stated that two options would be paper ballots and teleconferencing. Rod shared the state statute showing that a member must be present to vote. Marlo has someone looking into the legal aspects of the proposal.

Marlo suggested applying for a lake management grant to study lake status and will contact Mark Hazuga from the DNR to look into it.

14: Next meeting will be Nov. 8, 2017

15. Adjourned at 9:11 pm