



Devils Lake Water Improvement District
Regular Board Meeting
Taft Conference Hall
1206 SE 48th Place, Lincoln City, OR
and via zoom

October 12, 2023

MINUTES

Called to Order at 6:00 pm by President Tina French.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Tina French, Susan Elworth, Mitch Moore, Keith Fowler, Dayton Mays, Mitch Moore

Board Members Absent: none

DLWID Staff Present: Boone Marker

Approval of Consent Agenda and September 14, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Discussion: none

MOTION: Moved by Susan Elworth, Seconded by Dayton Mays, to approve the consent agenda, and minutes of the September 14, 2023 regular board meeting as presented. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

Discussion: Susan asked about a transfer that was made, Tina explained the transfer.

MOTION: Moved by Keith Fowler, Seconded by Dayton Mays, to approve the monthly financial reports as presented. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Tina asked for public comment, and there was none at that time. She said that she is always willing to address questions.

STAFF REPORT:

District Projects & Operations

Devil Lake Aquatic Vegetation Management

- Expecting invoice for annual harvester lease in September, but it has not been delivered as of 10/5/23
- Harvester operating in October. as long as weather and dump locations in good condition.
 - Approx. 200 loads removed up to 5000 cu. yds since September 2022
- Expense report for harvester to date (9/22-10/2/23) - \$135,824
- No carp mortality reported.

Discussion: There was discussion from the board about the pricing sheet. Lessor of the harvester wanted to rent the machine for a period of time, based on the number of months it was used. Since the board needed to choose, 3 months/year was chosen. Tina said that she wanted the cost to be based on the number of engine hours, but the lessor didn't want to do that. The end product was a contract for 4 years, running 3 months per year, at \$46,200/year. Next Gen is employing the harvester and she will provide those hours. Harvesting this year started in May, through October 12th, but the harvester was out of the water several times. Next month Boone will provide total tons harvested and total costs to run the harvester. Cost to purchase the harvester was about \$700,000. Further discussion took place about talking to the owner about the possible option to purchase at the end of the lease. By that time the board will be able to determine if the harvester is efficient in reducing the weeds.

Tina suggested that input from lakefront property owners would be good to include in the ODF&W report. Mitch was asked to include a request in the DLNA newsletter or prepare a survey with other details. Mitch asked Boone to give him questions to include. It was pointed out that an explanation be included as to the description of a cubic yard, or maybe describing how many wheelbarrows of weeds were removed. Further discussion took place about why the harvester is only being used three months of the year. The harvester cannot be used when the water is choppy or when there is much wind. It was also noted that at this time of the year the stems have released and the weeds are floating, but will sink and re-set in the lake bottom. Dayton said that more dumping locations are needed.

Water Quality Briefing

- Water sampling complete for the season. Will resume April/May 2024.
- Algae blooms noticed around lake. Not HABs.

Discussion: Tina asked about impoundment and it was reported that the board would be removed early the next week.

Blue Heron Landing/Marina

- Building Maintenance – weather proofing roof
 - Jim Whisler will provide some consultation, make recommendation.

Discussion: Discussion took place about work that needs to be done on the building.

Devils Lake Flood Protection & Dredging Project

- Met with Campbell Environmental on October 4th
 - C.E. encouraged getting Lincoln City's Mayor, and Governor's office involved in the dredging project. Cited difficulty with multiple organizations.
 - Seeking additional dump sites: Hostetler Park, hotel parking lot. Soil samples may be required for Hostetler if a possible location.
 - Re-establish plans with property owners. Only signature found is Kylo's.
 - Permit will need additional work for completion.
- Meeting with Civil Engineering – need to set dates if we want to host another work session.
- Dam removal in October

Discussion: Discussion took place about the work session held the previous week, and how it was not super productive. Boone said he hopes to connect with Mary of Regional Solutions the next day. He has reached out to Parks & Rec regarding Hostetler Park, and will meet with Alison Robertson about any city properties that might be available. Originally the board was told that dewatering the weeds at Hostetler Park, then moving the weeds by Morris Excavation, North Lincoln Sanitary, or Knottworks would work, but now the board has received word from state agencies that the previous plan will not work. Keith said that Josh was apparently working on a one-time permit, and he thought it was an on-going permit. It was suggested that the board address all of OPRD's points in their email. Discussion took place about the permit application, and the fact that it seems the process is starting over from the beginning. Further discussion took place about the question of whether or not the option of traditional dredging is off the table. The expensive part of traditional dredging is hauling the sand away. Discussion took place about the possibility of public members helping with hauling, and places to put the dredging. Hostetler Park was discussed and since 90% of the park is blackberry bushes, it must not all be wetlands. It was also mentioned that City staff would need to be involved and also that the property is on the list of properties the City wants to sell.

Jay Roeloff talked about the discussion during the workshop about removing the dam to let the lake flush out, and see if that works. Tina said that the bedrock under the bridge is higher than the concrete under the board so that would not work. Discussion took place about water rights and more discussion took place about "flushing out" the lake. Keith asked if it is OK to move logs. It was agreed that it was OK to move logs that are damaging the impound structure, but not move them from the lake, only OK to move them to the side. History of moving logs was discussed, and that during the winter of 2021, quite a few logs were moved. It is estimated that there are about 200,000 yards of sand to move. There used to be dredging both east and west of the bridge. At this point the aim is to move accumulated sand, instead of an emergency situation. A one-

time permit, as well as an emergency use permit are needed. It was recalled that Eric Campbell said no emergency permits are being issued. Keith said he thought a long-term solution was being addressed. Boone has talked to ODF&W about an emergency permit. Tina suggested looking at the City's permit. Susan said that maybe the volume of sand is a factor.

Discussion took place about meeting with Civil West in the next couple of weeks and whether it should be a work session. It was agreed that Susan and Keith would meet with Civil West and Boone said he would get some possible dates.

Communications Report

- Three inquiries regarding the advisory committee for the Blue Heron Landing Project. Plan to start meeting this winter.

Discussion: Boone said that the three possible advisory committee members have good experience and background. He will get together with Mitch and set up a meeting. Boone would like to get input from tribal members also (some names were suggested), and also Niki Price or a board member from the Cultural Center regarding their capital campaign, and Susan Gomberg was also suggested as a possible committee member.

Grants/Fundraising

- DEQ – Supplemental Environmental Project Grant
 - Project must primarily benefit the environment or public health in Oregon
 - Types of projects we may qualify for: Improve Water Quality
 - Regional Solutions (Mary Camarata-DEQ) – spoke about issues DL is facing. Scheduling meeting after 10/13 when staff are back.
- National Fish Passage Program – Dec. 31, 2023 – remove instream barriers and restore aquatic organism passage and aquatic connectivity for the benefit of Federal trust resources. Up to \$2mil. Could contribute to potential dredging project.
- SDIS – Safety & Security Grant – matching funds grant that could help upgrade fencing around BHL. Seeking quotes for fencing at BHL.
- Oregon State Marine Board Grants – Water access improvements, boating facility grants, new construction. Grant application due Oct. 2-Dec. 11 – approval in April 2024. Some grant options are 50/50 matching funds.
 - Extensive application, requires public support/opposition, will require permits, potential site survey.

Discussion: Boone said he is working on a grant to rebuild the boat launch, which is a matching grant. He will get together with Susan for information he needs. There was also talk about a possible water quality grant. Boone said he has a meeting with Outdoor Fence Co. on the 18th regarding a bid, then will write a grant for that funding.

Board Discussion: There was a question about the stolen signs, and there has been no further information. Boone talked about a conference in Corvallis on the 15th and 16th. Tina asked if the diquat works after the weeds sink and discussion took place about Keith's application of diquat and how very effective it was.

Discussion took place about the meeting scheduled for November 9th. It was agreed that it needed to be rescheduled for November 8th and Boone said he would check with Don Williams about availability of the space.

Jay Roloeff asked about the National Fish Passage Program grant. Tina said that the impound structure is different than a dam - that dams are actual barriers, and this is to protect water rights. Discussion took place about modernizing the "dam". Jay suggested that talking this step might provide justification for the grant. Tina said the risk is too high. The use of sandbags was suggested and it was pointed out that putting things in the water is not allowed. Jay suggested getting information from Randy Weldon. Further discussion took place about the use of sandbags and the use of diquat for personal, not commercial, use (about \$25/gallon), and the use of diquat on the shoreline and using the harvester in the middle of the lake.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm by President Tina French

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 6:00pm

Submitted by Susan Wahlke