



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

December 14, 2023

## **MINUTES**

**Called to Order at 6:06 pm** by Vice-Chair Mitch Moore

**Roll Call:**

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

**Board Members Absent:** Tina French

**DLWID Staff Present:** Boone Marker

**Approval of Consent Agenda and November 8, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes**

**Discussion:** None

**MOTION:** Moved by Keith Fowler, seconded by Dayton Mays, to approve the consent agenda and minutes of the November 8, 2023 regular board meeting as presented. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Monthly Financial Reports**

**Discussion:** It was pointed out that there was not a lot of spending in November. Mitch repeated that he really likes the new report format.

**MOTION:** Moved by Dayton Mays, seconded by Susan Elworth, to approve the monthly financial reports as presented. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Larry Brown said that he has done a lot of research about grass carp and Elodea, and everything DLWID has been doing is the opposite of what should be done. He pointed out that the temperature of the lake only allows 5 ½ months of eating by the carp and they have grown

fast. He stated that the harvester is increasing the growth of Elodea. Mr. Brown encouraged the board to try to get more carp in the lake. He also talked about the history of the harvester that DLWID is using.

Randy Weldon asked about the upcoming meeting with ODF&W that Boone and Larry Brown will be attending, and said that in 1991 or 1992 ODF&W were able to check the carp.

## **STAFF REPORT:**

### **District Projects & Operations**

#### **Devil Lake Aquatic Vegetation Management**

- Carp mortality – estimated 200+ - Met with ODF&W
- Invoice for harvester still pending.
- Aquatic Insight – Mark Rosenkranz – site visit in spring to discuss additional approaches to lake management.
- Portland State University – March – work with PSU to identify all plants native/noxious/invasive

**Discussion:** Boone said it was an exciting week with carp escaping the lake due to the extreme rainfall. He met with ODF&W. Susan asked Boone about the possibility of getting fish to replace those lost. John Spangler will help Boone with the application after the first of next year. Need to check on cost of bringing 250 fish – Boone will check on cost and report in January. Discussion took place about the height of the lake at this time.

Boone talked about his connection with Mark Rosenkranz at the Special Districts Conference.

Also, Boone said that he will work with PSU next spring about an inventory of plants in the lake. Susan asked about information to homeowners about what they can do to help, including the herbicide that property owners can apply, but cannot be applied commercially (by DLWID). Boone will be working on growing the database for Constant Comment to get word out to more people. Mitch talked about using diquat. Susan and Mitch talked about their past experience with diquat and their future plans. Discussion took place about including Indian Shores and Wabusha neighborhood associations in communication efforts. Keith said the message should be sent more frequently.

#### **Blue Heron Landing/Marina**

- Blue Heron Project – Dec. 6 recap

**Discussion:** Boone reported that he met with some people who live along the lake about best use of the property. Civil West evaluated the property and determined that the building is uninhabitable and NLF&R may be happy to burn it. Mitch suggested a public/private partnership for use of a new building on the site. Another meeting in February is planned, then meetings every other month.

### **Devils Lake Flood Protection & Dredging Project**

- 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.
- Need to set meeting dates with State Parks, ODFW, DEQ, USACE, DSL.
  - Reference state parks bullet points and answers. Staff who sent email about problems with the application will be back 12/17 and will set meeting.
- DLNA collecting photos of lake homes following heavy rain & high water

**Discussion:** Boone has had many calls from people who live in the property south of the mouth of the river who have had flooding recently. Boone talked about a monthly meeting with state agencies to consider possible permit applications. He talked to a couple of people at DEQ. Problems with suggestion of using a barge were discussed, as well as timing of dredging. Mitch talked about people wanting someone to blame for flooding, but really it is Mother Nature, and the message needs to get out to the public. Discussion took place about the need to focus on sea level rise, which should be considered when writing grants. Mitch requested DLNA members to take pictures and share with him, and had response from 67 people. Discussion took place about if a permit is granted, will the District have the budget for the work.

Jay Roloff asked about the prior board's decision to remove the concrete dam and use sandbags, and why that has not happened. Mitch responded that the sand brought in by the ocean is higher than the concrete structure and proposed discussion about a flood control structure to make the river flow more. Discussion took place about what is the best way to get the water out of the lake in the winter. There is trouble with digging out the sand, and other methods should be examined. Susan agreed that every possibility should be explored. The permit for dredging on west side of the bridge was obtained many years ago. Further discussion about solution to current problem and long-term solution. Larry Brown talked about history of property on the east side of the bridge, north side of the mouth of the river.

### **Communications Report**

- Attended Indian Shores HOA meeting, Nov. 16
  - Spoke about harvesting, dredging, and herbicides to use on weeds. Will attend bi-annually for lake updates.

**Discussion:** Boone talked about making sure the Indian Shores HOA members get information about what DLWID is doing.

### **Grants/Fundraising**

- Oregon Water Enhancement Board (OWEB) grant submitted 10/30. Request for \$120,900 for mechanical harvesting funds. Approval April 2024

- Oregon Dept. of Agriculture – low priority funding for native plants except parrotfeather. Recommend additional survey/identification on the variety of Elodea, watermilfoil.

**Discussion:** Site visit is scheduled for next week by OWEB regarding the grant. Oregon Dept of Agriculture suggested Boone work with Portland State about inventory of plants. Elodea is native plant and that causes it to be a low priority for funding. Parrot feather and watermilfoil are invasive plants. Boone reported that the calls from 2<sup>nd</sup> street residents were mostly friendly. Portland media concentrated on Tillamook's flooding issues during the recent heavy rains, their problems were worse than here.

If more fish are found on the beach, let Boone know ASAP. Further discussion about how fast the grass carp have grown.

**Public Comment:** Jay Roleof talked about purchase of the Blue Heron Landing property and why an uninhabitable building was purchased. Discussion took place about past and future plans for the property. Since no plans were in place for construction, a temporary trailer on the site was not possible. This is the only commercial property on the lake other than Vivian's. Promoting recreational use of the lake is part of DLWID's mission, not just water quality. Future of the Blue Heron Landing property is unknown at this time, and committee meetings are ongoing. Further discussion took place about methods to remove the building on the property.

A member of the public thanked the board for listening.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Submitted by Susan Wahlke