



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

November 8, 2023

MINUTES

Called to Order at 6:00 pm by Vice-Chair Mitch Moore.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: (in person): Keith Fowler, Dayton Mays, Susan Elworth at 6:02i;
and Mitch Moore (via zoom)

Board Members Absent: Tina French

DLWID Staff Present: Boone Marker

Approval of Consent Agenda and October 4, 2023 Work Session Minutes and October 12, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Discussion: none

MOTION: Moved by Susan Elworth, Seconded by Dayton Mays, to approve the consent agenda, and minutes of the October 4 work session and October 12, 2023 regular board meeting as presented. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

Discussion: Boone said he sent incorrect budget sheet, but handed out the updated information.

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

Public Comment

None at this time

STAFF REPORT:

District Projects & Operations

Devil Lake Aquatic Vegetation Management

- Invoice for harvester still pending.
- Harvester operating in Oct. 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) - \$154,651

Discussion: Boone said that there are some outstanding expenses. Dayton said that the harvester is out of the water, and projects are planned.

Public Comment: Comment by public member (Larry Brown) about the harvester. He did some research about the 1993 harvester and the company DLWID is leasing it from. Brand new machine available for \$232,000 with trailer. He criticized the lease, and suggested that the board try to get out of the lease. He said that grass carp are the best solution to eradication of Euodia. He encouraged the board to sit down with ODF&W to discuss alternatives. He said more grass carp are needed. He complimented the lake manager as a good listener. He also talked about the unnecessary tagging of the grass carp.

Board Discussion: Keith said that the State is requiring a three-pronged approach to keeping the weeds under control. Susan said that the board is following their permit requirements. Harvester is being used to keep the lake navigable. Susan agreed that more grass carp are needed. Board members thanked Larry for his information.

Blue Heron Landing/Marina

- Building Maintenance – weather proofing roof
 - Jim Whisler will provide some consultation and make recommendation.
- Blue Heron Project – set first meeting in December.

Discussion: Boone said he is looking at a way to stop leakage through the roof at the Blue Heron Landing building. He has found five people to serve as a committee, with one board member and the lake manager. Mitch suggested using public forums after committee meetings. Susan said that she will check on whether or not public meetings are required for the committee.

Devils Lake Flood Protection & Dredging Project

- Permit for emergency dredging from City.
- 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.

- Met with Civil Engineering – Tim Gross
- Bill Sexton removed dam for the season.

Discussion: Boone said that he received a copy of the emergency dredging permit from the City.

Public Comment: Former board member Randy Weldon spoke about the earlier process to get the sand dredged from the lake. He said in his conversations with hydrologists, he had learned that the concrete under the temporary dam stops the sand from going back to the ocean. As the sandbar keeps getting higher, docks are under water and high water is coming close to homes and septic systems. When seagulls populate on the sandbar, they pollute both the lake and the river. He has a report from PBS Environmental Engineering to share with the board. He suggested sandbags instead of concrete. He met with agencies in Salem in a pre-application conference, which was a positive meeting. He said that dredging will be an ongoing issue, and suggested a more comprehensive solution. He talked about experts who were consulted earlier.

Keith thanked Randy for the information. Boone said he would distribute copies of the information from Randy to the board

Discussion: Boone discussed with DSL personnel what steps need to be taken. He also said that de-watering is important, and the need for dry weather, but State Parks said August is not acceptable due to visitors. Boone suggested September 15 to October 15 or the possibility of not de-watering. Susan said that during her conversation with Tim Gross that he thought State Parks could be convinced to go with current plan. Boone will follow up with him, then a meeting with all the agencies will be needed.

Communications Report

- The News Guard, special article
- Attending Indian Shores HOA meeting, Nov. 16

Discussion: Boone said that an interview with him, Tina and The News Guard, resulted in the article.

Public Comment: Jay Roelof said that the article didn't have any new information, and won't improve the quality of the water. He questioned the wisdom of purchasing the property. He said that other property owners would grant access to DLWID.

Keith replied that the main goal of purchasing the Blue Heron property, was to ensure access to the lake.

Miles Scheslinger said that it is important to have a marina with gas at the property, and the board was fortunate to be able to purchase the property at a reasonable price.

Larry Brown commented about the marina and the condition of the lake.

Mitch said that the board has some time to get this project underway and if this project fails, the property can be sold. He also indicated that volunteer time will be used to develop the property.

Susan said that the DLWIID strategic plan includes more than just water quality. Keith said his main concern is the weeds.

Randy Weldon said that he will give access to the lake to DLWID if Blue Heron Landing is not available.

Susan emphasized that it will be a volunteer committee to work on the Blue Heron Landing, not the board that is working on the project.

Grants/Fundraising

- Oregon Water Enhancement Board (OWEB) - grant submitted 10/30. Request for \$120,900 for mechanical harvesting funds.
- SDIS – Safety & Security Grant – matching funds grant that could help upgrade fencing around Blue Heron Landing. Quote for new fence from Outdoor Fence Co. \$14,775, electrical \$3,800. Plans provided may need to be revised due to parking lot space. A slide gate is an option but may require some earthwork.
- 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
- Oregon State Marine Board Grants (OSMB) – Water access improvements, boating facility grants, new construction. Grant application due Oct. 2-Dec. 11 – award in April 2024, May-July 12 – award in October 2024
 - Extensive application, requires public support/opposition, will require permits, potential site survey.

Discussion: Boone talked about the grant that was submitted, with expected reply in April 2024. Quote for fence totaled about \$18,500 and would require a 50% match. Susan said that the amount is over what the lake manager could approve. Dayton said that it might be too much to spend for a temporary fence. Discussion took place about what the possible benefit would be. Susan suggested a vote.

MOTION: Dayton Mays moved that DLWID not apply for the Safety & Security grant to put fencing at the marina. Susan Elworth seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Boone talked about the OSMB grant, and he feels there is too much required before the deadline. This would be to improve the boat ramp. Susan said that the harvester will continue to damage the boat ramp. Improvement to the ramp now may be too soon. Plans may call for different placement of the ramp. Boone suggested a gangway gate to the dock, instead of at the road. Mitch said that it could be put on the list for a future grant period. Susan talked about other uses of grant money.

Upcoming Conference – Oregon Lakes Association Nov. 15-16 in Corvallis, Boone said he is hoping for discussion about noxious weeds.

Public Comment: Jay Roelof said he appreciated this opportunity to discuss the issues. Larry Brown said that he would continue to push for more grass carp

Susan said that an executive session should be scheduled for Boone's 6-month review.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:04 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 6:00pm

Submitted by Susan Wahlke