

**BASS LAKE CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT MEETING
MARCH 21, 2016**

PRESENT: President Gene Novello	Vice President Larry Collura
Director Jerry Broadstreet	Director Russ Blais
Director Dennis Kraftor	Plant Manager Tom Jordan
Engineer Lee Nagai	Attorney Ethan Lowe
Office Assistant Mariann Gappa	

ABSENT: CPA Firm, Umbaugh & Associates Jeff Rowe (not required to attend)

President Gene Novello called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Steven Hawkins and Dr. Robin Mills Ridgeway from Purdue University were present to talk about the Fish Hatchery and the changes that will be taking place. Dr. Hawkins stated that the DNR turned the site over to Purdue University about 10 years ago with the intent that Purdue would renovate the site and return the hatchery to provide ecological studies on fish in the state of Indiana. Dr. Mills Ridgeway handles the regulations regarding the hatchery. One of the regulations concerns the discharge of the ponds into the lake. An alternative is to discharge the ponds into the sewer system and this would only be done when a pond is being changed over between studies. The Directors and Plant Manager had many questions concerning the different aspects of discharging the ponds into the sewer system. Dr. Mills-Ridgeway stated that the researchers are not sure yet about what will be done and this needs to be confirmed before the application for grants. The water for the ponds comes from a well and a new well and pumps will be installed. Dr. Hawkins stated that this is the first in the state for such a shallow pond ecological study and school children would also be taught about fish, fishing tactics and safety measures when near water. The proposed depth would be about 6 ½ feet. Dr. Hawkins stated no harm would be done to the lake when the proposed plan for renovating the hatchery is finished and this would be in 2017 or 2018 because of the extensive amount of work that needs to be done. Attorney Lowe stated that a written agreement should be in place between the Property Owners Association and BLCD that would spell out the terms of the discharge. He also stated that it would have to be determined how the discharge would fit into the user fees of the BLCD.

Engineer Nagai stated the farm had been surveyed per the Board's request and the survey recorded and Plant Manager Jordan had copies of the survey.

The reading of the minutes was waived and Director Blais made a motion to approve the minutes from the Feb. 15, 2015 meeting, Director Kraftor seconded. Motion carried.

David Nance and Tracy Powell from the IDNR were present to explain the problems concerning the weir at Bass Lake. Mr. Nance stated he became aware of the problems around 2000, but other lakes had more serious problems so nothing was done and the problem worsened over the

years. Last year, the IDNR came up with a design to correct the problems. Mr. Nance found a survey from 1973 that could be compared with the present situation and he explained how much of the land has been lost to the lake since 1973. He stated that if money is left after the repairs are completed, possibly the shoreline could be repaired. He explained the weir is over 2 feet out of alignment from the original location. He gave a detailed presentation of the proposed repair and changes to the weir.

The permit phase was started in January and the bidding phase a couple of weeks ago. It was then learned that the money was not in the account as it had been redirected so the bids could not be opened for lack of funds. Hopefully the project will only be delayed until Fall. Mr. Nance and Ms. Powell then explained how the money situation works.

Audience member Paul Boender had a question about the weir that Mr. Vance answered.

President Novello presented the financial report. The fund balances exceed the minimum reserve requirements and the receipts have exceeded expenditures. The budget hasn't been approved yet so the budget numbers are not in the comparative schedule. Another bond payment is due in July. Director Kraftor made a motion to approve the financial report, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried. Vice President Collura made a motion to approve the 2016 budget, Director Kraftor seconded. Motion carried.

President Novello asked for volunteers to work on the 5-Year Plan and Directors Broadstreet, Blais, and Kraftor agreed to do this. President Novello stated the rate structure would take 90-120 days to complete if changes were to be made. Attorney Lowe stated that after a decision is made, then a legal process would be started.

Bills to be paid:

NIPSCO	\$166.98 (Bldg. Pump)
NIPSCO	\$248.98 (Lift Stations)
NIPSCO	\$73.59 (Pump)
Century Link	\$55.73
Century Link	\$205.13
Prime Pay	\$214.00(Feb.)
Prime Pay	\$162.00 (Mar.)
Prime Pay	\$3524.79 (2/19/2016)
Prime Pay	\$7878.21 (3/4/2016)
Prime Pay	\$3502.45 (3/18/2016)
Umbaugh	\$1695.00 (February)
TCU	\$54.35
TCU	\$952.34 (Credit Card)
Smith's Farm Store	\$416.36 (Misc. Supplies)
NAPA	\$12.91 (UPS)
Npes	\$2380.00 (Jan. & Feb.)
D.S.&S.	\$2060.00 (Lift Station & Leak at Plant)
WTH	\$400.00 (Annual Fee)
Pilot News	\$13.14 (Legal Notice)
Aquatic Control	\$5150.00 (AVMP & Plant Sampling)

Quill.com	\$170.38 (Misc. Supplies)
Campagna & Son	\$200.00 (Mini Excavator)
NIPSCO	\$116.07 (Bldg. Pump)
NIPSCO	\$444.33 (Lift Stations)
NIPSCO	\$73.65 (Pump)
Century Link	\$62.73
Century Link	\$219.13

Director Blais asked about the leak at the office and Plant Manager Jordan explained what happened and how it was repaired.

Vice President Collura made a motion to approve the bills as presented, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried.

LARE Update – Director Broadstreet stated that BLCD had applied for 150 acres of milfoil to be sprayed if needed. The total bill would be \$43,000 and the grant will pay 80% of this. The grant has been approved. It is necessary to have bids from 3 companies to comply with the requirements for the grants. Requests were sent to 6 companies for bids. A permit was also received to eradicate phragmites. Vice President Collura made a motion to have Director Broadstreet decide on the contractor for eradication as specified by the DNR, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried. Vice President Collura stated that the property owners need to be notified before the spraying begins. Director Kraftor expressed his appreciation for the work that Director Broadstreet does in regard to weed control of the lake.

Tom Jordan’s Report – Plant Manager Jordan reported that the generators had been serviced and he hopes to have the generator at J Lift Station by the next meeting. Davis Well Drilling will work on the water pump. Bielava Campground wants to hook up 7 more trailers which would result in an \$11.00 per month per camper rate increase. The sewer line at 4833 E CR 210 is not the problem of BLCD.

Attorney’s Comments—Attorney Lowe stated that Office Assistant Gappa had sent him a legal notice that was in the local paper. He explained what it meant and asked to be kept informed of the property owners payments to BLCD. He asked the Directors to decide on the date for the Board elections this Summer. The Directors chose July 2, 2016 from 9:00 to 1:00. Vice President Collura made a motion to set July 2, 2016 as the date for the annual election and approval of the absentee ballot application, Director Kraftor seconded. Motion carried. Director Blais commented on letting people know about the absentee ballots. Attorney Lowe stated that the deadline for submitting nominating petitions is May 31 and the deadline to get an application for an absentee ballot is June 2 and this can cause a problem. He also stated that voters need to show some sign of documentation if the property is in trust or holding company or corporation.

Office Assistant’s Comments – Office Assistant Gappa reported that 3 new accounts have been added to replace existing accounts. Plant Manager Jordan is now bonded although BLCD has not received a bill yet from GIS Ins. Claim forms are available if any Directors need them. The Spring check from Wappel for \$21,000 was deposited on 3/11/2016 and it is 3 weeks early from the due date. The grant money of over \$4,000 was also deposited so BLCD had an income of

over \$25,000 on that day. An update on the EFT program shows over \$15,000 is now deposited monthly from 215 users.

Comments from the Board—Director Kraftor stated that Boa Shores is requesting permission to install a port-a-potty from Memorial Day until Labor Day. Director Blais made a motion to approve the request from Boa Shores, Vice President Collura seconded. Motion carried.

Vice President Collura made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried. The next meeting is at 6:00p.m. April 18, 2016 at the BLPOA building.