



Bass Lake Conservancy District Meeting

March 19, 2018

PRESENT: Chairman Gene Novello
Director Jerry Broadstreet
Office Assistant Mariann Gappa
Plant Manager Tom Jordan
Office Assistant Tabitha Dillner

Vice Chairman Larry Collura
Director Russ Blais
Attorney Ethan Lowe
Jenny Sapp (standing in for Lee Nagai)

ABSENT: Engineer Lee Nagai

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

Minutes – The reading of the minutes from the meeting was waived and Director Broadstreet made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2018 meeting, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried.

Financials – Chairman Novello presented the financial report. The fund balances exceed the minimum reserve requirements by \$1,662,941 and the total receipts have exceeded the total expenditures to date by \$53,772. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the financial report from February 2018, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried.

Bills to be paid:

NIPSCO	\$513.15 (Plant)
NIPSCO	\$557.52 (Lift Stations)
NIPSCO	\$76.40 (Lake Pump)
NIPSCO	\$883.85 (Plant)
Century Link	\$294.04 (Phone Service)
Prime Pay	\$3,779.52 (1/14/2018)
Prime Pay	\$3,659.73 (1/28/2018)
TCU	\$63.95 (February Charge)
TCU	\$466.49 (T's Credit Card)
TCU	\$99.40 (M's Credit Card)
Apheus	\$15.00 (Carbonite)
Apheus	\$90.00 (Computer)
Apheus	\$12.95 (Computer)
Umbaugh	\$1,735.00 (February Charge)
CNA	\$350.00 (Bond)
Webb Printing	\$139.00 (Envelopes)
WTH	\$424.00 (Service-GIS)
Flow-Technics	\$1,805.23 (2 Air Release Valve)
Flow-Technics	\$7,200.00 (Electric Panel-C Lift Station)

Starke County Co-op	\$667.90 (LP Gas)
Starke County Treasurer	\$769.44 (Overpayment of Liens)
Mary Umgelder	\$461.00 (House Sold-Overpayment)
John Petty	\$71.61 (House Sold-Overpayment)
USA Blue Book	\$190.30 (Misc. Supplies)
Aquatic Control	\$5,700.00 (LARE Programs)
Larry Collura	\$300.00 (Director Payment-3 Months)

Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the bills as presented and read into the March 19, 2018 minutes, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried.

Budget – Chairman Novello presented the estimated BLCD 2018 Budget at February’s meeting that was tabled until March’s BLCD’s meeting for the board to have time to review it. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the BLCD 2018 Budget, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried.

LARE – Director Broadstreet stated that BLCD did receive the LARE grant this year. It was ordered last week, and the cost is \$6,400. This will include the spray for the phragmites and purple loosestrife plants along the shoreline of the lake, including Bass Lake Beach.

Resolution 18-01—Attendance Requirements – Attorney Lowe presented to the board a copy of the amended Resolution 18-01 order that was filed with the Starke County Circuit Court.

Insurance for 2018 – Vice Chairman Collura stated that the insurance companies he reached out to are still actively working on the quotes for 2018 coverage. One of the companies requested a loss report from the last three years.

Jordan’s Report – Plant Manager Jordan reported that C-Lift Station total damage was around \$10,000 and everything was paid except for the \$1,000 deductible. Everything is back up and running normal. After some discussion about putting something up to protect C-Lift Station, Plant Manager Jordan said he would check into and bring it to the next meeting. Plant Manager Jordan also mentioned he reached out to R.C. Tree Company about cleaning up the dam at the public launch. They quoted \$2,560 to remove 8 trees, brush and overgrowth. This was approved by DNR. They said they can take everything down to the stumps but not allowed to remove the stumps to prevent erosion. Also, they want it all hand-dug out, no use of equipment allowed. Then every two years the company that does the weeds at the plant, will maintain to keep the saplings down. Discussion was brought up about adding a camera at public launch ditch for extra security and keep an eye on it. All the equipment needed to add it is already there. Vice Chairman Collura and Plant Manager Jordan will look into this further. Attorney Lowe mentioned there is nothing legally to prevent them from doing it, but the video recordings would be a public record and available to the public if they requested them. And a there would need to be to be a way of maintaining the footage for at least 30 days. Director Blais made a motion to approve the \$2,560 for the LARE project (to clear the ditch from the LARE to the culvert outlet), Vice Chairman Collura seconded. Motion carried. Plant Manager Jordan started that during all the rain all of the lift stations handled it well except for Lift Station N, which is by Woodland, Summerholme and CR 210 and (near old Buchta’s). The lift station ran for three days. Plant Manager Jordan did a smoke test in the area and would like to camera the lines this spring, which is in the budget. He will work on getting the camera test done and have a report for the next meeting. Attorney Lowe will report more at the next meeting about the easement at force main.

Attorney's Comments – Attorney Lowe discussed setting the annual election date for District One and the At Large positions. After board discussion, the date set was June 30. The past five years it has been the Saturday before or after fourth of July. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the annual election date, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried. Before the April BLCD meeting, Attorney Lowe will file the legal petition and send it to the board.

Office Assistant's Comments – Office Assistant Gappa stated there were seven new accounts set up in the last month, and two more accounts this week. On February 19 a check was received from Wappel for \$21,000 for land rent and deposited which covers the next six months.

Comments from the Board – Nothing was added.

Comments from the Audience – Rick Anderson displayed three clear containers of water from the lake from different places and times. The first one was water from under the ice from the last freeze over from the north point of the lake, which was clear. The second was taken March 10th in front of Rick Anderson's house, which was a little bit cloudy. The third was taken before the meeting from the overage of the dam, which was cloudier than the second one. Anderson discussed a few options with the board to do for the lake: (1) to keep the pump running to have water running over the dam to clean the lake (2) testing for phosphates. The board has no objections with any extra testing the BLPOA board would like to do in addition to what the BLCD and DNR does. The BLCD board is not in favor of running the pump just to keep the water running over the dam, wasting water and money. The BLCD board actively works with facts and meets regularly with DNR to preserve the health of the lake. The past few years the lake has been treating phragmites. They use 1 quart per acre. The 2 years ago they treated 4 acres, the last year they treated 2 acres and this year they will treat half an acre. Director Broadstreet mentioned that when phragmites break down they cause a waxy film and that waxy film breaks down which creates suds. This, like any other plant, breaks down and goes away. A natural occurrence. Kathy Carrier discussed with the board some clean lake initiative plans some local lakes are involved in.

Chairman Novello motioned the adjournment of the meeting at 6:51 p.m., with all in favor. The next meeting will be April 16, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the BLPOA Building.