

## Bass Lake Conservancy District Meeting January 10, 2022

## AGENDA:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Minutes
- Financial Report
- Bills
- Employee Review
- Plant Manager's Report
- Comments from Attorney
- Comments from Office Coordinator
- Comments from the Board
- Questions or Comments from the Audience

## Adjournment

Chairman Gene Novello called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Gene Novello Vice Chairman Larry Collura Director Jerry Broadstreet Director Russ Blais Plant Manager Tom Jordan District Office Coordinator Tabitha Dillner Attorney Christian Bartholomew

ABSENT: Director Melissa Long

**Minutes** – The reading of the minutes from the meeting was waived and Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2021 meeting, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried.

**Financials** –Chairman Novello presented the December financial report. The fund balances exceed the minimum reserve requirements by \$2,412,454 and the total receipts have exceeded the total expenditures to date by \$150,573. Unmetered collections are \$2,464 over budget and total operating expenditures are under budget by \$31,331. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the financial report from December 2021, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried. Chairman Novello also presented the projected budget for 2022 for discussion and review. A motion will be made at February's board meeting.

Bills to be paid:

NIPSCO	\$ 223.26	Monthly plant
NIPSCO	\$ 602.43	Monthly lift stations
NIPSCO	\$ 1,979.21	Monthly lake pump
CenturyLink	\$ 183.19	Monthly phone
TCU Credit Card	\$ 3,754.16	Monthly credit card
TCU Invoice	\$ 118.15	Monthly bank fees
PrimePay-Payroll	\$ 5,700.42	Bi-weekly payroll – 11/29/2021 – 12/12/2021
PrimePay-Payroll	\$ 10,213.08*	Bi-weekly payroll – 12/13/2021 – 12/26/2021
*Director's Pay	\$ 3098.91	

PrimePay-Invoice	\$ 361.53	Monthly service charges
Apheus	\$ 137.00	Monthly computer fee
Baker Tilly	\$ 1,840.00	Monthly accounting fee
Burke, Costanza & Carberry	\$ 763.00	Monthly attorney fee
Wildman	\$ 58.24	Monthly office supplies/services
Northern IN Wildlife	\$ 450.00	Monthly trapper fee
Keybank	\$ 36.00	Annual security box fee
J&K Excavating	\$ 600.00	Clean line on Lombardi & plant
Cummins	\$ 1,404.47	Generator 3 repair
Flow-Tech	\$ 705.00	Liftstation H & N repairs
Mark Milo	\$ 1,500.00	Inspect & recommendations sewer line
Territorial Engineering	\$ 470.00	Inspect & recommendations sewer line
Anna Zoltek	\$ 24.90	Refund-sold home with credit
Alliance	\$ 264.00	Annual membership fee
Smith Farm Store	\$ 49.15	Plant supplies

Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the bills as presented noting each payee, the dollar amounts, and purpose were read into the January 10, 2022 minutes, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried.

**Employee Reviews**—Chairman Novello stated that the rest of board as well as Attorney Bartholomew met in Executive Session before the regular meeting to discuss employees' reviews. After discussion the board presented Plant Manager Jordan and Office Coordinator Dillner a 7% raise. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the 7% raises for the employees, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried.

Plant Manager's Report—Plant Manager Jordan reported that there was 2.90 inches of precipitation for December and 43.61 for the year. And 34 million gallons a day were pumped into the lake for December. And between June 2021 and December 2021 356 million gallons was pumped into the lake. The pump was turned off January 6 due to the lake freezing. Plant Manager Jordan presented the board with the systems annual report pointing out that the system is great shape. Plant Manager Jordan let the board know that the BLCD's insurance company will pursue to retrieve the funds paid out for the car that hit liftstation F. Plant Manager Jordan presented the board with an invoice that Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve invoice for \$1584.04 to replace bad seals on liftstation C pump 2, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried. Plant Manager Jordan presented the board with an estimate for the south lagoon to be surveyed for approximately \$7,000. After discussion Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the survey to be completed, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried. Plant Manager Jordan let the board know that a new home was added to a line on 625. Now that five homes are on this line it was recommended by Territorial Engineer to not allow any more homes on this line. Plant Manager Jordan stated that after discussion with Attorney Bartholomew the contract for Milestone Fence, Plant Manager Jordan would like to call and cancel the contract to install a fence at liftstations O and G because they said they would have the job done in 10 weeks and that was at the end of 2020 and early 2021. Plant Manager Jordan reached out to a Northwest Fencing company, and they can get them done sooner and cheaper. The board and attorney supported this decision. Plant Manager Jordan gave the board information on a Muffin muncher that would be installed at J liftstation. This would help mulch up the wipes that people flush that harms the system so much. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. Plant Manager Jordan mentioned that the trapper was still coming once a week to help with the coyotes since they have made a den.

**District Office Coordinator's Comments**—Office Coordinator Dillner reported that 26 liens were paid with the fall tax installment total of \$7,818.61. Office Coordinator Dillner reported the year-end numbers as follows: 1043 keystone accounts (approximately 1200 hookups) which 362 live at Bass Lake year-round, 246 live in Indiana but not Bass Lake, 435 are out of state residents. This year 67 homes sold, 388

new eft's, 7 new hookups, 1 disconnect, 22 Bass Lake Rentals advertised. There are 595 emails collected and 19 emails were sent out with an average open rate of 46.33%. Office Coordinator Dillner let the board know that the grant process has started with filling out the paperwork and sending it in to DNR.

Attorney's Comments— Attorney Bartholomew and the board discussed setting up separate accounts for the lake pump and invasive vegetation control. And ways to fund these accounts without using the current money which was and is collected for the sole purpose of maintaining the sewer system that is now 24 years old. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting. Further investigation will be concerning the pump and the weeds.

**Comments from the Board**— The board had nothing additional to add.

**Comments from the Audience**—The audience had nothing additional to add.

Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried. The next meeting will be February 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the BLPOA building for regularly scheduled meeting.