



LAC LA BELLE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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Commissioners Meeting
THURSDAY, April 30– 7:00 P.M.

Minutes

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this meeting was held virtually via Zoom with additional dial-in information provided on the agenda to allow public access to the meeting.

1. Call to Order

D. Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Dan Bauer

Jeff Bode

Ernie Bollinger

Karen Carr

Jim Goose

Terry Largent

Dave Zimmermann

Absent

3. Emailed Comments from the Floor – None.

4. Approval of October 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes

E. Bollinger moved to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2019 Regular Meeting as presented. T. Largent seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

5. Update From Ben Heussner on Carp Telemetry Study, Lac La Belle Fishery & Commercial Carp

Ben Heussner, DNR Fisheries Biologist, provided information about the Lac La Belle Fishery, Carp Telemetry Study, and contract with the DNR authorized commercial carp fisherman in advance of the meeting. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) had begun initial discussion of an upgrade to the electronic carp barrier downstream of Lac La Belle due to decreased functionality. A request had been made to the City Department of Public Works staff to put the grates back into the dam structure on West Wisconsin Avenue to restrict upstream movement of carp. The grates had been removed during the time of dam reconstruction, stored by the City, and the brackets replaced as part of the project several years ago. The commercial carp fisherman anticipated completion of the capture/removal portion of DNR grant work to remove carp from Lac La Belle this year. In anticipation of the carp removal, the debris at the sound end of the lake needed to be removed from the lakebed. Video footage of the underwater debris would be provided by DNR wardens with review by DNR fisheries management to determine if the underwater obstacles were useful fish habitat. There was no anticipated cost to the LLBMD for this activity. E. Bollinger shared historic knowledge of submerged fish habitat in

the lake approximately 15-20 years ago. A map of submerged habitat locations would be provided in the future.

6. Update on 2020 Grants

a. Clean Boats, Clean Water Grant Program & IGA

J. Bode submitted a Clean Boats, Clean Water grant on behalf of the LLBMD as requested by the Board at the October 17, 2019 LLBMD meeting. Notification of the Clean Boats, Clean Water grant award had recently been received. An Intergovernmental Agreement had been signed and approved with Waukesha County regarding this grant work as well. Because concern was expressed regarding floating lake weeds entering Lac La Belle through the dam and flume structures on North Main Street, the grant had been written to request allotted time for an intern to work at the Fowler Lake Boat Launch in addition to the boat launch at City Beach. County staff would hire, train, and provide payment to the intern. The LLBMD would provide onsite supervision and scheduling of the site. The grant would allow a minimum of 200 hours for an intern to be present at the Lac La Belle and Fowler Lake boat launches. The intern would typically be scheduled during the weekends and on holidays during peak times of boat launch activity. A database would be kept noting the time of launch for boats coming into and going out of Lac La Belle. The COVID-19 pandemic could potentially affect the use of Clean Boats, Clean Water program at local boat launches this summer. J. Groose and J. Bode will meet with City staff in the future to discuss implementation of the Clean Boats, Clean Water program and options available to reduce or remove lake weeds floating over the dam from Fowler Lake into Lac La Belle.

b. Lake Planning Grant

J. Bode explained Ben Heussner had made a presentation to the LLBMD Board last year, noting at that time it was unclear how to submit various deliverables expected for rough fish removal efforts. J. Bode volunteered to complete an application for a point intercept survey to provide the necessary data for the rough fish removal. The hope in doing this was that there would be a decrease in biomass in fish and an increase of aquatic plant diversity as a result of rough fish removal. The LLBMD had recently been notified it had been awarded a Lake Planning grant to assist in funding the work needed for the point intercept survey. A point intercept survey consisted of specific locations plotted on a map with plant sampling in those locations and a variety of factors recorded. The survey work would likely take place in July when the plant life was nearing its maximum growth. If the COVID-19 pandemic prohibited the work from happening this year, the LLBMD had been granted a two-year window to complete the work. Bids had been requested from three different companies to complete the point intercept survey work. All bids received were within the budget and within the grant to do the work. In the event, Starry Stonewort, a new aquatic invasive species, was found in Lac La Belle, additional grants were available to allow rapid response and/or treatment. To date, Starry Stonewort had not been found in Lac La Belle.

c. Discuss & Act on Targeted Runoff Management Grant

J. Bode provided history associated with the existing streambank conservation easement and related work on the area surrounding Lac La Belle Creek that ran through the property currently owned by the Club at Lac La Belle. The focus of the easement was to improve the water quality of the stream that entered Lac La Belle in the Village of Lac La Belle. To that end, the Village of Lac La Belle, the City of Oconomowoc/Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program and Tall Pines Conservancy had agreed to work together to improve the water quality coming into Lac La Belle via Lac La Belle Creek. One way to do this was to apply for a Wisconsin DNR Targeted Run-off Management (TRM) Grant. This type of reimbursement grant was used to reduce non-point source pollution through runoff management practices in urban and agricultural areas with surface water or ground water quality concerns. Efforts were underway by SEH, an engineering firm hired by the Village of Lac La Belle, and ERC consultants hired by Tall Pines Conservancy with support from the LLBMD. Those two groups would continue to work cooperatively to determine which parts of the creek were in most need of repair and how far downstream the funding would allow the work to progress. In addition to this work, it was suggested that pursuit of a TRM grant take place this year. The maximum payment amount of the TRM grant would be \$225,000 with the participants providing a minimum of 30% of the matching amount. The Village of Lac La Belle would be the grant administrator in working with the Club at Lac La Belle owners, the OWPP and the LLBMD in pursuit of the grant if desired. This would amount to approximately \$25,000 in committed funding from the LLBMD in 2021 and an additional amount of \$3,000 to fund the grant application process in 2020.

Discussion ensued regarding the existing conditions of the streambank relative to the conservation easement. The upper four reaches of the stream were identified and in need of stabilization. Downstream the creek had left its bank and while it still flowed into the irrigation pond, a large delta had built up and with heavy rainfall, overflowed and created a channel that meandered in that area. The Village of Lac La Belle would work to stabilize the upper reaches as soon as possible. The next three reaches were each about 1000 foot in length and would be the TRM grant focus area. A combination of natural plugs and native plantings would be placed after regrading on a 2:1 slope and planting wetland species in that area. Cost estimates for stabilization of the creek edge and three to six feet into the creek as part of the TRM grant were being explored. The final stage of the grant application was being prepared with an estimate for 2,000 feet of the linear stream (1,000 feet on one side and 1,000 feet on the other) that could include wetland plugs, riprap and rocks, with fabricated material laid and planted with the native plant plugs. If the TRM grant were to be approved, approximately 70% of the problem area along the streambank would be managed. The TRM grant submittal deadline was May 15, 2020. Letters of support and adoption of a resolution indicating support from all partners were required along with the grant submittal.

Discussion took place regarding the sandbagged areas of the creek that overflowed into residential yards. Violations had been noted by the DNR related to the flooding and correction of the violations was anticipated.

D. Bauer read the proposed letter and resolution into the record at this time. Approval of the resolution was conditioned on funding for the TRM grant application and construction of the activities in 2021 to be shared equally amongst the four funding entities, the LLBMD would not be obligated to fund either the grant application process (up to \$3,000) or the construction activities (up to \$25,000) until the WDNR confirmed all requirements of the Chapter 30 permits held by the Prestwick Development Group were met and all compliance issues were resolved. It was the intent of the LLBMD to hold a Special Meeting, and/or the Annual Meeting, to consider formal approval of the \$25,000 share of the TRM grant work. Discussion ensued.

K. Carr moved to approve the Commitment Letter from the LLBMD to Tim Clark, Village of Lac La Belle President, dated April 30, 2020, indicating support for the Golf Course Creek TRM Grant for Construction of Erosion Control Measures as presented. J. Groose seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The draft resolution included the same conditions outlined in the approved letter of support.

E. Bollinger moved to approve the proposed Resolution indicating LLBMD support for the Golf Course Creek TRM Grant for Construction of Erosion Control Measures, to be dated April 30, 2020, as presented. J. Bode seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

7. Discuss & Act On 2019-2020 Shoreland Restoration

K. Carr explained Kier Peckham had agreed to temporarily assist in the 2019 Shoreland Restoration program. An early winter caused the ground to freeze prior to the 2019 plantings being placed in the ground. Since that time, the 2019 Shoreland Restoration applicants had decided not to pursue the project. Research had been conducted and a potential 2020 Shoreland Restoration contactor located. Mike Herrenbruck, Co-Owner of Echo Harmony Landscape and Design Services in Brookfield, Wisconsin had been contacted. Additional discussions were underway regarding how best to proceed for this year. Discussion ensued regarding the number of projects that could be undertaken this year. Additional discussion on this topic would take place in the future after the 2020 LLBMD Shoreland Restoration program applicants had submitted paperwork indicating interest in the program for this year.

J. Groose moved to proceed with working with Echo Harmony Landscape and Design Services in Brookfield, Wisconsin for the 2020 Shoreland Restoration Program. T. Largent seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

8. Adjournment

K. Carr moved to adjourn the April 30, 2020 Lac La Belle Management District meeting at 8:22 P.M. D. Zimmermann seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.