



ANNUAL MEETING & BUDGET HEARING OF LAC LA BELLE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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Thursday

August 18, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.

Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall

W359 N6812 Brown Street | Oconomowoc | Wisconsin | 53066

“The LLBMD seeks to promote environmentally conscious and fiscally responsible decisions by providing education, enhancing a healthy lake ecosystem and ensuring safe use of Lac LaBelle for today and tomorrow.”

Minutes

1. Call to Order

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

2. Introduction of Commissioners

D. Bauer welcomed all present to the 2016 Lac La Belle Management District (LLBMD) Annual Meeting. Dan Bauer, Chairperson; Karen Carr, Secretary; Ryan Myhre, Treasurer; and Commissioner Karen Trepton were present. Terry Largent, Town of Oconomowoc Representative, and Commissioner Lou Morgan were absent. Dave Zimmermann, Waukesha County Representative/District 2 Supervisor and Vice Chairperson, was also present. D. Zimmermann explained as County Representative, he was unable to vote on motions made at this Annual Meeting due to the voting requirements.

3. Lake District Accomplishments

Dan Bauer reviewed the activities and accomplishments of the LLBMD in 2016 to date. They included:

- Completion of 2015 Shoreland Restoration Program
- Coordinated 2016 Goose Round-Up twice
- Continue to learn from the DNR staff through various presentations including the AIS presentation by Brad and Jenna at this meeting and others
- Support Clean Water Association in their goal to bring together a number of stakeholders, including farmers, business leaders, etc. to support water quality as a common goal
- Funding for Carp Telemetry Study currently on hold due to DNR budget constraints

4. Presentation by Brad Steckart, Waukesha County Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator

Brad Steckart, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for Waukesha and Washington counties, and Jenna Bales, Summer Intern, were present. B. Steckart explained his role as AIS Coordinator as well as several projects underway. He then shared information about a new AIS called Starry Stonewort that had been located in Wisconsin lakes in 2015. Starry Stonewort was first discovered in Washington County in Silver Lake. He shared a poster of a real plant sample of Starry Stonewort, noting the “starry” bulbil grew under the sediment, the fishing line look of the plant, the rhizoid root structure and branchlets and whorls that gave the plant its uneven forked appearance as it grew toward the water surface.

Starry Stonewort could now be found in six Wisconsin lakes with one area recently confirmed in Green Lake in Washington County near the boat launch in a 100 foot wide area. Boat launches were the #1 place where species were transferred and located within lakes. Each little starry bulbil was asexual so one piece of the plant containing a bulbil that might be found in the dirt on an anchor or sticking to a boat or trailer would have enough plant structure to start a new plant bed in a different location. The Starry Stonewort plants in America were all male at this point. This was considered significant because native Chara could better compete with it due to poor genetics of the Starry Stonewort resulting from a single gender being present in the plant.

Michigan had thirty lakes infested with Starry Stonewort and a few management techniques had been tried to eradicate and/or reduce the plant population in those areas. One management technique involved chemical application of copper sulfate. This was being applied in Little Muskego Lake in Wisconsin; however, varying results with this type of application were found in Michigan lakes. Some years the results of the application had indicated a reduction in the plant for a year followed by a resurgence of plant growth. Some lakes had not been treated and found similar results so at this point it was difficult to attribute success to the chemical application. Another method of removal being used in Silver Lake in Washington County through a Rapid Response Grant involved Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting or DASH. This method involved mechanical removal of the plant through a hose. The benefit of this method included getting into the sediment to remove the plant entirely and the diver could be selective in plant removal allowing the native plants to remain. Leaving the native plants intact helped to work against the invasive species growth. The DASH removal noted a reduction; however, some population did remain. One consequence of using DASH was that the water in the removal area became turbid with sediment. If the DASH method were used in Green Lake the method would be changed to allow neutrally buoyant hoses to do shorter pulls over a long period of time to allow the water to clear between removal sessions. Chemical treatment and other methods of removal were being tried in Washington County to provide data on removal methods. In some areas, the plant material would appear to be gone; however, when raking the area, rhizoids with starry bulbils were still present. The rooting structures were still being studied to determine the best method of removal. B. Steckart further explained the plant resembled native Chara or Sago Pondweed. The difference between the two plants was

noted in native Chara having smaller whorls and branchlets. Sago Pondweed had opposite branches with little leaves and would flower. Starry Stonewort did not flower. Also if Starry Stonewort were removed from the water, it would often collapse because the stems were single cells between the whorls and branchlets. In the water, Starry Stonewort typically grew approximately five feet tall; however, in Michigan lakes it was known to grow in six to nine feet of water coming to the surface and then piling over onto itself to form a mat of weeds that props could not get through. Lac La Belle and Fowler Lake would be formally surveyed for Starry Stonewort in the next year. Boating enthusiasts should look for Starry Stonewort especially near public boat launches. If anyone believed they found Starry Stonewort in area lakes or waterways, they should contact Brad Steckart at 262-335-4806 and leave a message with location and contact information. A meeting would take place on August 31, 2016 regarding the grant funding that supported B. Steckart's position. D. Zimmermann noted the LLBMD 2017 budget contemplated \$1,000 dedicated to supporting the AIS grant.

5. Update on 2016 Shoreland Restoration Program

K. Carr reviewed the objectives and benefits of the annual Shoreland Restoration program. The first restoration project was completed in 2009. At the end of 2016, approximately 13 properties with Lac La Belle shoreline would have participated in the restoration program. Participation forms were available beginning in April each year through the newsletter or LLBMD website.

6. Approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes

R. Myhre moved to approve the 2015 Annual Meeting minutes as presented. Lisa Conley, 516 Lac La Belle Drive, seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

7. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

R. Myhre explained deposit accounts at various financial institutions were not yet consolidated as planned. He then reviewed the Treasurer's Report including balances and bills for August, 2016.

L. Conley moved to approve the August, 2016 Treasurer's Report as presented. Karen Trepton seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

K. Carr moved to approve payment of the bills shown on the August, 2016 Treasurer's Report. K. Trepton seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

8. Report Results of Annual Audit

R. Myhre explained the annual procedural audit was not yet fully complete due to scheduling conflicts. There were no questions anticipated about the audit and the finances of the LLBMD were always available for anyone to review. He was hopeful the audit would be complete by the next LLBMD meeting.

9. Review & Approval of 2017 Budget

R. Myhre reviewed the proposed 2017 Budget and detailed budget presented at this meeting, noting the various uses for each of the funds in the budget. A tax levy of \$38,100 was being proposed. This was less than the tax levy of \$44,600 in 2016. It was noted on the detailed budget in the lower portion of the document associated with the mill rate calculations, there was a typographical numerical error shown in the listing under the budget category. It was shown as \$38,450.00 for 2016 and should have been listed as \$38,100.00. This notation error would not impact the budget being presented.

L. Conley moved to approve the 2017 Budget as presented. K. Trepton seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

10. Presentation & Approval of Tax Levy

K. Carr moved to approve the tax levy as proposed in the amount of \$38,100. L. Conley seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

11. Nomination & Election of Commissioners

D. Bauer explained the nomination and election process to be used in determining the Commissioners for the Lac La Belle Management District. One seat belonging to Karen Carr was open this year. Karen Carr agreed to continue on in the position unless someone else wished to come forward.

Lisa Conley nominated Karen Carr to a three year term on the Commission and moved to suspend the ballot vote to allow a majority voice vote to prevail in the election for Commissioner. K. Trepton seconded the motion. K. Carr accepted the nomination. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

D. Bauer welcomed the Commission, noting an organizational meeting would take place immediately after the adjournment of the Annual Meeting this evening. L. Conley thanked LLBMD Commissioners for all the work completed this past year. K. Trepton volunteered to work with L. Conley on water quality monitoring in 2017.

12. Adjournment

L. Conley moved to adjourn from the meeting. R. Myhre seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.