



LAC LA BELLE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

www.llbmd.org

Commissioners Meeting

THURSDAY, May 18, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall

6812 Brown Street

Oconomowoc, WI 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 La Belle for today and tomorrow.”

Minutes

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Dan Bauer

Karen Carr

Lou Morgan

Karen Trepton

Dave Zimmermann

Absent

Terry Largent

Ryan Myhre

3. Comments from the Floor

Norm Eckstaedt, W384N6115 Nokoma Drive, Oconomowoc, explained the geese had arrived on his shoreline and in the water. He appreciated the Goose Round-Up held last year that collected 36 geese. He had lived on the lake for 27 years and over the past ten years, the numbers of geese had gotten increasingly worse. The presence of too many geese promoted health issues and were inconvenient when young people came over to visit and the fecal material from the geese negatively impacted the play areas. The water quality of the lake was negatively impacted as a result of too many geese as well. He appreciated efforts made to continue to Goose Round-up this year and in years moving forward.

Kim Kirkpatrick, 1124 W. Wisconsin Ave, Oconomowoc, explained she lived on Lac La Belle her entire life. She was present to speak on behalf of the geese. After the last LLBMD meeting, she contacted five people hoping to start a movement. These people chose not to participate further. In addition, she learned 97 property owners had agreed to allow access to their property for the capture of geese. She began to conduct research regarding collection of geese. The Humane Society, PETA and Geese Peace all objected to killing geese due to them being a nuisance. Her research did not find that there were any significant health threats associated with geese. Due to hunting, habitat loss and development, the geese had moved into urban areas where

people live. It seemed like everyone was trying to eradicate the geese. She wanted a goose management plan and to learn to live in harmony with these animals. Both the Humane Society and PETA noted there were other ways to manage geese including reducing the egg production, replacing goose eggs with “dummy” eggs, piercing or “shaking” the eggs, oiling the eggs, as well as other methods of contraception including Ovacontrol. She thought this would be better than the separation of life partners, leaving small goslings to fend for themselves and she requested the end of the Goose Round-Up practice.

Don Heilman, Executive Director of the Clean Water Association, noted that the City of Madison had lots of water quality issues associated with overpopulation of geese. The geese being collected were not wild, majestic Canadian geese. These were non-migratory, almost domesticated, geese. They were a nuisance and while beautiful did cause problems. There were several examples of E Coli at both public and private beaches in the area and in Madison. Madison chose to use egg oiling to reduce the population as well as a Goose Round-Up in certain areas of the City. All geese collected were prepared for distribution to food pantries. The Goose Round-Up was typically held in June when the goslings were similar in size to full-grown geese so the goslings were often captured too due to their size. The goslings were provided to zoos for animal consumption. They were not being thrown out. The geese lingering on shorelines were the result of someone bringing them as a solution to a different problem several years ago and they stayed. This situation was similar to having to pare down the deer herd to keep the health of the area and the herd in line with what could be supported by the environment.

4. Correspondence

Emails

Various emails from Kathy Buss, City of Oconomowoc regarding Lake Level Reports (3/21, 4/4, 4/19, and 5/3)

March 16, 2017- Kim Kirkpatrick – Goose Round-Up

March 22, 2017- Tom Steinbach – OWPP Celebration Lunch - Reminder

March 24, 2017 – Wisconsin Lakes – It’s Not Too Late To Join In The Action!

March 24, 2017 – Wisconsin Lakes –No Debate! They Should Debate!

March 27, 2017 – Washington County AIS Team/Brad Steckart– AIS Update - March

March 27, 2017 – Waukesha County AIS Team/Brad Steckart – AIS Update - March

March 31, 2017 – DNR Rock River Recovery Newsletter – April Newsletter

April 12, 2017 – Brad Steckart – AIS Signage at the Boat Launch

April 13, 2017 – Kim Kirkpatrick – LLBMD Agenda

April 14, 2017- Brad Steckart – AIS Signage

April 30, 2017 – DNR Rock River Recovery – May Newsletter

May 1, 2017 – Washington County AIS Team/Brad Steckart– AIS Update - April

May 1, 2017 – Waukesha County AIS Team/Brad Steckart – AIS Update - April

May 1, 2017 – Kim Kirkpatrick – Goose Round-Up

May 8, 2017 – Kim Kirkpatrick – Goose Round-Up

May 12, 2017 – John Kelliher – Lac La Belle Boat Launch Planning Meeting

May 16, 2017 – Nicki Jensen – Waukesha County Park and Open Space Plan Update

May 17, 2017 – Don Heilman – Attendance at 5-18-17 LLBMD meeting

May 18, 2017 – Mike Jones – Goose Round-Up?

5. Approval of March 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes

K. Trepton moved to approve the minutes from the March 16, 2017 LLBMD meeting as presented. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

D. Bauer moved to Item 8 at this time.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for May 18, 2017 was distributed to Commissioners with balances and pending checks noted. Bills paid since the last Commission meeting were noted. It was noted that the cash balance changed by \$2000 since the last meeting. K. Carr noted the reimbursement check to the 2016 Shoreland Restoration Program recipients was not included on the Treasurer's Report
K. Carr moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for May 18, 2017 as presented. L. Morgan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- a. Update On Bank Account Consolidation
 - i. Discuss & Act On LLBMD Depository Resolution

D. Bauer discussed the bank account consolidation with R. Myhre since the last meeting. It was determined that a resolution would be the best way to handle the matter at this time and could be updated in the future.

L. Morgan moved to adopt the Lac La Belle Management District Depository Resolution as presented. K. Trepton seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

7. Payment Authorizations

L. Morgan moved to ratify payments made since the meeting as shown on the Treasurer's Report. K. Trepton seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

L. Morgan moved to approve the Payment Authorizations for May 18, 2017 as presented. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

8. Update on Clean Water Association - Don Heilman

Don Heilman, Executive Director of the Clean Water Association, provided an update of activities conducted by the Clean Water Association in the last year. The CWA had worked with the Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program, as a member of the Steering Committee, to work on projects that benefited water quality in the area. One project involved working with area farmers to get them interested in water quality issues, find solutions to increasing phosphorus into the

waterways and to make them aware of monies available for assistance in these initiatives. As a result, the group "Farmers for Lake Country" was formed and a newsletter was recently distributed. The farmers involved were hand-picked due to their diverse farming needs and practices as well as being reputable farmers interested in learning about new practices that could benefit the environment. An Ag Resource Day was part of a larger conference where speakers from various state locations provided education and information about programs available to assist farmers in clean water initiatives. As part of this conference, a field technology day was held as well that showcased a cover crop test plot. There were ways to provide water quality conservation through cover crops that many farmers were not using. A grant had been received that allowed the CWA to offer various incentives to farmers that involved cover crops as a conservation method to contain soil in the farm fields and avoid run-off in the spring. A water quality certification program had been developed and sent to farmers via direct mailing to make them aware of the certification program that involved a checklist from the DNR.

The Healthy Lakes Conference is scheduled for June 23, 2017 at the Oconomowoc Community Center. Registration begins at 8:30 A.M. Additional information can be found the LLBMD website at: www.llbmd.org. Training for water quality monitoring will take place as well for anyone interested in learning more about how to take readings that are reported to the DNR each month. A stakeholder meeting took place over the winter that included representation from 32 lakes in the area. Quarterly meetings were being scheduled for the future.

D. Bauer thanked D. Heilman for the update and moved to Item #11 at this time.

9. Update on Annual Audit

Efforts to conduct the Annual Audit were underway at this time. More information would be available at the Annual Meeting.

10. Update on 2017 Shoreland Restoration Program

K. Carr explained she had contacted Lisa Reas regarding the 2017 Shoreland Restoration Program. More information would be available at the next LLBMD meeting.

11. Update on 2017 Goose Round-Up

K. Kirkpatrick provided information to Commissioners regarding her research on alternative methods of goose control. Commissioners discussed her findings related to egg oiling, addling, shaking and piercing, nesting locations and habitat. It was noted that there is a difference between migrant geese and residential geese populations. Migrant geese come and go from area lakes, are easily scared by humans and migrate each year. Residential geese are not easily frightened by humans and return to the same lake that they were born on each year to rear the next batch of their young. Egg oiling could help to prevent future generations but would not solve the existing residential goose problem. Geese provide one pound of excrement daily. This posed a health risk. The purpose of a Round-Up was to keep the population at a manageable level not to eradicate all geese. Some common misconceptions were that the geese were slaughtered and left. This was not the case. Geese removed were tested and if found without issue were used to feed people in need

of food through area food pantries. Discussion ensued regarding options for management instead of removal. More information would be gathered over the course of the next year related to egg oiling and other methods of goose management.

The Goose Round-up paperwork had been submitted to the US Fish and Wildlife office for 2017. No further action was required to allow the 2017 Goose Round-Up to move forward. No action was taken.

12. Update on Starry Stonewort Signage at Boat Launch

Starry Stonewort identification signage was available from Waukesha County Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, Brad Steckart. The cost of signage was approximately \$300, would include tools for cleaning boats and was approximately 48 inches square. The signage could be placed at the boat launch. Discussion ensued regarding an appropriate location. D. Bauer agreed to work with City Staff regarding sign placement.

L. Morgan moved to approve purchase and placement of Starry Stonewort signage at the boat launch. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

13. Discuss 2017 Citizen Water Quality Monitoring

Volunteers for citizen water quality monitoring were needed. Contact had been made with the local high school ecology club regarding taking on the monitoring. The City had agreed to provide kayaks or canoes for students involved in the monitoring efforts during non-peak rental hours. Training would be available at the Healthy Lakes Conference.

14. Discuss & Act on Annual Meeting Date, Topics & Speaker

It was noted that the Annual Meeting date was slated for August 17, 2017. Various topics suggested for discussion at the Annual Meeting were shared at this time.

K. Trepton moved to set the Annual Meeting date as August 17, 2017. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

15. Update on 2017 Newsletter

The 2017 LLBMD newsletter was distributed to lake residents in the past week.

16. Update on LLBMD Facebook Page

The LLBMD Facebook page would be active by the next LLBMD meeting.

17. Update on LLBMD Website

The 2017 Shoreland Restoration Program form was available online. Since the last meeting, updated lake levels and AIS newsletters as well as information about the Rock River Recovery had been added to the website. New pictures had been added to the gallery as well.

a. Topics for the website

- Healthy Lakes Conference information
- Resources & Reminders from the 2017 newsletter
- Article on Light Pollution

18. Set Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting of the Lac La Belle Management District was scheduled for July 20, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall.

19. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The following items were suggested for the, 2017 LLBMD agenda:

- Update on 2017 Goose Round-Up
- Update on Streambank Restoration Project
- Discuss & Act on 2017 Shoreland Restoration Property Projects
- Update on Noise/ Light Ordinances From Surrounding Municipalities
- Discuss & Act on 2017 Preliminary Budget
- Discuss & Act on 2017 Budget Hearing Notice & Agenda
- Update on the Annual Audit
- Update on the Boat Launch Planning Meeting

20. Adjournment

D. Zimmermann moved to adjourn the May 18, 2017 Lac La Belle Management District meeting at 8:40 P.M. K. Trepton seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.