

NLFCZD Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 27, 2014
Spokane County Public Works Building 3:00pm-5:15pm

Present –

Attendees: Marianne Barrentine, Jane Clark, Karen Kruger, Wayne Block, Wendy Burley,
Lorne Burley, Mike Frasco, Barry Moore, Tom Stebbins, Steven Ward
By phone: Laurie Keaton

Introductions

- Marianne indicated we will try to stick to the agenda. If we have the need to move away from a designated subject, we may have to schedule another meeting. Please turn off cell phones for the meeting.

District News:

- **Lake Level:** Jane reported that the lake level as of this morning was 2124.20 feet and the channel roll gates are wide open at three feet each. The rain on snow events a couple of weeks back made the lake level jump quickly. Ice is off the lake.
- **Thompson Creek:** Is currently at 3ft, down from 5ft on March 11th.
- **NRCS:** Will be going to do the snow survey tomorrow, an update will be sent later next month. The last snow survey showed the lower elevations are about 66% to 78% of average. Higher elevations are at 82% to 90% of average.
- **Alum and Oxygenation Systems:** Currently off until April.
- **Newsletter:** Karen is currently working on the newsletter. We will be having a service copy and mail out the letter this year.

Question proposed by Tom: Do we need to continue to do what we've been doing with the newsletter being the same format every year?

Discussion ensued about better, more efficient ways to communicate with District residents now, compared to five years ago. Recommendations were discussed to improve social media and update communications.

Barry indicated that the results of the last survey indicated that most people received information about the District through the Newsletter. His suggestion was that we do the survey again to see how or if that has changed in order to target the total population to find out how people prefer to receive information.

ACTION ITEM: Marianne asked if Tom would be interested in putting together a list of recommendations so we can discuss options at the next meeting. Tom agreed to draft a list of recommendations.

- Jane congratulated Karen for applying for and receiving a \$22,000 grant from Department of Natural Resources to perform alternative milfoil control efforts such as Diver Suction Weeding and Benthic Mats, as well as a small follow-up herbicide treatment. We are currently working out the contract with DNR and can discuss milfoil treatment this year a little later in the agenda.
- **Action Items From Last Meeting:**
Ruedi's dock: Water depth at the very end of Ruedi's dock was 6' 10" on October 11th, 2013
Lake Level Chart: There is wording in Appendix B-2 of the Policy & Procedures Manual, Operation and Maintenance plan with the target dates and elevations, but no wording that we should be following a chart. Jane believes there were e-mails back in October about updating the chart with a new observed lake level line. She has not done that yet, but hopes to by the next meeting and will email it out.

Barry/Water Quality Update Report:

- Hand-out from Barry showing the following: Water quality last year was the best it had been since 2006, and the average annual volume-weighted total phosphorus for 2013 was 14 mg/L. Summer Anoxic Factor for 2013

was decreased from 2011 & 2012 values, close to zero. The oxygenator and alum treatments continue to improve lake clarity, as seen during July of 2013, as well as improvements to overall water quality.

Barry informed the group that a friend of his, Paul Ganzer, will be placing automated dissolved oxygen monitoring sensors on the lake bottom, within the next month, to better understand water circulation and Speece Cone dispersion.

Shoreline Erosion: Back on October 25th, Jane sent out an email with a spreadsheet for advisory committee members to write down pros/cons of the lake level and shoreline erosion areas, and suggested fixes for each, then email back to Jane. She received one response about some concerns of erosion on Meadow Lane.

ACTION ITEM: Jane will re-send the spreadsheet to all Advisory Committee Members.

Conservation Futures Program: The District was asked to write a letter of support to nominate 43 acres owned by Kris Pettibone for the Spokane County Conservation Futures Program.

- Karen drafted the letter, and brought it to the meeting for Committee members to sign if they wished to support the nomination.
- Laurie Keaton agreed to fax her signature in support of the letter.
- Suggestion was made for staff to contact Spokane County Legal Department and request a ruling on supporting this type of support letter coming from the entire advisory committee.

Milfoil Report:

Ecology Grant Fund Requirements = \$50,000

- Staff performed GPS survey for milfoil in October 2013, and created a map that was sent out to Advisory Committee in November showing GPS points of milfoil located.
- Two more surveys will be completed in May – just before the tentative treatment of June 2nd, a GPS survey and a hydro-acoustic survey.
- Surveys will determine amount of acreage to be treated and funds to be utilized for treatment.
- We anticipate the June 2nd treatment to be similar in acreage and scope to the 2013 Treatment, as well as a complete north side treatment.
- We will officially request that Fish & Wildlife close the public launch for three days. This request will be made six weeks before the June 2nd treatment date.
- We will also request the other two launches to refrain from allowing boaters on the water for those three days after treatment. We now have large signs to post.

DNR Grant Fund = \$22,000

- District has received a draft agreement to look over. Anticipate final agreement to arrive next week for signing.
- DNR draft grant agreement states the following plan:

Schedule:

March/April

GPS Points and hydro-acoustic data from fall 2013 evaluated to create a map and shape files for treatment.

April

The Newman Lake Newsletter will include a page informing residents about the upcoming herbicide treatments, as well as the demonstration projects. Newsletter will contain a map showing areas where herbicide treatments will take place, as well as where alternative control measures will be utilized.

May

District staff will perform GPS inventory of milfoil populations in the lake. Hydro-acoustic survey will be utilized to locate populations of plants which may have been missed during previous inventory efforts.

June 2nd 2014

First large scale herbicide treatment targeting approximately 80 acres of Eurasian milfoil, utilizing Ecology grant funds.

June – September

Continue working with lakefront residents and community members to initiate alternative control measures along with follow up herbicide treatments within shallow areas of the lake.

- Comment was made that the District Milfoil Plan is incomplete, and there should be more transparency and communication with the Advisory Committee.

ACTION ITEM: Staff agreed to send the completed long version of the District Milfoil Plan to the Advisory Committee for their review.

Flooding Concerns/Wayne Block Report:

- Wayne reported that he drove around the lake a few times after the recent rain on ice/snow events to check out flooding concerns around the watershed. He indicated that the areas actually looked to be in good shape following the storm events, and flooding did not appear to be bad. Of course he observed run-off and some erosion from driveways and gravel roads, but nothing out of the ordinary.

Shoreline Update and Inlet Sampling:

- Marianne indicated that District staff/Karen will be starting a shoreline survey this year, as it's been ten years since the last shoreline survey. Staff may be able to initiate help from the Conservation District, and we also may have access to some less expensive tech help to complete the shoreline survey.
- Comment was made that Karen does not have the expertise to determine if shoreline erosion exists.
- Staff, at the suggestion of Barry Moore, will also be starting up the watershed inlet sampling again this year for three inlets: Thompson Creek, Temple Creek, and Mountain View.

Next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for May 22nd, 2014.

Submitted by,
Karen Kruger