

**NLFCZD Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 3, 2016**  
**Spokane County Public Works Building 2B 3:00pm-5:10pm**

**Present –**

Staff: Marianne Barrentine, Jane Clark, Ethan Rogers, Karen Kruger  
Advisory Board Members: Alvin Balcom, Mike Frasco, Jerry Le Grand, Lorne Burley, Wayne Block,  
Kelli Lemley, Dennis Rewinkel  
Guests: Wendy Burley, Bob Roberts

**Brief Introductions**

**District News:**

- **Lake Level:** The lake level as of Wednesday afternoon (3/2/16) was 2124.10 feet with the gates open 2.5 feet. The ice is off of the lake and staff anticipates closing the gates partially to bring the lake level up.
- **Snow Pack:** The second snow course monitoring of the year took place on February 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Newman Lake watershed by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff. The monitoring results indicate the lower level snowpack is 34% to 39% of average at the two lower snow course sites and approximately 110% of average at the Round Top snow course and 116% of average at the Quartz Peak SNOTEL site. Jane will be putting together a snow memo update to send out to the community.
- **AirSep Replacement:** The new AirSep is being shipped from New York and staff is waiting on a construction schedule from the contractor. The old AirSep will be stored in-tact at a Spokane County storage warehouse. The contractor estimated it will take about five working days to complete the work.
- **Honeymoon Bay:** There have been numerous past stormwater and septic issues with high phosphorus coming into the lake from the Honeymoon Bay drainage. Staff has set up a meeting with Walt Edelen with the Spokane Conservation District (SCD) for next Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. The SCD has a septic designer on board, and is providing design funding for that work. Staff and the Honeymoon Bay contact, Kathy Moore, will be setting up another community meeting for late March or early April to follow-up the preliminary community meeting that was held October 2015. The Road Improvement District (RID) manager will be attending, and will provide an explanation of how that program works. More samples should be collected this spring, as much of the sampling was done years ago, and a baseline is needed to see how the water quality has changed over the years. Ecology has a stormwater grant program available with a 25% grant match. Jerry Le Grand would like to be kept in the loop with upcoming meetings to represent the Advisory Board. District staff time is being tracked for this work, and is currently being charged to the NLFCZD budget. Lorne expressed concern with the amount of District staff time being spent on this work/design compared to other agencies. This work meets District goals in terms of improving the water quality to the lake.
- **Banner Signage:** Staff is in the process of waiting on one final quote for the banner signs. Quotes received have ranged from \$200 to \$320 per banner plus tax. Banner size will be 16' wide by 4' tall and should be put up as soon as possible. A handout of the two proposed signs was provided at the meeting for any last comments. The two banners will be ordered early next week. Spokane County maintenance staff is available to put up the banners when the banners are ready, and Advisory Board members offered to assist. Jerry mentioned working with the

NLPOA to consider options of similar banners and smaller signage at the boat launches with a proposal to WDFW for approval.

### **Milfoil/Milfoil Grant Update:**

The NLFCZD has received notice of an Ecology Grant award of \$25,000 for the next two years. Staff is waiting to hear specifics of the grant award from Ecology. Ecology wants to see the community take more responsibility, and the District to provide more education. In order to satisfy the grant proposal, staff is looking for representatives for their area to call and report the presence of milfoil, coordinate with District staff, and choose a control method for treatment in their area and pool funds with neighbors to pay contractors directly. Karen will be working very close with the community representatives. Thirteen people have responded in favor of being a community representative for their area, and the peninsula appears to be very well represented so far. Staff would like to request that members of the Advisory Board let us know if there are any volunteers within their area who may want to be a representative to report the presence of milfoil, and be willing to coordinate with their neighbors and District staff in control efforts.

Both benthic barrier mats and diver suction weeding alternative control measures were used last year, and staff is planning to continue the use of those methods this year. Two rolls of a geotextile mat material (6oz and 8oz) were purchased with DNR grant funds. Rolls will be cut into 15'x25' size for distribution to lakefront community members interested in utilizing the mat material for milfoil control. Interested community members must fill out an application, and must agree to conditions/guidelines such as having staff verify the presence of milfoil, provide proof of install and removal via two photographs, and monitor and report results at the end of the season. Mats provided by the District will be free, and will not be collected at the end of the season. This information will be included in the newsletter.

DNR is not aware of any future aquatic weed grants at this time. Staff has learned that it is less expensive for homeowners to hire divers than it is for the District, as the District has to pay prevailing wages. Residents are monitoring what is growing under mats after the mats are removed. Questions or comments on the draft handout provided, please let Karen know.

### **Flood Barrier Repair Project Update**

The flood barrier on the south end of the lake is on the Washington State Dam Inventory List. During the permitting process for the flood barrier maintenance work, the Dam Safety Office (DSO) was notified of the proposed maintenance. A conference call between the DSO, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and District staff took place in early February to discuss permitting, and the DSO expressed concerns that their preliminary dam breach analysis showed numerous structures impacted by the flow path; thus the DSO is proposing to increase the risk from 'low' to a 'high 1C'. They also indicated that repairs District staff are proposing do not constitute maintenance under the current DSO standards. District staff, NRCS staff, and Dennis met in late February to discuss how to move forward. NRCS is willing to do a more thorough dam breach analysis, with more detailed contour data provided by the District. District staff is drafting a letter to the DSO to ask for permission to repair the low portions of the flood barrier as proposed, invite the DSO to visit the site, and hold off on changing the risk classification until NRCS can complete a more detailed analysis. NRCS is in the process of reviewing the letter before it is sent to the DSO. District staff is planning to ask the DSO to meet with District staff and NRCS on-site to discuss options in April/May, and will invite a representative from the Advisory Board to attend.

A large portion south of the lake is mapped by FEMA as 100-year floodplain, and Spokane County regulates the downstream properties to the 100-year base flood elevation (BFE) of the lake which is conservative. Most of the houses in this area are outside or above the 100-year BFE. The DSO looks at low frequency events (i.e. 1 in 3,000 year events) and the DSO's preliminary model follows along Starr Road which doesn't make sense.

### **Policy & Procedures Advisory Board Member Selection Change**

The Advisory Board selection has been completed. Applications and recommendations were shared and discussed with the County Engineer, and individually with the Commissioners. Staff was not sure what the policy would be with testimony during the appointment, and we apologize for the confusion. Dennis expressed concern that staff chose not to use the Policy and Procedure manual, have added people to the board that were not assessment payers, and he doesn't think there is a diverse representation on the board. He shared his concerns that he is not happy with how the lake is represented (i.e. year-round lakefront is not represented in the voting members) and noted that the Advisory Board table on the website needs updated, and assessment payer status noted on the alternate members. Marianne explained that the chosen members depends on the applicants at the time. The changes made to the Policy & Procedures manual allows more flexibility based on applicants and representation. The change doesn't prevent forestry and agricultural from each having a spot on the board but provides flexibility based on the applicants. Staff appreciates Al Balcoms and Wayne Blocks service on the Advisory Board, but are unable to support more than one year of family members serving on the Advisory Board together.

### **Sherriff's Marine Department Meeting Update**

Dennis met with Deputy Jim Ebel and Sergeant James Gladden of the Spokane County Marine Division, and provided a brief update of the 52 bodies of water that they enforce. Most common citation – not being in possession of a boater education card followed by operating a watercraft without a current registration (quite common for lakefront residents). Another common violation is not having the proper number, size, and accessibility of floatation devices for the people in the boat. The officers don't have any jurisdiction of wake size when on plane unless running inside buoys. There is no enforceable noise requirements on the water. The enforceable speed limit on the lake is 50 mph during the day and 15 mph at night. Dennis will provide a schedule of the upcoming boater education classes as well as a copy of the equipment required for a boat so staff can place it on the website. Dennis will be providing a more detailed write-up from his meeting in the NLFCZD newsletter.

### **Health Department Update**

Dennis provided an update from his discussions with the Spokane County Health Department. Dennis explained that two homeowners had recently noticed that holes had thawed in the ice sheet, prior to the ice sheet melting, revealing what appeared to be raw sewage and toilet paper floating in those holes in the ice. The Health Department explained to Dennis that they no longer have the resources or the authority to respond to these issues and that these areas were handled by the Department of Ecology. Marianne offered to research where homeowners can go for help with these situations, and what steps can be taken for resolution. Once the NLFCZD boat is on the water District staff may be able to collect samples in areas of concern and take the samples to Anatek labs for testing (~\$20). District staff can be the liaison by having concerned homeowners call 477-LAKE, and ask the Advisory Board for help in assisting with sample collection as needed. District staff will get bottles to keep on hand for collecting samples.

At this meeting, Lorne provided a write-up dated February 24, 2009 that outlines discussions he had with the Spokane Regional Health District staff in February 2009 regarding on-site wastewater treatment systems. This write-up was prepared by Lorne for the Newman Lake TMDL Advisory Committee Group 2.

### **2015 Water Quality Monitoring Update**

Barry was unable to attend the meeting, and provided a written summary of the 2015 water quality monitoring, which was distributed to those in attendance. In summary, considering the use of one AirSep for most of 2015, the results indicated the total phosphorus during the growing season was elevated at 22 µg/L, which is above the 20 µg/L goal, and noted the total phosphorus values dropped quickly after the late July mixing event, which was a positive sign for the lake.

Mike noted that with the lower lake level during the summer last year, there was not as much noticeable erosion of the duff along his shoreline, and thus not as much sediment loading going into the lake. He indicated that may have helped mitigate the loss of having only one of the AirSepts running.

The State of the Lake report, which is sent to Ecology as part of the alum system permitting is due February 15<sup>th</sup>. It includes a portion that staff puts together, as well as a portion from WSU which includes all of the previous year monitoring data. The District staff portion as well as the monitoring data has been submitted to Ecology, and the WSU write-up portion will be submitted by the end of this month. This report and data will be posted on the website.

A final write-up of the June 2015 report is needed from Barry that is quantitative on how to maximize the use of the system. Dennis has comments from September 2015 on Barry's report that need to be addressed in the final report. An outstanding item for 2016 includes recommendations on the Speece cone and how to optimize the system for maximum benefit.

### **Shoreline Erosion Discussion**

Karen e-mailed and provided at the meeting, a document from KC Harvey Environmental, LLC, titled *Newman Lake Shoreline Stabilization Alternatives* that was originally circulated in 2014. This report was funded by the Spokane Conservation District (SCD). The original work completed by SCD on Ed and Patty Tyler's shoreline was not permitted through the appropriate agencies, and thus mitigation alternatives were required and are detailed within this report. The SCD report presents two stabilization alternatives to permitting agencies for additional work on the Tyler's shoreline as well as a proposed stabilization project on the Burton's shoreline. This document is a draft showing stabilization alternatives, and the work has not been completed. Brief discussions with SCD staff indicate they are working to obtain permits this year, and planning for work to begin in 2017. Marianne expressed that for in-water work WDFW and other permitting agencies typically want to see habitat improvements as well. Mike mentioned that at least two trees along the Burton's shoreline have fallen into the lake over the winter.

For water related work such as dock replacements and shoreline erosion projects, the County will set up a pre-application meeting, where all environmental agencies are invited to meet at one time, discuss the proposed plan, and provide their comments/requirements so everyone is on the same page. The Advisory Board discussed it would be beneficial for agencies to come up with three or four templates showing what would be allowed, so homeowners can find out what works for their site and what will be allowed. Ecology, DNR, WDFW, Army Corps of Engineers, Spokane County Floodplain, and Spokane County Building & Planning/Shoreline are typically involved with permitting dock/shoreline projects.

**Closing Remarks/Adjourn**

Please direct website updates to Jane to have the webmaster update. The NLPOA officers on the website need to be updated, and Jerry offered to provide the current NLPOA officer list. Proposed dates for the next May meeting, and annual summer meeting will be sent out by staff following this meeting. Feedback on the dates would be very much appreciated. The May meeting will focus heavily on the 2017 budget. It was discussed that a meeting prior to the May meeting is not needed, and that discussion items can be done via e-mail correspondence between now and then.

Submitted by: Jane Clark