

DELAVAN LAKE SANITARY DISTRICT

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

January 17, 2018

9:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER.

President Miller, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. at the Delavan Lake Sanitary District located at 2990 County Rd F South, Delavan, Wisconsin.

ROLL CALL. Present: Thomas Miller, President
Kim O'Keefe, Commissioner (*via telecom at 9:15*)
Thomas Johnson, Commissioner
David Reider, Commissioner
Richard Beers, Commissioner

Visitors: Celeste Prestinario
Bill Mularkey
Ann Krejcl
Bob Krejcl
Dee Wichman
Bill Fugman
Mike Ritchey
Mary Knipper

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM.

President Miller declared a quorum present for doing business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 13, 2017

Commissioner Beers requested a correction be made from page 3938 to show that he had also voted aye to the motion (made by Commissioner O'Keefe on 12/13/17) to donate \$100 to both the Kettle Moraine Land Trust and the Delavan Lake Improvement Association. Commissioner Beers made a motion to approve the December 13, 2017 meeting minutes with the noted correction. Commissioner Reider seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS OF CITIZENS PRESENT REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

President Miller requested that any person intending to speak add their name to the sign-in sheet and then invited comments/questions from the audience.

Ann Krejcl, View Crest asked several questions including: what are the condition of the View Crest sewers; if the District was looking at maintenance of sewers for the entire District; and when maintenance was scheduled.

Administrator DeLuca explained that there are deteriorating manholes, root problems and leaks at View Crest. He also explained the entire District is being looked at and that in several areas of the District the interior walls of the truss pipes are failing because they are 40 years old. The District needs to get their cameras in to look at the problems and get the manholes stable and safe. Administrator DeLuca explained that they are working on a plan right now and trying to find some contractors to provide assistance to the District staff to get at those manholes. The District has 66 miles of pipe and more than 1,100 manholes to inspect and if a lift station shows high flow then staff looks for leaks that could be causing the high flow so the District stays busy. The DNR also requires this work be completed a minimum of every 10 years. The proposed path was intended to stabilize the area so that the crew could access the area to use the cameras, clean and repair.

Dee Wichman asked if all areas of the lake require a path for sewer maintenance and if the path would stay or be removed after work was completed. The Administrator explained that all sewer mains have a 30' easement. The View Crest path is still being evaluated so no decision on the path has been made, but a more critical site would need to be accessed more often. Dee asked if the DNR would be concerned about the path and Administrator DeLuca assured her the DNR and the Army Corps of Engineers have been to the site and approved the work. If it is decided to leave the path they have no problems with that.

Celeste Prestinario explained that many View Crest residents had only heard about the sewer maintenance and harvesting issues from the District meeting minutes. She asked for a recap of the harvesting operation and the benefits of finding a spot on the west end of the lake for offloading.

The Administrator explained that the west end of the lake produces 60% of the harvested aquatic plants. DLSD has used Shodeen property in the past on the west end, but that is no longer an option. It is a 3-4 hour round trip to offload at

Community Park (harvesters travel at 1 mph). DLSD is working to find a way to continue harvesting economically.

Commissioner Beers explained that it takes approximately 20 minutes to fill the harvester to capacity and twice that to fill the barge to capacity. When the offload site was close (Shodeen property) it was easy. If the crew has to travel 3-4 hours round trip to offload the harvested material at Community Park it will reduce the total amount that can be harvested. The value of finding an off load site on the west end to those communities (View Crest, Ravenswood) is clear water and less weeds and reduced transit time.

Celeste asked if it was possible to have a harvester schedule and wanted to know how it is determined, how the harvesting zones are determined and why the weeds are not cut on a regular basis. A discussion took place with Commissioner Beers and Charlie Handel, Lake Manager, explaining that clear cut day for harvesting is June 15 and harvesting generally starts prior to June 15 and runs through October. The harvesters operate Monday through Thursday, crew work days are 10 hours but all this is dependent on wind, weather and volume of weeds.

A discussion took place. Commissioner Beers suggested that a schedule and similar information might be added to the DelavanLakeReport.com. Commissioner Beers explained that the harvesting schedule might be determined 1 – 5 days before the actual work.

Celeste explained that she felt residents are afraid of the unknown and that they do not want to hear or see the weed harvesters but if a schedule showed that they might only be in the area no more than five (5) or so days per summer they may be okay with that. Administrator DeLuca stated staff can consider the reduction in that area and explained that where the harvesters cut is dependent upon weed growth and DNR permit, and that Charlie Handel goes with his observations. When Charlie sees that weeds need to be cut in a particular area the harvesters go to that site. The crew cuts and then they leave the area when the work is complete. Celeste wondered if there was some wiggle room so that if a schedule promised that harvesters would not be in a particular area until a certain date it might not be a problem to wait a couple of weeks. Administrator DeLuca explained that they could not schedule where the harvesters cut based on a predetermined schedule as it could be a waste of time and money if the weed growth is not happening at that point.

Ann asked if DLSD could find an offload site by a marina. Charlie Handel, Lake Manager, explained that DLSD has evaluated at least 15 to 20 different offload sites and that there are many issues involved including wind, ramp location, and the site of other piers. View Crest is off the table and no longer being considered for a harvester offload or parking site due to citizen opposition.

Celeste then asked if there is a budget and a schedule for sewer maintenance at View Crest in 2018 and if so, would the path be put in at View Crest. The Administrator explained that it is in the books to rehab the manholes and camera the lines this year because there is a known problem there that has to get fixed. Celeste then asked if sewer maintenance is done, will the gravel road be put in as applied for in the conditional use permit with Walworth County. Administrator DeLuca replied that yes, there is a possibility. President Miller said yes when Celeste asked if the road (gravel) is still active and viable. Celeste asked for that information be put into the meeting minutes. President Miller so noted.

Further discussion of harvesting issues took place. Commissioner Johnson discussed the actual number of days that harvesting could take place on the west end of the lake. Rather than the total of 24 weeks that harvesting could be done throughout the summer, only half of that is actually done on the west end of the lake. Taking into account bad weather, travel and set up time it is likely 12-15 days per summer. Since the Town has given permission to use the Bluegill Road launch for part of that time, if View Crest were used, it would be less than 15 days per summer.

Dee Wichman explained that the parking lot at View Crest is not big and is usually full and asked how that would work if the harvesters were there. The Administrator responded that the offload was proposed to be along the shore but that the meeting intended for the View Crest board to gather information to take back to the residents did not happen. View Crest is off the board and no longer being considered. If the District can only do minimal cutting this year, so be it.

There was discussion about the potential impact of harvesting to the fishery in the View Crest area. It was explained that the DNR works closely with the District staff and reviews all proposed harvesting and activity, and if they thought it would have a negative impact at all they would shut it down.

FINANCIAL

After reviewing the bills and a brief discussion, President Miller made a motion to approve payment of bills represented by check numbers 25665 through 25723. Commissioner Beers seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Commissioner O'Keefe was put on skype at 9:15 a.m.

Administrator DeLuca gave a brief summary about the allocation of funds through December 31, 2017. After a brief discussion, President Miller made a motion to accept the Allocation of Funds report for the period ending December 31, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Keefe and carried unanimously.

Administrator DeLuca advised the board concerning the financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2017. After a brief discussion, President Miller made a motion to accept the financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2017 and place on file. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Reider and carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

In addition to the monthly report already provided to the commissioners, Administrator DeLuca advised the commissioners that the Shodeen Development has had quite a few reviews for the sewer system and there are ongoing discussions concerning easements and pipe location. The reserve fund, paid by Shodeen, will need to be replenished in order to pay for the wrap up of engineering and to get ready for the Developers Agreement which will trigger some legal costs. The initial amount put into the replenishment fund was \$7,000, but Doug is recommending up to \$20,000 to cover the Developers agreement, attorney fees and engineering reviews. A discussion followed about the Shodeen Development. Administrator DeLuca also explained that furnace and unit heaters in the lift stations were just repaired. There was a brief discussion about the lift station 2 upgrade. President Miller moved to accept the Administrator's Monthly Report, Commissioner Johnson seconded, carried unanimously.

LAKE COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Beers advised the board that there was no Lake Committee Meeting in the month of January and the next meeting will be the first Wednesday of February.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING 222 HIGHWAY 50 CONNECTION & FEES

There was a lengthy discussion concerning William Mularkey's request to have connection fees waived. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to accept \$6,985 from Mr. Mularkey to clean up all the past connection fees and penalties. In addition to that he is liable for any outstanding sewer bills, without penalties, from January 1, 2018 to this date to be paid by January 19, 2018. Commissioner O'Keefe seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION OR CONFIRMATION REGARDING 2018 WEED HARVESTING CONCERNS - OFFLOADING & DISPOSAL SITES - UPDATES

Administrator DeLuca explained that the District has a verbal approval from Ryan Simons to use Blue Gill Road boat launch as an off-load site for 2018. President Miller said that he sent a letter to Ryan Simons asking for a written confirmation of their meeting. Administrator DeLuca also explained that he and Charlie Handel are in the process of scouting for properties to use as a disposal site. Commissioner O'Keefe suggested that they might want to consider leasing land. Commissioner O'Keefe also suggested that a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet be added to the website.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION OR CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING DATE

Administrator DeLuca noted that the next meeting is set for the third Wednesday in February (February 21, 2018) and that there has been a request to have USGS, Land & Pond Solutions, and pellet scientists on the agenda.

FURTHER AGENDA ITEMS

There was a discussion about how to add new items to the agenda with respect to Stan Riffle's advice that a Commissioner can move to place an item on the agenda for consideration for the next meeting at the current meeting. It would require a second and affirmative vote. A motion was made by Commissioner Beers to adopt a policy following Stan Riffle's recommendation for adding items to the agenda. Second by Commissioner O'Keefe. After further discussion a vote was called with all Commissioners against, motion failed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Beers that an item named "Next Agenda" be added to the agenda and the Commission follow Stan Riffle's recommendation during meetings. Between meetings, if a commissioner wants to add an item to the agenda, that commissioner should email the Administrator with the request. The Administrator will send out emails to all Commissioners with the request. If there are two (2) affirmative responses that item will be added to the agenda. Second by Commissioner Johnson, motion carried unanimously.

Following a discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Miller to add an item to the February agenda to entertain expert witness to discuss pellets and for the discussion/possible action concerning funding. Second by Commissioner Beers, vote 3 yes, 2 no, Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items to discuss, President Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.



Kim O'Keefe, Secretary

Date Approved: 02/21/2018