

LAKE REDSTONE PROTECTION DISTRICT – preliminary MINUTES

Annual Meeting

August 6, 2016

1. Welcome

The Annual Meeting of the Lake Redstone Protection District was called to order @ 8:30 am by Chairperson Jim Mercier. Mercier introduced members of the LRPD Board. [Signed Attendance = 86]

2. Election of two commissioners

Ken Keegstra (incumbent), and Chuck Ecklund are candidates. No nominations from the floor for Commissioner. Motion to close nominations by Jake Jacobson, second by Wally Hutt. Motion carried. Motion to cast unanimous ballot by Dave Starin, second by Dick Fish. Motion carried.

3. Minutes of 2015 Annual Meeting

Keegstra noted error in 2015 operating budget, #6. LGIP was listed as \$700,000, should be \$106,000 per Choroszy, Treasurer. Motion by Chuck Ecklund to approve 2015 minutes with correction, second by Christine Pfefferle, motion carried.

4. Secretary's Report

Keegstra reviewed handout of 2016 year in review which highlighted Aquatic Plant Management, Whole Lake Management Plan, Dredging Planning, Sediment and Nutrient Loading, Lake Monitoring efforts, Volunteers, and Communications/Networking efforts on behalf of Lake Redstone Protection District.

5. Treasurer's Report

Choroszy provided handouts regarding budget info; no questions from constituents.

Internal audit conducted by Ecklund and Ladas, no irregularities noted.

Next year we will obtain an outside audit (required every 3 years), costs included in 2017 budget.

6. 2017 Operating Budget

Budget reviewed by Choroszy; budget approval deferred until after Lake District Update per constituent request.

7. Authorization of the Board to exceed \$10,000

Motion by Tom Wagner to authorize the LRPD Board to exceed \$10,000 per project without Annual Meeting elector approval while staying within budget, second by Dave Starin. Motion approved.

8. Lake District Update

A. Website

Happ showcased our new website www.lakeredstonepd.org, which he has developed, this is an ongoing effort by LRPD to educate and communicate with our constituents.

B. Aquatic Plant Management Program

Keegstra explained some of the work being done via our AIS Education Grant of \$50,000 from Wisconsin DNR. He discussed our Aquatic Plant Management Plan (formulated by Dave Blumer of LEAPS, LLC) which is a guide for our ongoing efforts and is reviewed and updated yearly. This plan is now required by DNR prior to issuing many permits.

He spoke of aquatic invasive species (AIS) which were first documented in Lake Redstone in 1986; currently our two main AIS of concern are Eurasian Water Milfoil (plentiful) and Curly Leaf Pondweed (increasing). The high nutrient content of our waters due to our agricultural watershed creates a challenge for water quality and clarity in Lake Redstone. Individual property owners could help the watershed by establishing good shoreline buffers to reduce nutrient runoff into the lake.

Whole Bay treatments were reviewed, including the point-intercept studies before and after these treatments. The LRPD manual harvesting program is expanding and participation was encouraged by offering rebates. Details available on website www.lakeredstonepd.org.

C. Watershed Improvement

Jon Field, (District Soil Conservationist for Juneau County USDA Natural Resources and Conservation Service) spoke of the positive relationship between Juneau County and LRPD, and highlighted some of the projects we completed together which have reduced sediment loading into Lake Redstone. Improved farming techniques have benefited Lake Redstone and he is leading discussions regarding future projects like incentive payment for cover crops before winter, as well as other barnyard and erosion-reducing projects that will benefit the health of Lake Redstone.

D. Lake Management Program

Walters introduced the Water Quality Committee, discussed the importance of water quality and what efforts the LRPD has in place to protect the water quality of Lake Redstone. He brought measuring tools to show how data is collected and discussed the usefulness of data obtained.

He explained that water sampling is like taking the lake's vital signs.

- Variances might require action.
- The data supports our applications on grants and DNR applications for permits.
- Data educates us about the seasonal changes happening in the lake and streams, e.g, stratification, phosphorous in the water column, increase in algae (chlorophyll), water clarity, etc.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Board and the constituents, Walters thanked Jim Mercier for his 13+ years of service on the Lake Redstone Protection District.

E. Sediment Study/Dredging Feasibility

Mercier presented power point discussing Ayers depth finding and core samplings in each of the bays that they were asked to sample. Fortunately, the sediment analysis shows minimal copper sulfate which will allow the sediment to be utilized by local farmers, landscapers, landowners, etc. He discussed the mechanics of hydraulic dredging and what we could expect if we dredge, and mentioned that he understands dredging is usually done in October.

Per Mercier, prior dredging in Lake Redstone was based on land value, not dwelling value. LRPD is comprised of nearly 1500 property owners. If dredging is done on all bays being considered, costs could be \$3.5 million (100,000 cubic yards @ \$25-\$35 per cubic yard). Dredging options and costs will be determined by the LRPD board, and brought before the constituents.

State grants of \$500,000 were available in the 80's but are no longer available.

Show of hands was requested regarding moving forward with next step of dredging feasibility.

General consensus of constituents present at meeting was positive about moving forward with next step which would be to initiate an RFP (request for proposal) for cost study of sediment removal so therefore the LRPD Board will continue these efforts and present more info to constituents at our next Annual Meeting.

Motion by Becky Choroszy to approve 2017 Budget, second by Glenn Drum. Motion passed.

9. Introduce new board members

Mercier introduced Chuck Ecklund and congratulated Ken Keegstra on his reelection to the Board.

10. Public Question and Answer

Marty Krueger, Sauk County Board Chairman, spoke of ongoing efforts to inspect the spillway.

Constituent concern: will end result of dredging be satisfying to property owners?

Don McCune noted weir at end of Swallow is full of sediment and wonders if it needs to be dredged behind the weir to maximize its purpose?

Constituents suggestion: engage in talks with Reedsburg, LaValle, County, and local realtors regarding funding for dredging as they will also benefit long term.

11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Chuck Ecklund, second by Jeff Rastocan. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Geeg Drum 8/8/2016