

## Blue Lake Improvement District

**Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting Minutes:** September 26, 2014, 1:00 p.m.

**Place:** Bill Yueill's home – 27202 Carr Street, Zimmerman, MN

**Directors Attending:** Bill Yueill, George Golden, Jim Lefebvre, Don Herman, Don Davies

**Others Attending:** Jamie Schurbon (Isanti County Soil and Water Conservation District), Tiffany Determan (Sherburne County Soil and Water Conservation District)

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Bill Yueill.

The purpose of the meeting was to receive a presentation of, and review, a proposed Contract for Services between the Isanti Soil and Water Conservation District (Isanti SWCD) and Blue Lake Improvement District for 2015 Water Resources Monitoring and Management.

**Contract Presentation:** Mr. Schurbon, representing the Isanti SWCD, discussed the salient points of the proposed Contract:

1. Term of Service: Beginning with execution of Contract and concluding upon completion of 2015 Work Plan as agreed to by both parties. Includes early termination clause.
2. Responsibilities: Isanti SWCD will carry out the tasks outlined in the Plan, maintain detailed accounting of financial transactions, and provide an annual report of accomplishments. BLID will provide necessary volunteer assistance. At the termination of the Contract, Isanti SWCD shall provide BLID with all work products including maps, reports, resource materials and other documents pertaining to the Work Plan.
3. Payment for Contract Services: The proposed Work Plan fees totaled \$15,933 (\$12,495 for monitoring and \$3,438 for BLID's portion of the subwatershed assessment), with fees invoiced in June and November of 2015.

**Proposed Work Plan Presentation:** Mr. Schurbon presented a revised Work Plan which had been discussed at a previous BLID Board meeting. The Plan breaks down into two primary segments: Water Quality Monitoring and Subwatershed Assessment:

1. Water Quality Monitoring: Continual monitoring of lake water quality, lake levels, incoming stream water quality and stream staging. Isanti SWCD provides equipment and training for monitoring primarily by BLID volunteers, the provides reports for BLID and state data bases.
2. Subwatershed Assessment: Identify and rank projects throughout the Blue Lake watershed (which includes a significant portion in Sherburne County) that will improve lake water quality. May include agricultural practices, wetland restoration and runoff treatments. The Isanti and Sherburne County SWCD's would jointly prioritize list of projects and produce a final report that would be the basis for grant applications and a design phase. Importantly, at least 75% of cost of the assessment project would come from Clean Water Fund grants already procured by the SWDCs.

**Discussion:** Following the presentation the Board discussed the proposal with Mr. Schurbon and Ms. Determan with the following points raised:

1. Agreed to eliminate the lake level monitoring because of the stabilizing influence of the dam at the north end of Little Blue. Also, that stream staging would be a somewhat lower priority.
2. Agreed to changing the proposal to billing for the lesser of time and materials versus the proposed Plan fees.
3. Agreed to the importance of finding a sufficient number of volunteers to take lake and stream quality samples.

**Action Taken Regarding Contract for Services:** Jim moved and George seconded a motion to accept the Contract for Services as amended and to authorize Bill Yueill to execute the final amended Contract. The motion passed unanimously.

**Weed Spraying:** The Board and SWCD representatives briefly discussed the BLID plan for 2015 weed spraying. It was agreed to contract with Isanti SWCD to do weed mapping of the lake as a precursor to the determination of the extent of 2015 spring spraying. In terms of deciding who would be awarded the spraying contract, it was noted that Lake Restoration's proposal was the lowest bid and that they also provided a post-application review. It was decided to postpone a vendor decision until the next meeting.

Mr. Schurbon and Ms. Determan left the meeting.

**Public Access Monitoring:** The Board discussed the need to begin finding grant funding for covering the costs of monitoring the public access as well as finding someone to manage the project. It was suggested to contact Evan Freeman of the DNR as well as Dave Paron of the Long Lake Improvement District for further information.

**Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned about 3:15 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** 4:30 p.m. at Jim Lefebvre's home ( 8940 Vista Point Drive NW, Princeton, MN) on October 27, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,



Donald M. Davies, Acting Secretary