

Blue Lake Improvement District

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: March 7, 2014, 4:30 p.m.

Place: Tracy Dreschler's Home

Attending: Bill Yueill, Tracy Drechsler, Kathy Rabenberg, Jean Touhy, Bill Fredell (non-director, by telephone)

Directors not in attendance: Don Davies, George Golden, Jim Lefebvre

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by president, Bill Yueill.

1. **Minutes of the February 7 meeting.** It was moved, seconded and approved that the minutes be accepted as presented.
2. **Insurance for the Blue Lake Improvement District.** Bill Yueill raised the issue of insurance for the organization and its directors, since it is a state requirement that lake improvement districts carry some form of legal protection to include general liability and officer and director liability coverage. There is a state-wide inter government program that pools risks to assist community organizations when there are problems with employees and operations. Some concerns were raised as to the extent that this pooled-risk organization covers directors and officers of government entities.

Bill Yueill also presented information that George Golden had secured from a local insurance agency for D and O insurance. This insurance was considerably more expensive than the MN Counties Intergovernmental Trust risk-pool approach, but it specifically addressed directors and officer coverage.

Since it was not clear that this pooled-risk approach may not provide sufficient coverage for decisions and activities of the board, it was decided unanimously to table the discussion until other information could be secured. Bill Fredell will ask others at the March 15 DNR weed meeting at Long Lake what other lake associations and development groups use for O and D insurance, and report back to the group at the April meeting.

3. **By-Laws.** It was noted that the bylaws have been edited as per the Board's request following the February meeting. While the directors reviewed the revised document, it was clear that some areas still needed work and therefore, could not be approved at this meeting. Each director was asked to review the document carefully, forward revisions to George Golden, so that a final version of the by-laws could be approved at the April meeting of BLID. Therefore, it was agreed to table finalizing the bylaws at this time.
4. **Major Projects.** A discussion of lake problems brought those attending to the conclusion that we should focus on a manageable group of three projects that would be our group's work for the initial years. The initial summary of these projects is as follows:

- Dredging the channel connecting the little lake and the big lake. This affects all lake users and would be a major undertaking, requiring a special committee to research methods, costs, legalities and impacts. The effect, however, would mean that Blue Lake would continue to allow safe, motorized navigation between both parts.
- Helping homeowners understand resources for weed and muck removal in front of their homes. This means finding the most appropriate equipment, procedures, suppliers, techniques and other resources that can be most effective in removing plants and muck from the lake. When the plant material is removed from the lake, it will not die in the lake, decay and become the weed bed for the next year's crop. Removing plant material from the lake helps the lake's water quality and recreational value.
- Educating owners and other users of the lake of best practices in caring for the lake. This would include communications and resources that people can access to make the best decisions about their lawns, lakeshores and beaches. The education will also help homeowners and users of the lake make the best decisions about using the lake. This initiative includes communications with farms and businesses in the watershed area.

These three projects would require separate committees for research and other investigation. But the group agreed that these projects could make a significant difference in reversing the lake's decline.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

The next meeting is April 4, 2014, 4:30 p.m. Location to be determined and announced in subsequent communications.

Respectfully submitted (from notes taken by Bill Fredell),



Donald M. Davies
Secretary