

Blue Lake Improvement District (BLID)

Membership Annual Meeting Minutes: August 29, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Place: ZOOM Electronic Meeting

Directors Present: Bill Yueill (2020), George Golden (2020), Don Davies (2021), John Bistodeau (2021), Jill Gohman (2022), David Badger (2022)

Member Attendance: 22 property owners represented.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Bill Yueill at 10:05 a.m. followed by the approval of the meeting agenda.

Report from Isanti County Soil & Water District (SWCD): Bill Yueill briefly reviewed the written report prepared by Tiffany Determan from the Isanti County SWCD which was sent to members prior to the meeting:

1. Curlyleaf Pondweed (CLPW) Mapping and Management –
 - a. Annual survey completed June 23rd indicating very low density in north bay and decreasing density in south bay. This was the first year that CLPW was not identified near north access.
 - b. Native aquatics have increased in both bays.
 - c. 2021 Recommendation: AIS Treatment committee should work with Todd Kulaf (SWCD Tech) to determine plans and goals for 2021.
2. Clean Water Fund Projects –
 - a. In 2018 SWCD, in partnership with BLID, received a \$251,000 grant to install lakeshore restorations, rain gardens and the Southeast Inlet Sand Filter project (located at the campgrounds). Previously set to expire in December 2020, a grant extension to May 2022 has been received due to COVID-19 and other issues.
 - b. Three lakeshore restoration projects on private land were completed in 2020.
3. Wetland Restorations/Inlet Treatment
 - a. A new project called the Tiger Street Treatment Basins has replaced the Sand Filter project. It will consist of berms and basins on the east side of Tiger Street that will trap organic particles and sediment before they make their way into the lake.
 - b. Engineering on the project is underway with installation targeted for the winter of 2021 or 2022 dependent on weather and permit timing.
 - c. Estimated cost: engineering - \$26,000; installation - \$135,000. The BLID will be responsible to match 20% of the cost or \$33,000.
4. Internal Phosphorus Feasibility Study –
 - a. In 2020 Wenck, Inc. was hired to help determine how much phosphorus is being recycled from within the lake (i.e. internal loading). The study consists of collecting three sediment cores from the south bay. The results will help us determine the feasibility of developing an Alum treatment plan that includes recommended dosing and cost.
 - b. The report will be completed this winter at a cost of \$14,000. SWCD will fund half of the cost.

- c. 2021 Recommendation: Have SWCD continue to collect in-lake samples and dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles at three locations at a cost not to exceed \$3,674.

Committee Reports: Written committee reports were distributed to members prior to the meeting.

- **Education & Communication** – George Golden briefly described all the things homeowners can do to prevent phosphorus from entering the lake. SWCD still has funds available for lakeshore restoration projects. George thanked Jill Gohman for updating the BLID website. Maybe consider a member newsletter next year.
- **Weed Treatment** – John Bistodeau provided a report on this year’s weed treatments. Timing was very important for the successful spraying by Lake Management our treatment contractor. A new chemical may be used next year which has shown to be effective in smaller areas, while the current chemical is more effective in much larger areas. He reiterated the comments from the SWCD report regarding the increase in native species particularly in the north bay. The committee will look to communicate options to homeowners for dealing with native species along their shoreline. He reminded everyone that any cutting or rolling of weeds needs to be followed by removing the weeds so that they don’t fall to the bottom and generate more internal loading of phosphorus. A brief discussion ensued about the potential for mechanical weed harvesting in the future. John invited anyone interested to join his committee.
- **AIS Boat Inspections** – Jill Gohman reported that the BLID again contracted with WaterGuards to provide inspectors at each lake access this year. It appears that the inspection process has been very successful so far this year. The inspections started the weekend of the fishing opener. 750 hours are scheduled for this year.

Minutes of the Prior Annual Meeting: A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of August 24, 2019 which had been previously been sent to members.

2020/2021 BLID Financial Presentation: Don Davies presented the following financial information relating to 2020 results and the proposed 2021 budget which had previously be sent to members:

- He reminded the members that the BLID is legally on a fiscal year ending June 30th. He briefly reviewed the results of the year ending June 30, 2020:
 - Beginning cash was \$58,831.
 - Income from assessments totaled \$36,521.
 - Cash Expenses included: Boat Monitoring (\$12,202 less subsidies of \$7,800 from Isanti County and \$3,500 from Stanford Township); Water Quality Study (\$7,856); weed mapping (\$1,677) Weed Control (\$7,376); and administrative expenses (\$1,358).
 - Ending cash was \$91,630.

- Additionally, \$16,500 was transferred to a SWCD Project Reserve and \$5,000 to the Rapid Response Reserve.

A motion to accept the financial results of fiscal year 2020 was made, seconded and approved.

- He then discussed the proposed *2021 Calendar Year Budget Comparison* report:
 - He noted that 2020 was now estimated to end on a break-even basis compared to a budgeted deficit due to the unbudgeted recognition of a boat inspection grant from the county, a State of MN grant for weed treatment, and the SWCD contribution toward the Internal Load Feasibility Study.
 - He discussed the proposed 2021 calendar year budget which reflected the continuation of the \$250 annual assessment and estimated expenditures of \$40,500.
 - The expected deficit of \$4,500 would result in estimated year-end reserves (dedicated and general) of \$72,253.

A motion to accept the 2021 budget and annual member assessment of \$250 was made, seconded and approved.

Election of New Board Members – Don Davies announced the results of the Board election. He indicated his disappointment in the fact that only 17 ballots were completed and returned. Dan Dixon, Bill Fredell and Becky Schulz were elected to three-year terms on the Board (class of 2023).

Recognition of Retired Board Members – Don Davies acknowledged the significant contributions over the past six years of the two founding directors who will be leaving the Board: Bill Yueill and George Golden.

Proposed Bylaws Changes – Don Davies announced that the proposed change to the Bylaws providing for electronic member and board meetings was unanimously approved.

Other Business – Don Davies provided the results of an informal survey of motorized craft docked on the lake (excluding nonresident boats from the accesses):

- 101 pontoon boats
- 18 jet skis
- 69 other motor craft (runabouts to fishing boats)
- For a total of 188 (including 37 docked at the campgrounds)
- That works out to approximately 1.6 acres per boat!

Adjournment: There being no further business, it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Davies, Secretary