

**BEAR LAKE-LAKE BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
Thursday, April 13, 2023  
NORTH MUSKEGON CITY HALL**

Chairman Darrell Van Fossan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Darrell Van Fossan, Paul Pek and Brenda Moore

EXCUSED: County Commissioner Jessica Cook and Council Member Adam Schultz

ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Lynne Fuller and Mayor Sabina Freeman

**ROLL**

City Clerk Fuller called the roll.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Pek moved to approve the agenda. The motion was supported by Mr. Howell and carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Van Fossan moved to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2023 meeting. The motion was supported by Mr. Pek and carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

North Muskegon Public Works Director Mark Disselkoen reported that the recent fish kill was caused by low oxygen from the winter.

Mr. Disselkoen also explained the procedures that will be followed for maintenance of the Bear Lake bridge beginning April 17, 2023.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Van Fossan received a communication from Zach Leach of 750 Lake Drive inquiring about placement of a dock parallel to his property. Ms. Moore said he would be referred to Michigan Lakes & Streams who specialize in riparian law.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

Mr. Van Fossan submitted multi-year signed agreements with PLM for lake management services.

He also submitted a proposed scope of services from Annis Water Resources Institute – GVSU for the 2023 Bear Lake Improvement Project. The proposed project includes lake monitoring at four sites (same as 2022) at a cost of \$18,394; and tributary monitoring at three sites (Bear Creek gazebo, Fenner's Ditch and Bear Lake Channel) at a cost of \$6,354 for a total of \$24,748 to be

billed on a quarterly basis. Board members agreed that monitoring downstream from the celery flats may be more beneficial than at the channel.

Mr. Van Fossan stated that Chelsea Lawton from the Conservation District has requested a letter of support and funding assistance for removing the culvert at Roberts Road. It was agreed that the Board's focus must be Bear Lake and funding assistance is not allowed for projects outside of Bear Lake. Ms. Moore also emphasized that any letter of support needs to be appropriate to the Lake Board's mission.

Mr. Howell reviewed the current proposed 2023 budget. Discussion included the need to measure the effect of the previous phoslock treatment to determine the need for future treatments. There is also concern about a correlation between fish kills and phoslock but nothing has been proven. Questions will be submitted to Al Steinman regarding the life expectancy of the treatments

It was also stated that PLM has agreed to help with education regarding items such as septic system runoff. Ms. Moore also requested that the amount for grant matching be kept in the budget and to add \$2000 for miscellaneous costs that may come up during the year.

Ms. Moore reported she has a draft of the next Improvement Plan completed and would like to forward it to board members for input.

#### **SURVEY**

Mr. Pek has been reviewing surveys online to determine the best format. He said that PLM has only done one survey but it was agreed that PLM's survey could be used as one of the samples board members review. It was also agreed that including a link to the survey in the newsletter is preferable to sending a hard copy in the newsletter because people are more likely to actually complete the survey using a link.

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Mr. Van Fossan presented a first draft of the upcoming newsletter as submitted by PLM. Topics include continued promotion of lake management, contact information for Board members, septic system maintenance, fall leaf removal, 2022 accomplishments and brief summaries of the PLM and GVSU 2022 presentations. Members suggested adding information about the assessment being paused for the time being and a piece about fish kills.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Dennis Burns of 681 W. Wedgewood talked to the Board about an oil problem along Fenner's Ditch. He was informed that there is a pollution hot line he can contact.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Next meeting: May 11, 2023

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Lynne Fuller, City Clerk