



**BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT**  
**Annual Meeting July 21, 2007**  
**Unity School Auditorium, Balsam Lake**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- The 31<sup>st</sup>. annual meeting of the BLPRD was called to order by chairman Milt Stanze at 9 a.m.
- After introducing the five board members (Howard Seim, Dave Evans, Carl Holmgren, and Tom Miller) present (John Close and Patrick Struve were absent due to illness).
- Market Place Foods was thanked for donating the pastries.

**2. APPROVE AGENDA**

- A motion to approve the agenda was made by Tom Wilkolak and seconded by Bill Stewart Motion passed.

**3. APPROVE MINUTES of JULY 15, 2006 ANNUAL MEETING**

- A motion to approve the minutes of the last annual meeting, (July 15, 2006) with one correction was made by Debbie Irestone and seconded by Al Dornfeld. The correction concerned the per diem rate which should state: Motion made to increase the commissioner's per diem rate to \$75.00 for meetings where minutes are taken, and \$50.00 for outside meetings sanctioned by the board. There shall be a limit of one per diem per day. Motion passed.

**4. ELECTION – ELECT ONE COMMISSIONER**

- Election announced for one commissioner. Howard Seim was nominated by the BLPRD board. Tellers were appointed and a secret ballot was taken. Howard was unanimously elected for a three-year term. Tellers were Mary Skaret, Rod Olson and Tom Wilkolak.

## 5. REPORTS

- **Chair – Milt Stanze**

- Barr Engineering was hired to study the sediment in Little Balsam. After much discussion it was requested that we get an estimate of the cost of dredging, an upstream sediment pond and stream mitigation. Since this is a sensitive area there is a question of DNR approval.
- The Idlewild Boardwalk Pier application was denied and there is now a lawsuit filed against the DNR in Polk County Circuit Court.
- There is new signage at the four public landings thanks to Tom Miller.
- The website is up to date thanks to Dave Evans.

- **Aquatic Plant Management Update:**

Report was given by Josh Britton from Aquatic Engineering Corp. since the Board members in charge were absent.

- The areas that were picked to be treated this summer were all denied by Frank Koshere, Water Resources Management Specialist DNR, for our area.
- Private applications are OK with DNR approval.
- Question – is there an appeal process? The chairman will contact Frank Koshere on Monday, 7/23, to get an explanation and to see if we can still spray the landings.
- Josh said that treatment after July 31 would be useless.
- There will be a follow-up in the next newsletter along with a list of contacts for the public to contact.

- **Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) – Carl Holmgren**

- This is a program to educate boaters to clean weeds off of their boats and trailers before entering and after leaving lakes.
- Volunteers are from Unity High School and they have received orientation/training with assistance from Polk County LAWRD staff.
- This commenced at the start of the fishing season with twenty-five volunteers who indicated willingness to participate and currently have eight active participants.
- Checking is done primarily at the Balsam Lake Village Beach landing and the 46 Store landing when volunteers available.
- This is a three-year program with the BLPRD receiving a DNR AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) 50/50 grant for a three year period.
- To date they have spent 352 hours so far, checking over 428 boats coming from 70 different lakes.
- Explanation on how to differentiate Northern Milfoil (native to Balsam Lake) from the invasive Eurasian Water Millfoil.
- A request for more volunteers was made.

- **Secchi Disk measurement – Milt Stanze**

- Testing of the lake clarity by means of Secchi disks has been resumed this year. The testing is taking place in Little Balsam, the main lake and East Balsam.
- The DNR considers this to be an excellent tool as it has been done for over 25 years.

6. **PRESENTATION**

A power point demonstration was shown of projects done and conservancies acquired over the past years. They were as follows: Two Gully's in Little Balsam, Alen Farm in East Balsam, Otter Creek clean-up, Balsam Lake- Sediment Basin, Deaver Property, Lot 77, Peterson Property, and Harder Creek Sampling.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Conservancies** – Milt Stanze reported that the BLPRD is still trying to gain conservancies on sensitive properties or purchase them outright.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Waterfront Runoff Program** - Howard Seim gave a report on the new “Waterfront Runoff Program” It will have an emphasis on buffer strips and how to mitigate runoff. It was discussed as to how best to reach the people. The program will start with a survey in August. Harmony Environmental has been hired to develop the program. If people need advice or help with their property, they may contact the Polk County LAWRD 714-485-8699.
- **Fertilizer Coupon** - The BLPRD is restarting the “Zero” phosphorus fertilizer coupons in the newsletter.

9. **TREASURERS REPORT – Presented by Howard Seim**

- There was a discussion of the items included and the general comments were:
  - If the DNR won't allow herbicides, how about the cost of cutting and harvesting.
  - Make sure enough in is the budget to cover weed control however it is accomplished.
  - Could we own our own harvester?
  - Consider inserting more money in the legal fund for the future.
- Motion made to approve the 2008 Budget by Tom Wilkolak and seconded by Woody Cater. Motion passed.

10. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- There was a comment saying that we should try to educate boaters regarding wake close to shore.
- Wendle Johnson suggested that we invest in our own PA system.

11. **ADJOURN:**

- Motion made to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. by Ron Goodroad and seconded by Faith Randall. Motion passed.