



P.O. Box 202, Balsam, Lake, WI 54810

**BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
Annual Meeting July 16, 2011
Unity School Auditorium, Balsam Lake**

(Draft copy until approved at 2012 Annual Meeting)

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The 35th annual meeting of the BLPRD was called to order by Chairman Howard Seim at 9:11 a.m.
- Market Place Foods was thanked for donating the pastries.

2. APPROVE AGENDA

- A motion to approve the agenda was made by Rolf Nelson and seconded by Jon Kreminski. Approved.

3. APPROVE MINUTES of JULY 17, 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

- A motion to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2010 annual meeting was made by Chuck Swanson and seconded by Ralph Nelson. Approved.

4. REPORTS

• **Chairman Report:**

- Introduced elected and appointed Board members noting activities and years served.
- Special recognition of Cheryl Clemens from Harmony Environmental, she does all of our DNR grant writing and she was elected as Wisconsin Lakes Stewardship Award Winner of the year for Business Category.

• **Bridge Replacement Project: Howard Seim**

- Working with Project Team that includes County, Village, Chamber, and State representation.
- BLPRD estimated budget is \$250,000.00
- **Purpose:** To provide waterway access between Town Bay of Balsam Lake and the Mill Pond water body of Balsam Lake for lake management and recreational purposes.
- **Current Status:** DNR raised concerns regarding effects of the wider bridge opening on the Mill Pond dam that might change the dam classification and cause the rebuilding of the dam. The DNR recommended Ayres Corp analyze and answer DNR questions. The BLPRD entered into \$15,000 contract with Ayres for this study in June.
- **Preliminary response was received on July 7th, 2011; and Ayres found that** “-our analysis indicates that the culvert can be increased to the 20-foot span without adversely impacting the dam’s failure consequences, hazard classification, or spillway capacity requirements”

Notes:

1. Polk County Highway has agreed to all costs for County Road "I" reconstruction after the new bridge is in place.
2. The County is taking full project management responsibility.
3. The Village of Balsam Lake Smart Growth Committee is taking full responsibility for structure esthetics, bike path, and lighting.
4. The Balsam Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is supportive of the project. (They also paid the cost with individual donations for the required soil borings.)

Discussion followed the presentation.

- **Conservancy Report (Stump Bay Conservancy)- Milt Stanze and Dave Wagner**

- Have been working on it since 2002
- The Wisconsin DNR lists the Stump Bay site as property with critical habitat and highly supports that this property be placed in conservancy. It is the most biologically diverse area on Balsam Lake and is a critical fish spawning area. It is home to abundant wildlife including shorebirds, birds of prey and waterfowl.
- Polk county Land and Water Resources also highly encourages that this property be purchased for conservancy.

Notes:

1. ***How will the site be used if purchased by the District?*** The site will be maintained in its natural state. (Unity School has said they would use it as an outdoor classroom and Polk County Land and Water Resources said they will use it as a study site.)
2. ***Are there other benefits?*** The District currently owns 18 acres of property directly to the east (as a conservancy) with Harder Creek running through the center. This acquisition would add value to the land the District currently owns, as the entire north side of Stump Bay would be protected.
3. ***What is the cost of the project?*** The District was successful in obtaining a DNR grant for a large amount of the land costs. In fact, this grant was the highest rated lake management grant in the State of Wisconsin. The amount of the grant is \$112,500. The purchase price was \$295,000 leaving a net cost to the District of \$182,500.
4. ***What if the membership does not approve purchase?*** The current owner has said that he intends to develop the site. The site is large enough to support multiple developable home sites or a condo type development.

Discussion followed the presentation.

5. **TREASURERS REPORT**

Karen Aubin reported that if the two projects do not pass then the budget presented will have to be amended.

Ballot vote for Capital Projects:

Conservancy Project-Stump Bay

Yes: 125 No: 40 passed

Mill Pond/Lake Access

Yes: 90 No: 75 passed

Audit Report: Karen Aubin reported that the audit report stated there was good cash flow and stated no discrepancies.

Resolution 2011-01: Howard explained the required resolution for creating the Balsam Lake Protection Fund:

Whereas, the Annual Meeting of electors and property owners of the District is responsible for the adoption of an Annual Budget for the District; and

Whereas, the Annual Meeting has, from time to time, adopted Annual Budgets that identified specific capital and maintenance initiatives (including projects to manage sediment in Rice Creek, land conservation project on Stump Bay, a project to replace the culvert connecting Balsam Lake to the Mill Pond with a bridge, and provide for office equipment maintenance), made appropriations to be held as nonlapsable funds until these projects were completed or terminated and authorized applications for grants and other sources of funds for these projects; and

Whereas, the Annual Meeting is authorized to create such nonlapsible funds to finance specifically identified capital costs and for maintenance of capital equipment; and

Whereas, the electors and property owners convened at this 2011 Annual Meeting have determined to provide for a comprehensive program to consider and appropriate funds for capital and maintenance projects approved in the Annual Budget through the creation of a Balsam Lake Protection Fund as a nonlapsible fund and for the Board of Commissioners to plan and carry out approved projects and to account for the sources and uses of the Balsam Lake Protection Fund.

NOW THEREFORE, the electors and property owners convened at this 2011 Annual Meeting, pursuant to its authority under Sections 33.29(2) and 33.30(4)(d) of the Wisconsin Statutes, hereby establish a nonlapsible fund designated as the BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION FUND (the "Fund") and a capital projects program all as set forth below:

BALSAM LAKE PROTECTION FUND

The Balsam Lake Protection Fund is a nonlapsible fund for the protection and maintenance of Balsam Lake. The Fund shall be used exclusively for capital and maintenance projects that are specially identified and listed in the Annual Budget ("listed projects") in amounts not exceeding the authorization therefore. The Fund shall consist of: (a) amounts appropriated or transferred to the Fund for listed projects approved in the Annual Budget, (b) grants or gifts received by the District from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, other units of government, charitable foundations, individuals or other sources for listed projects and (c) all investment income of the Fund.

The Board of Commissioners may seek and accept funds from federal, state, local or private sources to be held in the Balsam Lake Protection Fund for use in connection with one or more listed projects. The Treasurer shall establish one or more accounts for the deposit and management of the Fund, segregated from the general funds of the District and shall separately account for funds appropriated or received for each listed project, including each listed project's proportionate share of the investment income of the Fund. The Annual Budget proposed by the Commission shall identify each approved and proposed listed project, including (as applicable) the year of the

Annual Meeting at which each was approved, the authorized amount for each listed project and the amount held in the Fund for each listed project.

The Board of Commissioners may expend monies received or earned in the Fund for direct and indirect costs incurred by the District to plan and complete the listed projects not exceeding the amount authorized for each such project. However, subject to any limitations on gift or grant funds, the Board of Commissioners, upon the completion of a listed project may expend any excess funds authorized therefore on one or more other listed projects.

A motion was made by Rolf Nelson and seconded by Ken Foster to put money in for the East Balsam Sedimentation project so the studies can be done and to accept the Audit report, Budget, Resolution 2011-01, and Capital Projects. Approved by a voice vote of 165 Ayes and 0 Nays.

6. ELECTION-ELECT TWO COMMISSIONERS

- Dave Wagner- Nominated by the board
- A motion was made by Chuck Swanson and seconded by Milt Stanze to nominate Loren Johnson as a commissioner. Approved.
- A motion was made by Jeanne O'Connell and seconded by Jan Kreminski to accept both of the nominations for the two open commissioner seats. Approved.

7. GUEST SPEAKER

WATER QUALITY-Meg Rattei, Barr Engineering

- Meg reported that the water quality in the lake is good.
- Samples were taken from 6 different locations
- 5 of 6 were great-in a range from 20-23
- East Balsam didn't fare so well, it's average was 38
- Protect the 5 of 6 that are doing great
- **Rice Creek-** has very low phosphorus, 100 times lower....05% pounds of phosphorus per acre.
- **Little Balsam-** Sedimentation basin good, made good sense putting that in.
- **Harder Creek-** bought land to protect, 40%-stump bay....03% pounds per acre
- **East Balsam-** it is the sediment in the lake, very shallow, has a slow rate of turn over.

Recommendations:

- Reduce internal loading
- Do a sediment study of East Balsam
- Figure what a cost of Alum treatment would be
- Periodic Inspection and Maintenance of Rice Creek Sedimentation basin
- Secci disc monitoring of Little Balsam, Stump Bay, East Balsam, and the Main part of the lake
- Trend analysis every 3 years
- Periodic review of crop land management practices
- Periodic water quality monitoring of Balsam Lake

ALWAYS BE PROACTIVE!!

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

Clean Boats Clean Water (CBCW) - Carl Holmgren

- Carl reported that the CBCW is doing very well.
- Noted support received from Polk County Sheriff's office for unruly boater.
- Reported that there had been a citation issued for having vegetation on their boat trailer driving on the roadway. It was a \$232 fine.

Waterfront Runoff Program (WRP)-Karen Aubin

Karen reported that they have 18 projects in place.

Water Quality-Dave Wagner

Done. Meg Rattei gave a presentation on the water quality in Balsam Lake.

9. **NEW BUSINESS.** None

10. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- It was stated that the 'No Wake' buoys in Town Bay needs to be larger as they are hard to see.
- Karen Aubin was thanked for all her hard work and time that she has served on the board.
- It was stated that 3 people have pontoon boats on land that is not theirs. They have since added a pier. The state needs to enforce the laws if they are going to have them....

11. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Rolf Nelson and seconded by Jeanne O'Connell to adjourn the meeting at 12:13 p.m. Approved.