

**ELTA Board Meeting Minutes**  
**November 25, 2019**  
**7:00 PM**  
Amy's House

## **Agenda**

- No Official Agenda

## **Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Brett Cummings, Amy Coon, Steve Ott, Kasi (Casterline) Barrow, Phil DeYoung, Jim Caporale, Ken Toy

Members Absent: Frank Loedeman

Other: Tom and Debra as area representatives

## **President's Report**

Not much to report at this time other than we will look to schedule a meeting with RLS at a later date. We were unable to coordinate schedules in the fall.

## **Treasurer's Report**

There is nothing noteworthy to go over at this time, but Jim prepared a report and distributed it. There was discussion about how we might budget the next couple years of bioaugmentation before the SAD 2 term closes. Ultimately, we will have to see what the Spring brings.

## **Lake Quality**

Len indicated that it's difficult to budget for weed control when the lake status is in flux due to the flooding. It's too soon to talk about what will happen with the air compressors for next year because we don't know if the lake levels will be lower or not.

## **Communications**

The Newsletter went out earlier this month. The next newsletter should go out sometime around the end of January. Ken will send out an email reminding everyone to fill out the new damage assessment form from the Township. This will be very important for ongoing data (perhaps to help with the FEMA grant application) and individual taxes.

## **Area Rep/Membership**

Tom will revive the annual dues paid sticker discussed earlier this year. We will try to

have that done by the annual meeting. He also updated as to the status of the Treasure Island road commission pumping situation.

### **Legal/Safety**

No updates at this time.

### **Task Force Meeting Recap**

The meeting was mostly about the pumping rate and how it has derailed our short-term plan. The problem is that the DEQ/EGLE is unlikely to change their position on their own. Phil believes that despite what the DEQ/EGLE is telling us, this is all about the rattle snakes. Len believes that the only way to have them change their position is to be bypassed by the Governor. Len thinks we should go visit the Governor's office after the holidays if we don't get any response from them - whether we are invited or not. The DEQ/EGLE is leaving us with no option but to get the media involved and possibly "storm the castle."

There was discussion on making a video like Pine Island to draw extra attention, or a series of videos. Everyone was on board with drawing more attention to our problems to see if we can get some help. Various news media outlets will be contacted.

Amy suggested we do another petition letter people can sign online that we can send to Lansing. There was also discussion of an email campaign to bombard inboxes.

### **Attorney/Lobbying/PR Firm Option**

An email was circulated by a member asking for support for private funding of an attorney. There were extensive discussions again about whether ELTA should hire the attorney or support the idea of volunteers private hiring/paying for an attorney. There were discussions about alternatives, such as: a lobbyist or a PR firm. The majority of the board seemed to agree that a lobbyist or PR firm would be a more productive route than an attorney trying to attack the DEQ/EGLE's very broad discretion in the permit. The idea is to draw as much attention to the matter as possible to force the governor to get involved.

### **Crooked Lake Update**

They are not close to their number yet. They are reporting that there are people on the lake campaigning against the long-term solution. They apparently remain confident that they will get to their number, but it is unclear when that may be.

### **Petition for Legal Lake Level Update**

We have exceeded our 67% and will look to do one last email campaign to get signatures and then look to turn everything in for verification by December 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be January 27, 2019 at Township at 7:00 PM

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM**