

ELTA Board Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2020

6:30 PM

Zoom

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: None

Other: Jennifer – RLS, Debra Duncan

Agenda:

RLS Annual Report

President Report

Treasurer Report

Short Term Pumping Update

Long Term Project Update

Communication Committee Update

Membership Committee Update

Safety/Legal Update

RLS Annual Report

It was a very difficult year as we all know, and aeration was on hold all year; however, we did continue utilizing bioaugmentation. Crooked Lake had a bad milfoil outbreak this year and is suffering from extremely high phosphorous levels. Our lake is still within the safe zone for all measurements, but it isn't looking as good as it did the past couple years. RLS will likely want to switch treatment chemicals this year to prevent tolerance buildup for weeds. RLS recommends an early season treatment (if possible) to attack the milfoil this year. The bottom hardness levels are remaining positive.

Len asked what reporting requirements we may have related to the aeration, and specifically, whether we will need to do more sampling. RLS will do their best to use logic when dealing with the EGLE, but ultimately it is in EGLE's hands.

Len also asked about the long-term solution EGLE permit process and whether there is anything we can do to make them more responsive or motivate them to get us the permit faster. Unfortunately, Jennifer is not aware of anything we can do to move things along quicker.

Treasurer's Report

Jim went over the Treasurer's report. SAD 1 will not get any additional money until 2023. We budgeted about the same amount of money for weed treatment as prior

years. We budgeted \$45-50k for bioaugmentation and another \$25k for re-implementation of the aeration pumps assuming we can get them going this year. It is believed that we will be in good shape absent a significant unforeseen expense.

Lake Quality

We have a lot of unknowns with aeration next year, but we are hopeful that we can re-deploy the equipment. As of right now it looks like goose roundup will be back on for next year, but we won't know until spring approaches. Everyone approved renewing RLS's contract for 2021. It was noted that Jennifer has been very helpful in both the short term and long term dewatering projects.

Short Term Pumping Update

All of the necessary easements were acquired, and the equipment will stay in place. There were many hurdles and significant opposition on the other side. Jim Roberts and another individual came through in a big way by purchasing the Fleck's property to sway the votes and get the easement. We will keep putting pressure on EGLE to increase our pump rate. In addition, if Crooked hits their target, we will push to get our rate increased.

Long Term Project Update

Len and Amy are very frustrated. EGLE has had the report since June and it has not done anything with it. The attorney is telling us not to reach out to our contacts at EGLE. Jeff Vanbelle is going to host a meeting and introduce us to the new drain commissioner. Jeff won Cass County so he will be leaving. Christine Morse is willing to assist as well. We have asked for the petition to go forward and not wait on the permit. We will revisit in a month if we haven't heard anything new from EGLE.

Communication

Everything is status quo. We need 3 newsletters before May. The next newsletter will need to go out ASAP – target to have a draft done by the end of the week. Kasi offered to get more involved with the newsletters going forward to help Ken get somethings off his plate. There were discussions about electronic newsletters and how we were going to deal with it going forward.

Area Rep/Membership

Stickers were delivered to those that paid and additional contact was made in the form of a letter to those inviting them to join. We are at 248 members.

Legal/Safety

Steve had a question about golf cart use on roads. There was general discussion about what we are seeing and whether or not it was worthwhile to include in a publication of some sort. It was decided that the board should not get involved with golf carts at this

time and maybe we will revisit in the spring when their use becomes more prevalent again. The barricades at the launch are either broken or were taken.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM