

# **Lake Mason Management District**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, December 21, 2015**

Chairman Charlie Newling called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM and asked if the meeting was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law. Bob Demmert stated it was. The agenda was posted at Mason Station, the Post Office, Club 23, and posted on the district's website.

Roll call of officers present: Chairman Charlie Newling, Treasurer Bob Demmert, Commissioner Bob Krause and Town of Douglas Rep. Jim Brancel. Not present: Commissioner Rocco Terranova and Adams Co. Rep. Mark Hamburg.

Bob Krause made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Bob Demmert seconded and the motion passed without discussion.

Bob Demmert presented the minutes from the December 7, 2015 Board Meeting. Bob Krause made a motion to approve the minutes. Charlie Newling seconded and the motion passed without discussion.

Bob Demmert presented the Treasurer's Report. A check was received for \$100.00 from the Town of New Haven for delinquent special charges collected. Bob Krause made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Charlie Newling seconded and the motion passed without further discussion.

Bob Demmert stated there was one outstanding bill: a request for reimbursement of \$178.15 from Charlie Newling for envelopes, postage, and labels for the mailing of the membership questionnaire. Bob Krause made a motion to approve the reimbursement and Bob Demmert seconded. The motion passed.

### **Old Business**

1. LMMD response to Towns of Douglas and New Haven on cost sharing of current dam expenses.- Charlie Newling stated that the proposed 50% cost sharing of the current dam expenses would be under \$10,000, which would allow the board to approve the expense. There was a brief discussion and everyone agreed that the payment would be a non-binding payment. Future commitments would have to be approved at the annual meeting. Charlie Newling made a motion to approve the 50% cost sharing for the current dam expenses, Bob Demmert seconded and the motion passed.

2. LMMD letter to membership-

Charlie stated that he had received several emails regarding suggestions to make the questionnaire simpler and shorter. Charlie presented the questionnaire with the revisions from the board and Peter Curran. It was decided to wait until after the new year to mail it out.

### **New Business**

1. Additional response from legal counsel.

Peter Curran sent an email regarding a conversation he had with Joe Behlen of the DNR Water Regulations and Zoning Engineer. He provided Peter with detailed description of the dam abandonment process, which Peter passed to Charlie. Charlie restated it to the board. Basically, the DNR would hold a hearing. If no new owner comes forward, the DNR would not force anyone to own the dam. The dam would be abandoned and removed. The DNR engineer did state that by policy, the DNR advocates ownership of dams by Lake Districts.

2. Adams County LWCD surveying is underway-

Charlie reported that Wally Sedlar and a Social Scientist from UW have begun to go door-to-door in Adams Co. to survey the district members and farmers to get their input on what they view as important issues to the health of Lake Mason and what should be done to improve the lake. The Survey is part of a joint initiative with Marquette Co. It will be focusing ways the district members and farmers can work cooperatively to implement improvements. Adams Co. is starting with district members and will probably start with farmers in spring. Marquette Co. LWCD will be surveying members and farmers in the Town of Douglas.

3. Transfer of money to Matching Grant Fund-

This item was tabled until after a decision on how much funding would be needed for the Emergency Dam Fund.

4. Hold back funds for establishment of Emergency Dam Fund -

This item was tabled so it could be addressed after a decision is made on what portion of the dam maintenance the district would be responsible for.

5. Contested Special Charges by Wagon Wheel Campground -

Bob Demmert stated that the Wagon Wheel Campground is contesting the amount of their special charge. The main contention is that not all of their campsites have campers on them. Since it is so late in the year, and there is no way to determine what their summer occupancy rate is, Bob stated this matter should be addressed early next summer. Possibly a rewording of the formula in the by-laws should be considered to remove any ambiguity. Bob stated he had advised the campgrounds that they are liable for the full amount currently charged.

## **Open Comments**

## **Motion to Adjourn**

**Note:** Only the items on the agenda can be acted upon. Any items brought forward during open comments will be put on the next meeting agenda.