

**BASS LAKE CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT MEETING
APRIL 17, 2017**

PRESENT: Chairman Gene Novello	Vice Chairman Larry Collura
Director Jerry Broadstreet	Director Russ Blais
Director Dennis Kraftor	Attorney Ethan Lowe
Office Assistant Mariann Gappa	Plant Manager Tom Jordan
CPA Firm, Eric Walsh	Engineer Lee Nagai

Chairman Gene Novello called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes – The reading of the minutes was waived and Director Blais made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 29, 2017 special meeting and the March 20, 2017 regular meeting, Vice Chairman Collura seconded. Motion carried.

Financials – Chairman Novello presented the financial report. The fund balances exceed the minimum reserve requirements by \$1,314,904 and the receipts have exceeded expenditures by \$80,999. Operating expenditures are under budget by \$30,820. The last bond payment is due July 1st. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the financial statement dated 3/31/2017, Director Kraftor seconded. Motion carried.

Bills to be paid:

NIPSCO	\$320.05 (Plant)
NIPSCO	\$740.71 (Lift Stations)
NIPSCO	\$13.36 (Lake Pump)
Century Link	\$56.00
Century Link	\$206.93
Prime Pay	\$3572.00 (3/26/2017)
Prime Pay	\$3530.43 (4/9/2017)
TCU	\$58.85 (March)
TCU	\$736.66 (T's Credit Card)
Umbaugh	\$1735.00 (March)
Apheus	\$12.95 (Computer)
NAPA	\$36.10 (UPS)
NAPA	\$13.36 (UPS)
NAPA	\$62.99 (Hitch)
Goetz	\$85,000.00 (Pivot Irrigation)
Element	\$179.00 (Testing)
D.S.&S.	\$300.00 (Cleaned o Lift Station)
Quill	\$308.51 (Misc. Supplies)
Blachy, Tabor, Bozik	\$756.25 (February Supplies)
Aquatic Control	\$5300.00 (LARE Programs)
Npes	\$1300.00 (Engineer Charges)
Larry Collura	\$300.00 (Directors)
Gene Novello	\$400.00 (Directors)
Electrical Installations	\$110.00 (Service Call)

Chairman Novello stated that he had reviewed the credit card bills before they are paid. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the bills as presented for the April 17, 2017 meeting and Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried.

Rate Study – Director Kraftor stated he felt there should be 1 fee for all living units. Eric Walsh from Umbaugh remarked that the common practice in the state of Indiana is to undercharge for trailers and buildings without kitchen facilities. He stated that it is the flow from the unit that determines the fee. Attorney Lowe stated that the Board has to decide on the rate structure tonight so a legal notice can be published before the next meeting to implement a change. There was much discussion about whether a garage with a sink or toilet should be charged as a separate facility and if it is attached to the house. Directors Blais, Kraftor, and Broadstreet all agreed that if a garage has living quarters in it, it should be charged separately, but if it only has a sink or toilet, then there shouldn't be a charge. Engineer Nagai asked about using the square footage of a unit to determine the charge. All the Directors except Director Kraftor agreed to keep the equivalent factor at 1 for homes and .75 for condos, mobile homes, and multi-plex units. Plant Manager Jordan asked about the charges at Rannell's Park. He was told to get clarification from the County about the number of houses in Rannell's Park. He also stated that the campground has a lift station at the back and all the campers empty into a dumping station as no campers are hooked up to the system. Mr. Walsh stated the current equivalent factor is .2 per campsite and the proposed factor is .75. There was much discussion about the aquatic research that Purdue is planning. Engineer Nagai suggested that BLCD use an 8 equivalent factor instead of the 13 that was originally proposed. It was decided to go with the 8 factor. Attorney Lowe summarized the proposed rate structure as continuing with the .75 factor for apartments, mobile homes, condos, multi-plex units, and townhouses. Lack of support for charging for units without kitchen and living quarters would be removed from the rate structure. Campground sites would be charged at the .75 factor. Director Blais made a motion to accept ordinance 1-2017 for amended rates as written with Exhibit A attached and the exception of garages. Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried with Vice Chairman Collura and Director Kraftor opposing. Vice Chairperson Collura's reason for opposing was the manner in which the motion was made. The motion wasn't clear in its language and he wouldn't vote on a motion he couldn't understand.

Purdue Update – Attorney Lowe stated that Purdue plans to start soon on the ponds and he would give them notice of the probable rate structure.

Pivot Irrigation Update – Director Broadstreet stated the old irrigation system has been taken out and the new one being installed is on schedule. Engineer Nagai remarked that a new pad needs to be installed and he will get bids for it.

LARE Grant Update – Director Broadstreet stated that a grant for \$27,500 has been given to BLCD for milfoil spraying. \$4000.00 was deposited recently for weed surveying and that is 80% of the Aquatic Control bill of \$5300 that was just approved. BLCD will pay for 2 acres of phragmites to be sprayed this year at a cost of approximately \$500.

July Meeting Date – Chairman Novello requested that the July meeting date be changed to July 10th. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to change the July meeting from July 17th to July 10th, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried.

Boat Launch Cleaning Update – Director Blais commented that the County is going to clean the boat launch site.

E-Coli Testing – Vice Chairman Collura reported that the e-coli testing would begin on May 17th and continue until Sept. 20th or stop the week before the 20th. Plant Manager Jordan has been doing this for 3 years and the results are posted on the BLCD website weekly.

Tom Jordan's Report – Plant Manager Jordan reported that he would like to purchase a spectrophotometer to test ammonia and phosphorus. Director Kraftor made a motion to purchase the meter, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried.

He has received quotes for a plant generator and will continue to get more information and quotes. He now feels the plant generator may not be justified as the cost is around \$25,000.

He has been purchasing extra gas as the discharge line is plugged.

The lift stations alarms should be installed around the first part of May.

There was 4 inches of rain last month and 8 inches of rain for the year so far.

Attorney's Comments – Attorney Lowe stated the annual election for Districts 3 and 4 will be held on July 8th and he will publish the legal notices.

Office Assistant's Comments – Office Assistant Gappa stated that 4 new accounts have been set up. 26 liens were filed for \$7370.22 last week. The rent check for \$21,000 was received from Wappel's and deposited on 3/24/2017.

Comments from the Board – Director Broadstreet stated that 7 bids had been sent out for the spraying of the lake and 5 were returned. Aquatic Control was chosen again as the contractor for the spraying.

Vice Chairman Collura talked with 3 insurance companies about submitting bids for the BLCD insurance needs. He found out that the BLCD is in the second year of a 3 year contract with GIS. He suggested that the decision making for an insurance contract be started in December or January so that adequate time is allowed to select an insurance broker for next May when the current policy expires. It is his recommendation that we move forward with GIS Insurance for the period of May 15, 2017 – May 15, 2018. It is also his recommendation that in addition to the current policy, four additional coverages be added to the contract.

Comments from the Audience – An audience member asked if the rate structure amendment would be posted on the BLCD website. Attorney Lowe stated that a legal notice would be published and it could be posted on the website.

Director Blais made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Director Kraftor seconded. Motion carried. The next meeting is at 6:00 p.m. on May 15, 2017 at the BLPOA building.