

**BASS LAKE CONSERVANCY**  
**DISTRICT MEETING**  
**JANUARY 15, 2018**

PRESENT: Chairman Gene Novello                      Vice Chairman Larry Collura  
          Director Jerry Broadstreet                 Director Russ Blais  
          Office Assistant Mariann Gappa          Attorney Ethan Lowe  
          Plant Manager Tom Jordan

ABSENT: 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 from the meeting was waived and Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2017 meeting, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried.

**Financials** – Chairman Novello gave the financial report. The fund balances exceed the minimum reserve requirements by \$1,550,321 and the total receipts have exceeded the total expenditures to date by \$51,796. Operating expenditures are under budget to date by \$75,021 so the net operating receipts are under budget by \$64,601. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the financial report from December, 2017, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried.

Bills to be paid:

NIPSCO	\$299.60 (Plant)
NIPSCO	\$524.89 (Lift Stations)
NIPSCO	\$77.08 (Lake Pump)
NIPSCO	\$79.45 (Lake Pump)
Century Link	\$229.75 (Phone Service)
Prime Pay	\$7971.81 (12/17/2017)
Prime Pay	\$3476.65 (1/5/2018)
Prime Pay	\$135.86 (December Charge)
TCU	\$62.75 (December Charge)
TCU	\$672.17 (T's Credit Card)
TCU	\$563.75 (M's Credit Card)
Gasvoda	\$312.20 (Repair Pumps)
Greenmark	\$405.41 (Service Tractor)
WTH	\$320.00 (GIS User Software License)
Umbaugh	\$1735.00 (December Charge)
Apheus	\$12.95 (Computer)
LMW Investments	\$28.40 (Overpaid Charge on Sold Property)
D.S.&S.	\$175.00 (Pumped 1 Air Release Manhole)
S. C. Farm Bureau Co-op	\$641.89 (Propane)
Alliance of Indiana	\$220.00 (Annual Membership Dues)

Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the bills as presented and read into the January 15, 2018 minutes, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried.

**Employee Reviews** – Chairman Novello stated the employee reviews had been discussed at the Executive Meeting in November. He was complimentary of the work done by the employees. Director Blais made a motion to grant Plant Manager Jordan a 4% raise effective January 1 2018, Vice Chairman Collura seconded. Motion carried. Director Broadstreet made a motion to grant Office Assistant Gappa a 4% raise effective January 1, 2018, Vice Chairman Collura seconded. Motion carried. Director Broadstreet made a motion to pay Plant Manager Jordan double pay for the overtime hours he worked from 1/1/2017 to 12/31/2017, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried. Chairman Novello commented on the extra work that was required in 2017 because of the audit, rate increase, DNR, and other problems and he recommended a longevity bonus of \$500.00 to be paid to Plant Manager Jordan and Office Assistant Gappa. Director Blais made a motion to approve the longevity bonus of \$500.00 for Plant Manager Jordan and Office Assistant Gappa for 2017, Vice Chairman Collura seconded. Motion carried.

**Umbaugh Contract** – Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to approve the Umbaugh contract as presented by Jeff Rowe at the December, 2017 meeting, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried.

**Insurance for 2018** – Vice Chairman Collura stated that he would be researching insurance companies for coverage in 2018. He would like to have a 2 year contract instead of doing this every year but that will be for the Board to determine. He will have more information later.

**Apheus-Server Update** – Vice Chairman Collura commented that Apheus has been on top of the problems created recently by the world-wide software invasions. Apheus will keep BLCD informed on any more problems.

**E-Coli Testing** – Vice Chairman Collura asked if BLCD should continue doing the e-coli testing. He explained that the property owners did it before but lack of volunteers resulted in BLCD taking it over. Plant Manager Jordan replied that the annual cost is approximately \$500.00. BLPOA President Rick Anderson stated he thought that the testing didn't need to be done every week as there has not been any problems with e-coli. Vice Chairman Collura suggested doing the testing once a month from May until September and then addressing the issue again at the end of the Summer. Chairman Novello asked Attorney Lowe if e-coli testing fell into the purpose of BLCD. Attorney Lowe responded that testing may fall under the purpose of operating the lake pump and wellness. BLPOA President Rick Anderson stated he would like to see more testing for phosphates and other chemicals to clear up the cloudiness of the lake. After much discussion, it was decided to table the e-coli testing until next meeting.

**Koontz Lake Clean-Up** – Director Broadstreet stated that Koontz Lake is having a problem with the chemicals (nitrates and phosphates) that are building up as a result of run-off from the farms emptying into the lake. The Directors are trying to get some grants to help clean-up the lake. Attorney Lowe stated that Bass Lake is not having the kind of problems that Koontz Lake is experiencing now. He is representing homeowners at Koontz Lake who are trying to establish a conservancy district but many are not in favor of it because of the cost involved in cleaning up the lake.

**Resolution Establishing Materiality Threshold** – Attorney Lowe stated this had been resolved in 2016.

**Resolution—Attendance Requirements** – Attorney Lowe stated the verbiage about the requirements was a little confusing so he will redo the verbiage so it clearly states that a Director can only miss 3 meetings in a row or 4 total meetings between July 1 and June 30. He offered a resolution that would have to be approved by the Board and then he can present an amendment to the court for approval. Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to accept the resolution, Director Blais seconded. Motion carried. Chairman Novello asked if a Director had to be a customer of the District or just a freeholder. Attorney Lowe replied that a freeholder can be on the Board and does not have to be a customer.

**Jordan's Report** – Plant Manager Jordan reported that a car had hit Lift Station C last week and he is in the process of getting that taken care of. The driver left the accident and the police do not know who the driver was. December precip was .97 inches. He gave his annual report of the plant.

**Attorney's Comments** – Nothing

**Office Assistant's Comments** – Office Assistant Gappa reported that 3 new accounts had been opened and she set up 5 new EFT accounts. A check for \$1216.00 was deposited on 1/4/2018 for the treatment of phragmites in 2017.

**Comments from the Board** – Vice Chairman Collura stated that BLCD does not give out personal information to callers. They do tell people who they can call for garbage pick-up and BLPOA information.

**Comments from the Audience** – Rick Anderson stated he would like to talk with Director Broadstreet about the testing of lake waters.

Vice Chairman Collura made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Director Broadstreet seconded. Motion carried. The next meeting will be February 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the BLPOA Building.