

# VALPARAISO LAKES AREA CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

## MINUTES OF MEETING: May 19, 2010

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Garmon Dick Brychell Don Kareiva  
Tom Kruse Debbie Miller Megan Summers  
John Steffen

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Dave Hollenbeck Bob Minarich Adam McAlpine

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District was called to order at 6:05 P.M on May 19, 2010 by Chairman Brychell.

The minutes of the April 21, 2010 meeting were reviewed. A correction was made to the committee assignments with Dick rather than Bob being on the Top Soil Committee and Bob rather than Dick being on the Public Liaison Committee. A motion to approve the minutes carried.

The conservancy budget and financials were reviewed.

The LAC financials were reviewed. Cash receipts look good, but there were some large expenses. Payroll was higher in April because there were 5 payrolls rather than 4. Payroll will be high again for May due to hydrant flushing. Office supplies were higher due to printing expenses for new bills and mailings. Materials and supplies were higher to due buying some stock parts before a supplier closed and meters being purchased. Accounting fees were paid to Cender for the rate increase. There was a negative balance for the month, but is still positive for the year.

Joe presented his maintenance report. Cardinal Lift Station had some work done under warranty. Ostedt Lift Station burned up a roto-phase and was replaced with one we had in the shop. Hillcrest Lift Station is having some sand infiltration in the system that needs to be tracked down. One pump was rebuilt last year but the other pump had a seal fail, has to be completely rebuilt at a cost of about \$4,000.00. Joe is talking with Gasvoda regarding different options, but some large costs will be coming up as the whole station may need to be rebuilt similarly to Cardinal Lift Station. There were a few large water leaks so water usage will be higher. There was an 8 inch main break on Woodland Terrace. There were 2 leaks on 2 inch galvanized on Phares Lane.

Hydrant flushing is complete.

Next Bob gave his report. CCR reports went out. Bob also spoke about the problems at Hillcrest Lift Station. Bob will order a few of the floc-logs to try in the Urschel property ponds. Joe and Bob will do volunteer Flint Lake monitoring through IU.

The Sewer financials were reviewed. Cash receipts were lower. The YTD is positive. A motion carried to transfer \$10,000 from the savings account to the checking account.

The claim forms were reviewed and signed.

A motion carried to approve the Haas invoice in the amount of \$810.00 for the Valpo Americans project.

Ellen reported that the issue of new software will be put off due to funds being low right now.

Dave reported that we should receive property tax draw by June 30. Next was a discussion of Dick Brychell's interest in acquiring 9 acres of wetlands that adjoin his property at the south end of Long Lake. The district acquired the property in the settlement of the estate of Alan Litman. We will have the property appraised by 2 appraisers and could sell the property for the average of the 2 appraisal amounts. Also the deed would give restrictions as to what the property could or could not be used for. Dick would not vote on this matter and Tom would take over the voting on this issue. A motion carried for Dick and Dave to work together to further decide on the surveying, appraisal, and research of this property at Dick's expense and with the involvement of the environmental committee.

Resident Tom Banaczik spoke regarding the degradation of the wetlands and phosphorus free fertilizer.

Adam gave his report regarding negotiations with LGS. The issue will probably go to litigation. Adam, Bob, Tom and Dave will meet to go over everything and decide where to go from here and keep the board advised.

A motion carried to approve Sue Gustafson's invoice in the amount of \$500.00 for design and maintenance of the VLACD website for one year.

The employee health insurance plan was discussed. The deductible was \$2,500.00 and increased to \$4,000.00 for prescriptions this year. Due to this increase, a motion carried to backfund employees up to \$1,500.00 each if they incur expenses past \$2,500.00 toward the prescription deductible. The insurance committee should meet to review insurance plans and see what we may want to change next year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen McMeans  
Financial Secretary