

VALPARAISO LAKES AREA CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING: NOVEMBER 18, 2009

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Sue Gustafson Dick Brychell Ken Hill
Tom Kruse Debbie Miller

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT : Megan Summers Jack Steffen

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 6:02 P.M. on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 by Chairman Brychell. The minutes were approved as written.

First we reviewed Conservancy District Analysis, Cumulative Improvement Fund and Rainy Day funds. Since we received our final 2008 tax draw, we are now in good shape. The CIF and Rainy Day funds are both back to where they should be.

Next, the Water Fund was reviewed. The financial statements look good and things appear to be in order.

The Maintenance and Operation Report was reviewed. Joe had problems with float on the Cardinal Lift station last month. There were two water leaks on Flamingo and Woodland Bluff.

The Water improvement Projects were reviewed. Water and sewer projects are all on hold at the moment.

The Sewer fund was reviewed. We will be at breakeven hopefully by the end of the year.

The claim forms were signed.

Dave Hollenbeck discussed the revamping of the VLACD Personnel Policy. Dave and Debbie agreed to get together to start the process. They will use the City of Valparaiso personnel policy as a guide.

The Annual Review of Employees was conducted last month. Many local institutioes are not giving raises this year due to the economy. It was also pointed out that only two employees that were working in 2008 are still working in 2009. Performance raises and bonuses were as follows:

	<u>Performance Raise</u>	<u>Bonus</u>
Alexis Rubin	no increase in salary	\$500 bonus
Matthew Arts	no increase in hourly pay	\$750 bonus
Christina Max	\$11.00 per hour effective 1/2010	\$500 bonus
Joe Mitol	no increase	\$750 bonus

Robert Minarich \$66,500 salary \$2,000 bonus

The motion to approve the raises and bonuses passed.

Alexis Rubin had nothing to report.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:

Adam McAlpine spoke about the Valpo American project. A notice to proceed was signed on 11/5/09. He is still reviewing the remaining shop drawings for the piers. The change order was obtained from the State of Indiana SRF office. It was signed by Haas & Assoc. and LGS Plumbing. There are wage and reporting requirements for SRF loans. Wages must be reported on a weekly basis with only a signature required.

Adam also spoke about the Kettle Lake issue. He attended a meeting on 11/9/09 with Dave Burris. There is a revised proposal with less geotechnical borings. The county wanted to contract out the project. The original proposal was for \$6,105 with 8 borings for 220 feet total. The revised proposal is \$5,554 with 4 borings and 40 feet total. This information was sent to Dave Burris. Dave Hollenbeck recommended that LAC split half of the \$2,554 overage with \$3,000 contingent upon result. The county still must approve this change.

Dave Hollenbeck spoke about the 2008 tax bills. Per the auditor, the final settlement to VLACD will be made by 12/31/09. The budget was approved for the General Tax Fund.

Nominating petitions are due for some VLACD board members. Dave has received petitions for Debbie and Sue, but is waiting on Ken Hill. The petitions are due by 11/30/09.

Dave spoke the rate increase that Valparaiso City Utilities will have in effect in 2010. The Indiana Regulatory Commission needs an Accounting Rate Study completed. Although Alexis Rubin offered to complete the study, the state needs an accounting firm with name recognition. Dave recommended that Cender and Company be retained to complete the Pass Through Petition at a cost of \$3,000. The motion carried.

Adam spoke about a conversation with DLZ Engineering, a firm hired by the City of Valparaiso to widen Burlington Beach Road between Route 49 and Calumet Avenue and install storm sewers. This project will tie into the Flint Lake outlet project. A storm sewer atlas was sent to DLZ. Adam will keep VLACD abreast of DLZ's progress on the project. Adam asked the Board where they are on the Flint Lake Outlet project. There is no plan as of yet- we are just surveying the Long and Flint Lake connection. We would need regulatory approval to regulate the level of Flint Lake. It was brought up that perhaps VLACD could share in the expense of the Flint Lake Outlet with the City of Valparaiso for the Hawthorn subdivision.

Flint Lake resident and former board member Ed Schwuchow spoke about his concerns with the water level of Flint and Loomis Lake. Loomis Lake opens a gate and floods Flint Lake. Loomis should flow north, but it sometimes does not. Ed was also concerned that the Kettle Lake project

will dump even more water into Flint Lake since the drain pipe will be going from a 5 inch diameter to a 24 inch diameter.

Flint Lake resident Lloyd Samplawski also shared his concerns with the water level of Flint Lake. The water is not lowering because it is draining very slowly. Water should be kept at the culvert level. We need to try to get the water level down sooner.

Adam said that the Flint Lake Outlet project could be divided into phases with step one being gather information, step two explore the watershed and step three, design/permitting/bidding. Board members asked if we can dredge the Flint Lake area? Bob said he would check at the LARE meeting tomorrow. A motion was approved for Haas to look at the Flint Lake water shed and dredging.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis Rubin
Financial Secretary