



**VALPARAISO LAKES AREA CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES**

May 15, 2024

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

Chairman

Christian Anderson

Vice-Chairman

Kyle Hauber

Members

Connie Hughes

Walt Breitinger

Michael Cantieri

Richard Tegt

Chad Kuehl

CONSULTANTS

General Manager

Alicia Barber

Financial Secretary

Dale Brewer

Attorney

David Hollenbeck

The Board of Directors of the Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District met in the Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District Board Room at 1805 Burlington Beach Road, Valparaiso, Indiana on May 15, 2024, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Board members present included Christian Anderson, Kyle Hauber, Connie Hughes, Walt Breitinger, Michael Cantieri, Richard Tegt, and Chad Kuehl. Consultants present included Alicia Barber, Dale Brewer, Jacob Ballah of BF&S, and Colby Barks of BTBH. Consultants not present include David Hollenbeck.

Chairman Christian Anderson called the regular board meeting to order.

Approval of minutes

- Kyle made a motion to approve minutes from April 17, 2024. Chad seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Approval of claims

- Kyle made a motion to approve claims. Connie seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Approval of financial statements

- Kyle made a motion to approve April 2024 financial statements. Connie seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Reports from Standing Committees

- **Personnel- Kyle Hauber** – Nothing to report
- **Insurance- Michael Cantieri** – Nothing to report
- **Stormwater- Walt Breitinger** –
 - Walt mentioned Mike Novotney attended the last meeting and was recognized and thanked for his tremendous help in us passing our agreement with the county to better control construction and how it might impact stormwater.
 - Walt mentioned River Watch program. Some discussion followed.
- **Public Liaison- Connie Hughes** –
 - Connie requested a Public Liaison and Strategic Planning meeting.
 - Christian mentioned someone from Shirley Heinze plans to come assist board members with identifying invasive species and native species of trees.
- **Strategic Planning- Connie Hughes** – Connie requested having a meeting to discuss the Hollenbeck Greenway
- **Engineering- Richard Tegt** – Nothing to report

- General Managers Report
 - Alicia gave the field report, which included cleaning lift stations, meter change outs, seasonal ons, and shut offs.
 - Alicia informed that Kettle Lake has been located and prepped for the surveyors next week.
 - The sediment pond project is completed with the addition of trees and grass seed.
 - Alicia mentioned Mr. Chavez whom she spoke with about stormwater flooding on his property.
 - Alicia mentioned VLACD's road policy, which clarifies that VLACD is not responsible for the maintenance of roads in our district, nor will we use VLACD's resources or materials on private roads.
 - Alicia mentioned backflows have been coming in as sprinklers are turning on for the season.
 - Alicia mentioned Walden's HOA has declined to accept the deed of the pond adjacent to their neighborhood. Some discussion followed on the liability issues to VLACD because VLACD owns the pond. Alicia requested approval to order roughly ten signs to post at the pond explaining no swimming, no fishing, trespassing, etc. Chad asked about imminent domain. Connie mentioned sending letters to landowners surrounding the pond to offer to purchase pond. Christian mentions possibly the landowners forming a pond/lake association. Colby was tasked with drafting a letter to the pond adjacent landowners asking if they would like to purchase the pond.
 - Alicia requested that the Public Liaison and Strategic Planning meeting be May 22, 2024 at 5:30PM.
 - Richard asked about generators at the lift stations
- Attorneys Report
 - Corbin mentioned Dave is still working on the deeds requested at the last meeting.
- Tabled Item
 - Richard motioned to bring tabled item, the chair and vice chair voting process, up for discussion. Kyle seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote. Richard discussed his thoughts on the current process for voting for chair and vice chair of the board. Richards suggests a procedure be drafted for the future. Some discussion and concerns about past elections followed.
 - Richard motioned to table the chair and vice chair voting process discussion. Connie seconded which was approved by a 6 to 1 vote with Walt as a nay vote.
- Public Participation
 - Rolando agreed a policy is needed for the chair and vice chair voting process.
 - Jacob, BF&S, informed surveyors will begin next week on Kettle Lake. Some discussion followed describing the Kettle Lake project.
 - Alicia mentioned the rate study with BakerTilly. Alicia and Dale have given them the information they have requested.
- Christian asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Walt motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kyle seconded which was approved by unanimous vote.

Next Meeting: June 19, 2024

Attested by Alicia Barber, General Manager