

# Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District

## Minutes of Board Meeting

August 16, 2023

**Board Members Present:** Mickey Koehler, Walt Breitinger, Christian Anderson, Connie Hughes, Kyle Hauber, Michael Cantieri and Richard Tegt

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Consultants Present:** Alicia Barber, Dale Brewer, and Dave Hollenbeck

**Audience:** Jake from BF&S, Tom Banaszak, Lynn Vandenberg, Jill Platipodis, Jan Westergren, Chad & Margaret Kollross, Nancy Brown, Chris Platipodis, Jeff Marsten and Lisa Minnella

Mickey opened the budget public hearing at 5:30pm

Dale informed all financial/budget information is available online on Gateway.

Tom inquired about the budget.

Mickey closed the public hearing at 5:40pm

Mickey called the regular board meeting to order at 5:40pm.

**Public Participation-** Someone in the audience inquired about the sediment pond. Mickey informed it is part of the master plan and some of the work that has already been done. Alicia added cleaning of outfalls and ditches has been done and the timeline of other projects. Walt spoke about attending Edgewater Beach Association meetings and various other meetings to work together on projects. Mickey mentioned that the pipe coming from YMCA area was discharging clear water, not muddy. Two other outlets did have dirty water and they have been contacted. Mickey explained the function of the sediment pond is to catch all the silt before it hits Flint Lake. Walt and Christian explained that fixing the root of the sediment problem must be fixed before dredging of the pond can happen again. Richard mentions the sediment is not coming from the pipe coming from the ymca area and routine maintenance should be done in the sediment pond. Mickey mentions working with the county to complete projects. Tom discussed future development around Cumberland crossing. Chris asked about the efficiency between the separator vs sediment pond. BF&S responded. Chris inquired about federal or state funding for this project. Tom asked how to move the water from Kettle Lake to Flint Lake. Someone in the audience asked about developer accountability from the city. Dave answered residents need to do their own due diligence and speak with city of Valparaiso if they have any concerns. Connie recommended attending the meetings with the city. Lisa spoke about the vegetation at the end of her dock. Mickey answered we do get funds from the state to spray the lakes and any further spraying would be on the resident to complete. Alicia answered that some of the vegetation is needed to keep the lake clean. Connie mentions contacting a qualified company to spray your own area of the lake. Dave suggested asking for companies license you intend to hire. Jeff wants to know who is responsible for fishing at the lake. Mickey informed contact the DNR. Christian mentioned the importance of not pulling the invasive plants out of the lake because it would cause more growth. Connie suggested providing a link on the website to information about native vegetation in our lakes. Someone in the audience asked if turtle pond is part of our district and who manages it. Mickey answered no. Walt handed out literature on the harmful affects of using fertilizer.

**Motion to approve last months meeting minutes.** Richard motioned and Christina seconded. Motion passed.

**Motion to approve financial claims and statements.** Christian motioned and Michael seconded. Motion passed.

**Motion to approve Resolution #23-3.** Walt motioned and Connie seconded. Motion passed.

Mickey mentions the board wants to approve changes in turn on fee. Dave said a public hearing is needed to do that. Mickey said they will hold a public meeting.

Mickey mentions the board not charging the minimum sewer to those not using water. Dave suggested that also be a part of the public hearing.

Dave said there needs to be one modification to the document. Dave will work with staff to get all the information that needs to be adopted by the board.

**Personnel-** Nothing to report.

**Insurances-** Michael has been in touch with Anton Insurance. Michael wants Jim Anton to attend the September meeting.

**Storm Water Management-** Walt wants to resolve our near ending contract with the city of Valparaiso for cleaning our sanitary sewer.

**Public Liaison-** Connies mentions the meeting yesterday discussing sewer fees and turn on/off fees.

**Strategic Planning-** Nothing to report

**Engineering-** Richard mentioned the Flint Lake discharge is not in as bad of shape as residents concerns expressed.

**Finance-** Nothing to report

**General Managers Report-** BF&S sent Alicia a pdf to get quotes for Listenburg ditch.

**Motion to approve RFP.** Richard motioned and Christian seconded. Motion passed. Dave wants the chance to approve the RFP. Amended to have Dave approve before being sent out to quote.

Alicia requested a personnel committee meeting be set for September 18, 2023 at 5:30pm. That date works for all members.

**Engineers Report-** Nothing to report

**Attorneys Report-** Dave informed about meeting with the county to collaborate on projects.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Attested to by Alicia Barber

General Manager VLACD