

Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District

Minutes of Meeting October 17, 2018

Board Members Present: Mickey Koehler,
Connie Hughes, Thomas Kruse, Rolando Chilian
Christian Anderson, Walt Breitinger, Nancy Satterlee

Board Members Absent: None

Consultants Present: Dale Brewer, David Hollenbeck, Robert Minarich

Audience: Tom Banaszak, Megan summers, Tia Walker, Andrea Buinicki,
Brian Hurley, Bonnie Swarner, Pan and Gary Staub

Tom called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Rolando moved to accept the minutes. Christian seconded it. Motion carried 6-0.

Tom suspended the agenda.

Dale presented a scrap book of VLACD's history from Sharon Swihart.

Tom turned floor over to Brian Hurley of 4702 Rutland Road, Valparaiso representing the citizens opposed to the annexation of Spectacle Lake property.

Mr. Hurley handed out a plat map of the area of concern.

41 homes proposed on county road Spectacle Drive. (Walt arrived). The elevation shows the area will drain to the north east into Loomis or Spectacle Lake. The runoff will increase from non-porous areas plus construction debris and later fertilized lands. The Valparaiso Unified Development Ordinance states consent must be given by adjourning homeowners if drainage crosses their land.

Dave asked if Mr. Hurley was seeking something from the Board. Tom explained that we may not have a dog in this fight and should hand this over to the environmental committee for study.

Another citizen explained her concern about the water levels of the lakes increasing.

Additional discussions occurred about water quality from the other lakes as well. Bob M. explained that these lakes belong to the State. Our obligation is to monitor the outfalls in the District and prevent people from sending material into the lakes. Neither the City or County has contacted VLACD about this area except to determine where existing utilities are.

Additional discussion about the roads, annexation timelines, and who monitors the construction.

Walt talked about the speed with which this is being rushed though and suggested more time be spent looking into more details and this Board should send the City a strong message that VLACD needs more time before annexation or zoning or construction. Connie agreed.

Tom Banaszak mentioned that there has been no contact from the city.

Walt then moved that the VLACD send a letter explaining our opposition of the annexation or rezoning of the property under discussion to the City Council and Planning Commission until more information is provided. Connie seconded it. Motion carried 7-0.

Additional appropriation – Public hearing on \$45,000 from the CCIF for capital outlays. These funds are for the Hillcrest lift station upgrade. Tom Banaszak asked what the money is for. Bob M. explained in greater detail what the upgrades are for. Pumps upgraded, can eliminated, rail system installed to pull pumps without going 30 foot underground. Tom closed the public hearing.

Rolando moved to create the additional appropriation of \$45,000 from the CCIF to Capital outlays. Walt seconded it. Motion carried 7-0.

Mickey then moved to approve the claims and accept the financial reports. Tom seconded it. Motion carried 7-0.

General Manager's Report

Looping project will meet with Brett Friday.

Manholes are good. 6 foot cleaned.

Road cut permit will be needed from County Highway dept.

Generator will be installed around Halloween for Ostedt.

Leak on Stonehenge right next to the existing repair but expects to be back.

Met with City officials about potable water and sanitary sewage for the Spectacle Drive annexation area.

Brett sent the maps and he has included the valving. Bob M. is verifying the placement of those. *Still waiting on street maps.*

HR manuals came in last minute and gave Dave a copy.

Beaver Deceiver - Bob M. showed a very simple design and will forward this to the State. Mr. Rose from the City offered us 4 mapping drawers. Went and got them.

I Cloud going live Nov. 1. *Active and working out minor bugs.*

NISWAG in Hobart Community building on Lake George.

Alex Mefford hired. Rolando questioned who he is. The personnel committee met him.

Walt asked about the home on Grandview and the soil erosion there. Bob M. visited the site and the problems were corrected. On Waiola, a small amount of soil washed onto the street. Siltworm installed there.

Matt's report

A VFD went out on Ostedt lift station and replaced it \$5000 installed.

Still cleaning beaver dams often.

Accounts receivable report - nothing

Committee Reports

Personnel

Tom meeting last Friday to discuss raises and performance awards. The committee recommended that;

General Manager salary be raised \$77,500 to 78,000

Nicole Michalowski from \$17 to \$18.50 an hour.

Matt Arts - no raise

Alex Mefford – no raise

Dale Brewer – from \$29.50 to \$31.00 an hour

Performance awards

Bob Minarich \$3000

Matt Arts \$1000

Dale Brewer \$2000

Nicole Michalowski \$1000

Performance awards to paid immediately and Salary Awards at the beginning of the new year. Tom moved to approve these resolutions, Mickey seconded it. Motion carried 7-0.

Insurance Report

Rolando - nothing

Environmental Committee

Christian – Email from Prof. Jon Schoer to work on water sampling. Received this in error.

Will work on Spectacle Drive issue

Liaison Committee

Connie – Engles request. Committee denied request. Tom moved to deny request. Christian seconded it. Motion carried. 7-0.

Strategic Planning Committee

Nancy – due to Thanksgiving the Board meeting should be moved to November 14th and hold a strategic planning afterwards. Food to be provided but no volunteers. Mickey asked about the sediment pond and Walden POA. Nancy had no luck getting n touch with them. Dave said we need to talk to Nick Arnold now.

Engineering Committee

Walt- none

Accounts receivable report – Mr. Sceme 1004 Springview Court had a leak with a sprinkler malfunction. He is ill and cannot make it to the monthly meeting to ask for help. Bob M. offered to bring it to the Board. Tom agreed that we do not give relief and tell him that.

No engineering report.

Attorney's report

Working on HR with Dresila on a couple of items. Job descriptions and employment applications. Will have them ready for next month.

Elections coming up for Tom Area 7 and Nancy Area 3 both 4 year terms. Walt will be up for the balance of the three years of Bob Garmon's term. Petitions due Dec. 1st.

Laura's lawsuit has been dropped and the 15 day timeframe has padded.

Garden Gateway drain issue will be put on the backburner for now.

The Walden loop is on hold while an easement encroachment has been discovered and needs to be rectified.

Brett's engineering estimate is now at \$133,000 for the loop with \$10,600 to be his firms cost.

Tom moved to acknowledge both costs. Connie seconded it. Motion carried 7-0. Subject to Dave's preview.

Cook's property and the abandonment of the Lowenstein Lane does not seem likely to occur.

Dave recommended that a strategic plan also be created for the Greenway.

Floor to Tom – asked about easements but not sure where. Asked about silt control ordinance.

The district does have this. Need to check on an earthen berm along Flint Lake Gateway to the west.

Tom closed the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Attest:

Robert Minarich

General Manager

