



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Meeting Date: January 6, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Location: Spirit Lake Senior Center, 32564 N 4th Avenue

Call to Order: Paul Sturm 10:08AM

Attendance: Jerry Peterson, Dustin Thiel, Ron Largent, Kurt Peterson, Linda Pendleton, Brad Pendleton, Margie Wilke, Dan Beha, Justin Morrison

By Zoom: Don Finney, Ed Niblock, Carol Capra

Absent:

Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Jerry Peterson moved to approve. Justin Morrison seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes from September 9, 2023

Motion to approve the September 9, 2023 meeting minutes as presented was made by Ron Largent. Justin Morrison seconded. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

Current Treasures Report

Jerry Peterson provided balance sheet and profit and loss report for the treasurer's report.

Dam fund has \$20,187.89 remaining in the bank with fees from Sewell & Associates still to be paid. \$193,000 has been paid to SW Construction for the dam to date.

Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Justin Morrison. Margie Wilke seconded. There was no more discussion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Progress Reports on Strategic Plan Items

- **Goal 2: Objective 2.3: Lake quality monitoring**

Jerry Peterson reported on the current water sampling. DEQ is no longer funding the analysis of lake samples. Kristen Lowel has left DEQ to take another position. Jerry connected with Bob Steed and Craig Nelson is the contact for water quality monitoring. DEQ would still like the SLPOA sampling data and Bob said he will search for funding to help with costs. Jerry described the analysis that SLPOA is now paying for and the labs he is using. Jerry noted the water quality is remaining good.

People have indicated interest in helping with the water quality sampling including Margie Wilke and Jane Clark. Margie also expressed interest in septic systems.

- **Goal 3: Objective 3.2: Invasive plant and animal species**

Paul Sturm explained that SLPOA contracts with Doug Freeland for a minimal fee to monitor and manage invasive species. He identifies milfoil and removes it. Doug found more last year than what he was expecting, primarily around the shoreline near the main launch and along the north shore. Ron asked if there are ways to help Doug.

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There have been reports of an increase in River Otter population. Several otters were spotted near the Pendletons last month. Ron Largent noted that the otters are legal to trap.

- **Goal 3: Objective 3.1: Action Step 3.1.1: Brickel Creek**

Paul Sturm reported on the work that has taken place in the past to create a more meandering flow to slow the water down and thus reduce erosion and increase fish spawning habitat.

Hydrologist, Chris Hardy has previously indicated that he wants to continue these projects. Paul Buckland has stated that IEPC would continue to be involved. The SLPOA needs involvement from Chris Hardy to provide direction and expertise from Idaho Fish and Game. IEPC has previously offered to provide logs.

Margie Wilke noted she would talk to Jack Wade about interest and Jerry Peterson will contact Chris Hardy.

- **Goal 2: Objective: 2.1: Weir project**

Jerry Peterson indicated the project is almost complete. The survey elevation monument is slated for installation on the new structure Thursday depending on weather. Kevin Koesel with Sewell & Associates was hired to manage the project. Invoices totaling over \$25,000 were sent to the City of Spirit Lake which were recently shared with Jerry Peterson. Jerry has reviewed the invoices and had some questions. A credit was given for mileage and some explanation was provided to Jerry on other questions he asked. Discussion took place on if the SLPOA should ask the City of Spirit Lake for help with funding for the Sewell & Associates invoices.

A motion to draw off the general fund to pay what is needed for the outstanding balance after following up with the City of Spirit Lake was made by Dan Beha. Jane Clark seconded. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

Paul and Jerry to set up a meeting with the Mayor of the City of Spirit Lake.

- **Goal 1: Objective: 1.1: Lake cleanup**

The lake cleanup in June was successful. The cost of disposal to dump is expensive. Ron Largent expressed this is not a yearly activity, but rather should occur every 2 to 3 years. Discussion took place about incorporating social media and marketing strategies to let property owners know about it in the future and fundraising and communication collaboration. Dan Beha expressed interest in helping with this.

- **Goal 3: Objective 3.3: Shore erosion/property damage/wake boats**

Ron Largent and Paul Sturm offered to be involved with subcommittee and will discuss this further. Jerry Peterson mentioned Dick McLandress has done shoreline erosion studies.

- **Goal 2: Objective 2.4: Causeway study**

There has been no new activity during the past year. Jane Clark will meet with Linda and Brad Pendleton and talk with ITD about any studies that have occurred on the current bridge. It was discussed that there has been extensive silt buildup since this new structure was constructed. This is likely the next large project for the SLPOA and could be a grant project. Need to set direction and bring others in to help.



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2. Sink Hole Repair – Jerry Peterson/Doug Freeland

Jerry provided a timeline synopsis with a PowerPoint of the sink hole. A sink hole had been discovered near the boat launch area on the east side of the channel. Doug Freeland estimated that at high water 7-10 CFS was passing into the sink hole from the lake. It presented a serious safety risk.

On 9/7/23 Doug, Jerry and Paul investigated to find that there was an approximately 3 FT diameter hole. They removed debris from the hole to find that the cause is the old wooden water pipe that used to draw water from the lake for the early City of Spirit Lake and Mill. The wood was deteriorated to the point that only the cable and steel framing remained. This has created a collapse the soil above the pipe and for water to enter the pipe and surrounding ground.

Jerry contacted the Idaho Department of Land officials and asked permission to fix the hole on 10/25/23. A \$300 emergency permit was issued. The repair involved filling the hole with concrete, native fill and filter fabric, then covered with native fill.

Another pipe was located perpendicular to the shore a short distance away. Any work done in the lake will require a permanent permit and usually takes 3 months.

3. Dredging at Brickle Creek

No new information is available. Jerry spoke with Mike Amer and no dredging permit has been issued. The silt at the Brickle Creek outlet can be a safety issue for people who don't know it exists; however, dredging a seal bottom lake could cause damage.

4. City Water Level monitoring system – Jerry Peterson

Kevin at Sewell & Associates applied for a \$30,000 grant for a water quality measuring device for the mill pond dam discharge outlet on behalf of the City of Spirit Lake. The measuring device would help track recharge water for the aquifer when the mill pond dam outlet releases water.

New Business:

1. Resignation

Due to health issues Karen Cowan has resigned from her Board position as President.

2. President appointment/election

New officers are elected at the meeting after the annual meeting every year. Paul Sturm has assisted Karen in the past.

A motion was made for Paul Sturm to take on the role of President by Margie Wilke. Linda Pendleton seconded. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

3. Increasing Membership

Dustin will include a membership blurb on his spring invoices for BoonDocks. Discussion on adding a QR code for a link to website and Facebook page. Need to make it known what people get by joining. Jerry will look into adding text donations to the SLPOA account. Dan would like to help with membership.

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Website/Social Media Committee

Marc Kroetch started the SLPOA Facebook page. Jerry is now an administrator for it. Jerry, Ed, Margie, Justin, and Dan expressed interest to be involved with the website and social media.

A motion was made for Ed to be the lead administrator for social media by Justin Morrison. Margie Wilke seconded. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

Kurt has been the lead for the website. Margie would like to assist. A motion was made to establish a website committee consisting of Ed, Jerry, Kurt and Margie by Paul Sturm. Jerry Peterson seconded. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

4. Spring Newsletter

Next newsletter will go out in April. Get info by April 1st to Paul.

A IEPC conservation easement shortened article will be in the newsletter. Jerry will talk with Buck at IEPC. Paul is continuing to gather content.

5. Director contact information

Linda has updated contact info for the Board that will be updated and sent out.

Next meeting date is April 13, 2024.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Paul Sturm. Justin Morrison seconded. Motion carried.

Time: 12:11pm

Minutes submitted by Jane Clark and Nadine Sturm