

# **NEWMAN LAKE FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT (NLFCZD)**

## **Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

February 22, 2018

### **PRESENT**

- Advisory Board (AB) Members Present - Lorne Burley, Suzanne O'Connell, Dennis Rewinkel, Lee Tate, Karen Stebbins, Karen Lee Taff
- County Staff - Marianne Barrentine, Colleen Little
- BOCC - Ron Valencia, Assistant to Commissioner Josh Kerns
- WSU Consultant - Barry Moore
- Community - Wendy Burley

### **MEETING ROLES**

- Chair - Marianne Barrentine
- Minutes - Suzanne O'Connell

### **Abbreviations:**

AB - Advisory Board

District - Newman Lake Flood Control Zone District

### **MOTIONS MADE**

*Motion description, result of motion vote, and how each voting member voted.*

Motion #1 - The AB accepted the minutes from the October 5th, 2017 Meeting Minutes

- Result: Approved
- Vote: Unanimous

Motion #2 - New Communication Protocol between AB and County Staff will be that all communication from AB members to County Staff will go through AB Chair, (Karen Stebbins), then AB Chair will forward to NLFCZD Manager, (Colleen Little).

- Result: Approved
- Vote: Unanimous

Motion #3- Lee Tate nominated Karen Stebbins for 2018 AB Chair.

- Result: Approved
- Vote: Unanimous

### **ACTIONS TAKEN**

Actions agreed upon, to whom assigned, and due date for action if defined (in this meeting).

#	Description	Assignee	Due
1	Maintenance and repair issues rated by priority with estimated costs keeping Flood Control and Water Quality issue in separate categories.	Randy & Colleen	March, 2018
2	Provide final budget numbers for 2017 including reserve balance for start of 2018.	Colleen	March, 2018
3	Complete Policy and Procedures Manual updates.	AB & Colleen	End of 2018
4	Meet in summer of 2018 for a low-key, in-person, conversation with one property owner regarding water withdrawal habits, to better ascertain when they will be drawing water out, and to encourage them to lower their intake for their pump system to draw water at a lower elevation within the channel.	Randy	Summer 2018
5	Compile list of prior topics that have not been addressed or completed and bring to next meeting.	AB	Next AB & County meet.

Running list of action items >>

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

*Topics of old business that were discussed, but not the full detail of those discussions.*

- Prior Topics - Compile a list of actions that have not been completed and bring to next meeting for discussion as to whether to complete. For example:
  - \* Eric Dahl had project seeking community input on the budget.
  - \*AB was to research additional volunteer opportunities to reduce staff time.
- FEMA Reimbursements - Karen Kruger, Randy Kirk, and Katrina worked hard to research what FEMA was truly looking for after the grant was initially rejected. Sandbagging and debris removal in March 2017 was just under \$14,000 and FEMA reimbursed just under \$10,000. Sump scrapping, where contractor Red Diamond scrapped approximately 4-6 inches of the top layer and hauled that away, cost approximately \$41,000 and the grant was \$47,000. Our total cost for these projects

was \$58,364.51 and FEMA reimbursed us \$56,574.12. The AB members and community wish to extend their thanks to Karen, Randy, and Katrina for all their hard work in obtaining these funds for Newman Lake!

- Lake level status- Not a lot on this. Some concern on why outlet gate had fluctuated. The district reported that this simply reflected that the lake is monitored very closely and adjusted as required. The district also requested that landowners need to secure their docks in the winter so they do not float free into the Outlet Gate.
- Water Quality Report - WSU Consultant, Barry Moore, provided 2 handouts pertaining to VWTP-volume-weighted total phosphorus in Newman Lake from 1985 through 2017 and the AF-Nurnberg anoxic factor, in Newman Lake from 1986 through 2017. The flooding event was certainly the focus during the last year as the aerator system is “overwhelmed” by the flow of sediment and nutrients from the runoff into the lake. The volume of cold water in the hypolimnion greatly exceeds the capacity of the aerator to oxygenate it. Hoping to see the same excellent water quality this 2018 summer as we did in the summer of 1998 following the 1997 flood.
- Equipment and Facility Operations: Discussion took place pertaining to the cause of the sporadic oxygen readings and shut down of the system last summer. At this time there isn't an answer as to what might have caused those readings and Randy is not certain as to which gage had gotten those readings. Colleen reported that she had met with Randy, Marianne and Katrina at the compressor building and went through the manual and inspected everything together and decided to leave the aerator down. Barry shared that since the lake had already started mixing at that time it should not be viewed as shutting down early for the year. Marianne pointed out that not restarting the system would also save the district some money. Rogers Machinery did routine servicing in the fall and all looked good. There was a detached oxygen sensor that Randy took to Oxarc and had them recalibrate. Manufacturer recommends a recalibration every week, but we can't afford that. Randy will try to have it recalibrated more frequently. Marianne stated that the machinery will be turned on early this spring, March instead of May, in order to give us more time to check out if something is wrong and have time to fix it. Karen Stebbins added that the community needs to be educated as to what occurred regarding this. Dennis expressed his concern that if these issues recur in the spring the system may be down during that critical part of the year.
- Dike/dam assessment status: Nothing new to report at this time. NCRS is working with county, modeling different scenarios but until county receives these scenarios and can place a dollar amount to each one, nothing can be done at this time. AB requested some statement from county that can be provided to community to inform them as to what is occurring.
- 2018 Milfoil Treatment Program - Colleen shared that what is left of grant funds needs to be used by end of June, 2018. \$8,800 left in grant, so we have to spend about \$11,000 due to 75/25% match.
- Spring Newsletter - Input needs to be received by Karen Kruger by February 28th. Lorne B. said that he will send a list of his suggested article topics for consideration to Karen Kruger. Dennis will provide a paragraph pertaining to dam and will email to

Colleen to proof. Lorne suggested that less “fluff” is contained in the newsletter and we need a big push on how to get information back to Karen Kruger faster in order for it to get out the community faster via emails.

- Lake Conference Summary - Randy had shared information on how Liberty Lake had obtained an algae control grant and possibly pursue for Newman Lake. AB could write it with county assistance. Grant provides up to \$50,000 with a 25%/\$20,000 match.
- Open Alternate Non-Voting AB Position - This position will be posted.
- 2018 Work scope - Colleen summarized the projects that were currently budgeted for this year which included Rogers Machinery maintenance, resolving the oxygenator/gage issue, replace/unplug the third alum line, dust control, replacing the alum tank lid, clearing bushes and installing steps at the compressor building, and pulling the pump for service in the fall. Pulling the pump would require \$11K this year and would require an additional \$32K to reinstall it in the spring in next year’s budget. The channel gate that was reported as being “cockeyed” must be looked at to see if there is an easy fix to stop the leakage. If a more significant fix is required, it would need to be deferred to next year. Dennis expressed concern that this needed to be addressed this year to avoid the drop of lake level again this year trying to keep the ditch full to supply irrigation water. An action was taken, see item #1.
- Petition Verification Update - Colleen reported that the petition signatures had been received in early February and the first pass had been done by her staff with 69 signatures still in question. Colleen will review work done by her staff and if all goes well then will brief county commissioners. At this point no decision has been made as to where funds will be taken to pay county staff on this RCW work.
- Bylaws Discussion - Ron highly recommended developing Bylaws pertaining to meetings and attendance. He will email to AB Bylaws developed by other county boards. Once we have developed AB Bylaws and agreed upon by County Staff, they will become an appendix to the AB Policy and Procedures Manual.
- AB Policy & Procedures Manual - Ron shared that the Policy and Procedures Manual which is posted on Newman Lake website is a county document and can only be changed by County Commissioners. Any AB recommendations for change need to be agreed upon by AB, then sent to County staff and once agreed upon by AB and County staff would then be sent to County Commissioners for a formal vote. Ron did check with legal staff and AB has the right to meet without the County staff either on/off county property. Only requirements are to provide written minutes as well as audio, if possible, plus post dates/location on website so community would have access to these meetings. It was shared that Randy has done quite a bit of update and AB asked to be updated on work that has been completed. When the technical component is completed it will be sent to the AB. Also advised to work on the Appendix first for that can be updated quickly. Karen questioned whether the AB is an advisory to the staff or to the BOCC. Ron felt that they were an advisory to the BOCC through the staff, but that all formal motions submitted by the AB to the staff would require submittal to the BOCC for consideration as they are the district authority Lorne requested that the staff update the AB on the status of the “technical” updates to the manual since Ethan had done some and Randy is working on them but no one in

attendance knew their actual status. Marianne took the action to update the AB on the status of the technical updates. Lorne asked that any information pertaining to the Watershed Committee be deleted for that group no longer exists and causes confusion for those new to the AB He also suggested that the technical section pertaining to pictures, diagrams, labels be updated this year. Dennis pointed out that if you blanketly drop all of the obligations of the district contained in those sections, there would need to be a review of what the district actually does for the community.

## **NEW TOPICS**

*Any new topics brought to the board by any attendee (that don't fall under the previous sections).*

- Lee Tate, Karen Lee Taff, and Karen Stebbins were welcomed as new AB members.
- AB and County Staff - New Communication Protocol - See Motion #2.
- During a status report to the AB on the petition process and ongoing work between community members and Commissioner Kern's staff, NL community member, Wendy Burley, expressed concern that these meetings were not open to the public, whether the 5 NL community members represented all of the community, whether other people are allowed to be in this group, and why the community was not being informed on what was being discussed? Ron explained that he and Commissioner Kerns were working with this 5-member community group who had originally brought these issues to their attention and were instrumental in the passage of Senate Bill 5543 last year in an effort to get the issues addressed. Dennis, a group member, stated that this group is not formally recognized as representing ACTION, and is trying to resolve the issues that were brought to the commissioners' attention 2 years ago. Pertaining to if other community members could join, Ron said it was up to the group of 5. Dennis pointed out that the community had submitted signatures representing 54.89% of the district funding to meet the 25% requirement. Although the petitions have not yet been certified to support that number, Colleen felt that task should be completed by next week. Ongoing meetings are in the process to determine what steps will come next. Dennis explained that the intent of the group is to assist the county in determining what options are available and explore what other similar communities are doing and that nothing will be put in place that omits the community from being involved in the outcome. Karen Stebbins, AB Chair, requested that the NL community needs to be informed as to what is being discussed. Ron agreed with this, but no actions were taken or assigned by the board.

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