



**LAUDERDALE LAKES LAKE
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
MINUTES of 1/14/2017**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Mason, at 9:00 A.M.

A. Attendance:

Present: Chairman Mason, Debbie Ferrari, Jack Sorenson, Don Sukala, and Rick Callaway were present. Peter Van Kampen and Greg Wisniewski were absent and excused.

B. Agenda:

The agenda was unanimously approved on a Sorenson / Ferrari motion.

C. Minutes:

The minutes of October 8, 2016 were unanimously approved on a Sukala / Ferrari motion.

D. Consider Resolution 2017-01 Supporting Environmental Impact Study for U.S. Hwy 12 project:

Chairman Mason provided some background: there has been ongoing debate for several years regarding the Red Line (west of Lauderdale) route and the Blue Line (expanding the current Hwy 12) route for expanding U.S. Highway 12. LLLMD and Town of LaGrange have supported the Red Line route because of the impact widening the current highway would have on the area. Funds for the Hwy 12 project were recently cut from the State budget. Mason has been in touch with Jeff Knight from Knight Public Affairs, LLC in Whitewater who is representing the Whitewater Chamber of Commerce and the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater who also support the Red Line route. Knight has indicated that there are a number of issues for concern. With the Red Line route cut from the budget, the State DOT is considering incremental improvements to the existing Highway 12 – a concern with this is that over time, those incremental improvements would prove to make the Blue Line the cheaper way to continue the Highway to Whitewater. In their 2050 regional plan, SEWRPC (Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission) advocates for the Red Line, so that is good news.

When cuts were made to the State budget, the Environmental Impact Study was also removed from the budget. This study would have to precede the project. We would like to push the State to complete the Environmental Impact Study. We feel that the study would show that the Red Line route would have significantly less environmental impact. This is the basis of the Resolution we are considering. Walworth County passed a similar resolution last week, advocating that the State reinstate funding for the Environmental

Impact Study. If the SEWRPC plan and an Environmental Impact Study are driving toward the Red Line route, we will be in a better position to push for the Red Line route down the road.

The Resolution advocates that State budget for the Environmental Impact Study in the 2020 budget cycle. If approved, the Resolution would be sent to the Governor's Office, the Secretary of the DOT, our elected Assembly members, Senator Nass, and SEWRPC.

Discussion:

- Callaway pointed out that our community has large numbers of people living along this highway who will be directly impacted.
- Sukala also pointed out how many homes are right along the highway, and the utilities would all be pushed back from the highway, making the space required even greater.
- Ferrari questioned whether the improvements are due to traffic needs, or the need for repairs. Mason explained that it is both – repairs are due, and traffic has increased. The DOT, however, is using traffic counts from 2012, and SEWRPC is using counts from 2015. Where the 4-lane currently ends, there were 12,740 vehicles per day in 2012. In 2050 there is forecast to be 16,500 vehicles per day.
- Marcia Sahag also noted that the traffic count was completed in February – not in the high traffic summer months.
- The County Board is supportive of the Red Line. Sugar Creek Township is not generally supportive of the Red Line.

A Callaway / Sukala motion in support of the Resolution passed unanimously.

E. Project Reports

Callaway presented a summary for the ramp fees collected in 2016. Change this year – the Sterlingworth ramp used to be more popular, now the Green Lake ramp is more popular. Fees collected were \$17,000.

Town of LaGrange: Sukala reported that the Town is rewriting the Pier Ordinance. Permits for dredging of the Town boat house, the Landing, and adjacent properties have been secured. He is in the process of getting a permit from the DNR for repairing the boat house as well. They hope to get the boat house done first and then move on to the dredging.

Water Safety Patrol: Ferrari reported that the DNR audit for 2016 operation is in February. She and Ken Blanke will attend. The boats are put away. They continue looking at different options for a cooling system for one of the boats. Hours patrolled for 2016 were up by about 9% - these hours vary from year to year, based upon the weather. She is following up with the Town on Ordinance changes – one will clarify traffic direction in Don Jean Bay, and the other would regulate air-borne devices.

Dam: Sorenson reported that the repairs haven't started. Sterlingworth hasn't signed off on the easement yet, but he thinks they will soon. He has been in contact with the DNR

as well. The grant is being held for whenever we can start. Emergency action plans, and other information required by the DNR have all been completed.

Insurance: Sorenson reported that into the new year we have renewed insurance policies for the District.

Golf Course: Mason reported that some tree work has been completed over the winter – some at the Community Center, some on the golf course. Equipment is being maintained over the winter. They are also looking at the possible purchase of two new pieces of equipment, which will go through the Golf Committee when it meets again in Spring.

Environmental: The land trust is going to begin removing buckthorn and treating the stumps with herbicide in the wetlands.

F. Treasurer's Report:

Ferrari reported on current account balances:

Cash balances total \$161,223.75.

Reserve accounts total \$293,969.55.

Capital Project Fund is \$117,131.93.

G. Other Business:

Mark, a volunteer with the Auxiliary Coast Guard presented information about vessel safety checks. His flotilla out of Fox Lake would be willing to come to Lauderdale free of charge and check boats at the launches. The boats would then get a sticker so water patrol officers would know that they have been checked and that they have safety equipment on board. It is educational for a lot of boaters – there are pieces that aren't required, but advisory, so boaters can be educated about these safety pieces. The flotilla doesn't enforce, they don't police, they can't issue citations, they are more advisory and educational in nature.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. on a Sorenson / Callaway motion which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea White.