

# **NLFCZD Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 19, 2007**

**Spokane County Public Works Building 3pm-5pm**

## **Present:**

Board Members: Warren Heylman, Lorne Burley, Linda Underwood, Laretta Block,  
Judy Gibbs-Foy  
Alternate Members: Jane Takai, Mary Weller Souza, Sharon Cusic  
Staff: Marianne Barrentine, Barry Moore, Jacob McCann, Jane Anderson,  
Bob Brueggeman  
Visitors: Wendy Burley, Mike Davis  
Absent: None

## **Items Discussed:**

### Milfoil –

- The milfoil contract is in the process of being sent out to bid. Staff is looking to competitively bid the liquid 2,4D and get an overall lower price.
- Both liquid and granular 2,4D were successful in treating the milfoil last year.
- The growing season determines when the milfoil is treated (usually in June).
- Interest was shown to involve the public with the milfoil survey which would probably take place late May/early June depending on the visibility. Any help with locating milfoil is much appreciated and helps reduce the survey time of the staff.
- Notice of milfoil treatment is required to those within ¼ mile of the treatment area. A 10-day intake restriction is required for liquid 2,4D. There is a 24-hour restriction for swimming with granular 2,4D.
- The north end of lake was treated a second time later in the season with granular 2,4D.
- Currently a grant pays 75% of the cost of milfoil control work for the next four years.
- Mike requested a breakdown showing the cost of the 2,4D, lab samples, and the cost/hours of the personnel to look for/survey the milfoil. This will be figured and e-mailed prior to the next Board meeting.

### Proposed Fishing Dock at Public Boat Launch –

- Grant money is in the State budget for the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife for this fishing and wildlife viewing station project. The time frame is undecided at this time.
- Jacob is in contact with Fish & Wildlife to find out more information.

### Spring Newsletter –

- The spring newsletter is in the final edits stage.
- Looking for volunteers to help address and fold hard copies of the newsletter.
- Funding options for hiring out help to address and fold the newsletters are being discussed for the 2008 budget. There is no money in the 2007 budget to hire out.
- There is a note in the newsletter asking those who wish to have it sent electronically to please notify Jacob. This would be by volunteer only.

### Budget -

- The budget worksheets for 2006 and 2007 (to date) are in the works of being figured and will be e-mailed out when complete.
- Sharon requested a financial statement (i.e. financial activities) for the District. To prepare the financial statement would cost additional money. The Newman Lake accountant does prepare a balance sheet (not a formal financial statement) which is available upon request. Sharon also mentioned that budget items that are not spent should not be on the budget. However, money that is not spent goes into the reserves.

- The assessment was last raised about 6 years ago.
- The majority of the May Advisory Board meeting is used to determine the 2008 budget and planning the Summer NLFCZD meeting.
- Judy mentioned it would be useful to have the results from the Water Quality survey at the May meeting.

#### Benefit Assessments & Funding Re-evaluations -

- Sharon requested that non-assessed members relinquish their positions on the Advisory Board stating that the board needs to be represented by those that pay. Marianne emphasized that the policy of the NLFCZD is to have representation from all areas of the District, including timber lands, agriculture, lakefront and seasonal owners. The preference is to appoint Board members that pay assessments, but not a requirement. The permanent NLPOA position is a rotating position every year depending on who is the President, so representation may vary each year. To change the positions on the Board would require a change to the NLFCZD Policy and Procedures Manual. Sharon also mentioned that over half of the parcels are not taxed and do not pay assessments. It was noted that as the current funding is one of benefit assessments, only those who benefit, either from flood control or water quality improvements pay to support District activities.
- There are two separate assessments: Flood Control and Water Quality. The budgets for these are separate as well.
- Jacob and Marianne are working with James Emacio (Spokane County attorney) to determine the cost, legalities, and approach, if decided upon, to revise the base maps.
- Some properties have been sub-divided and some land uses have changed since the benefit boundaries were set.
- Assessments are based on percentage of the benefit area and the percentage of the property within each benefit area.
- Re-examining the benefit areas and boundaries is one option. There are steps within the RCW that need to be followed. It begins with a signed petition from property owners representing 25% of the total land area within the District boundaries. Three appraisers would go through and re-assess the property areas. The District would pay for the cost to re-assess. The process involves: 1. Have 25% of the total land area owners sign a petition 2. A board is formed and redraws boundaries where it makes it changes 3. Changes are proposed to the County Commissioners, hearings would be held, input taken, and the County Commissioners would vote to adopt or not adopt the proposal.
- Jane Takai representing the forestry position on the Board described how she and fellow forestry land owners don't write an assessment check, but instead manage their land in a responsible manor by installing proper size culverts, planting trees, and building riparian areas along Thompson Creek that contribute to water quality improvements.
- Other options to fund a FCZD:
  - ex: King County – previously had ad valorem property tax – set flat rate for everyone in boundaries. Not an option because of levy's that are already in the County.
  - Stormwater Charges: can be based on impervious surface. These charges allow for a rate structure taking into account contribution and use and offer more flexibility but cannot be implemented on property that is taxed as forest or timberland.
  - Formation of Local Improvement Districts – similar to boundaries currently on the lake
- The goal is not to increase the budget, but to spread the funding.
- The Board would like more information legally and the costs associated with pursuing these ideas and which parcels have been assessed unfairly.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Update -

- The 303d list includes Newman Lake as a water body impaired for recreational use due to the total phosphorous levels.
- The second draft report came out and focused on current management strategies (ie. aerator and alum system) as well as some data issues. Tony Whiley from DOE and Barry Moore (WSU) each have separate thoughts. During the last TMDL meeting it was decided by DOE that aerator and alum content would be put in the appendix of the report and the District would like to move ahead with implementation strategies to reduce external loading which is the point of this TMDL.
- Barry expressed strong concerns with the methodology and results of the latest TMDL draft report.
- Warren would like to see that Barry's results and comments are included in the appendix so the reviewer can see both opinions and requested a letter be sent to DOE from the NLFCZD as soon as possible. Warren made this motion to the Advisory Board and it was approved unanimously.

Other -

Jane will be e-mailing the 2006 and 2007 budget worksheets out as soon as they are completed. The 2008 budget will be discussed during the Advisory Board meeting in mid-May. A 2008 draft proposal written by the staff will be e-mailed out at least a week prior to the meeting. The summer meeting will most likely be scheduled for late June or early July. The staff will look at days and meeting places for this meeting.

Submitted by,

Jane Anderson  
NLFCZD Staff