

NLFCZD Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday June 17, 2010
Spokane County Public Works Building 3:00pm-5:00pm

Present –

Board Members: Lorne Burley, Laurie Keaton
Alternate Members: Kim Jones (via telephone)
Absent: Jane Takai, Laurretta Block, Judy Gibbs-Foy, Quincy Edmonds, Sharon Cusic
Staff: Marianne Barrentine, Jacob McCann, Jane Anderson

News –

The lake level as of today is 2125.65 feet with both gates open 1/10th each. Thompson Creek is flowing at approximately 20 cfs.

The NLFCZD is still accepting Advisory Board applications for Judy's expired voting position. The cutoff date will be July 2nd. Please pass on this opening to those that might be interested.

Muzzy Rd Bridge over Thompson Creek will be replaced at the end of July and closed for approximately a month to replace the decking and repair the piles. This project is planned to be completed before school starts in September.

Milfoil –

Lakeland Restoration treated 44 acres of milfoil on June 14th. While supervising, Jacob located a new patch approximately 200 yards southwest of the original big south patch. This area may require a follow up later this year, but will watch and see if nearby treatment was able to affect it. Kim and Laurie noted that someone is still cutting milfoil and fragments are floating all over. Kim noted the presence of a wakeboard boat the same day in the milfoil treatment area and suggested putting a "No Boating" or "Stay off the Water" sentence in the treatment notice to keep people away from the treatment areas.

2011 Budget Discussion –

Barry has been approved by WSU to purchase hydroacoustic equipment. We are not sure at this time how much he will be requesting from the NLFCZD or if this will be an annual recurring cost or a one time cost. The hydroacoustic equipment can help locate possible milfoil locations in deeper water, provide fish counts, and help provide a more accurate bathymetry.

Noxious weeds were treated this month on Newman Lake facilities. While treating, it was noted that a follow-up treatment will be needed for species not covered by initial herbicide product. This line item has increased to account for this additional treatment.

We would like to present a budget at the summer meeting. The budget is generally sent to Accounting in August with a target for a budget meeting with the BOCC in early November.

Lorne would like to see each item reviewed to see if a few dollars can be removed as to have no increase at all.

Jane will send out a revised budget to incorporate Barry's costs via e-mail for comments prior to the summer meeting.

Lorne asked for a write up of how staff spends NLFCZD time; for example, what percentage of staff time in a year is spent on budget, etc. Kim requested summaries of our Newman Lake time as recorded by Accounting.

Summer Meeting –

It was recommended that a milfoil line item and boat wakes and the affects of boat wakes on shore and milfoil be included in the agenda.

The meeting will be advertized via e-mail, flyers and signage on the Grange readerboard.

Lake Level –

The current lake level was set during facility upgrades with the SCS (NRCS) in the early 80s. The curve that is currently used was deemed to be the best to balance the needs of water lines, agriculture, and recreation.

In light of increased erosion and the resulting release of excess nutrients into the lake, the Advisory Board is requesting review of lake level practices.

Jacob mentioned that Warren is proposing to bring the lake to full pool at May 1st instead of June 1st, with a steeper lowering curve after Memorial Day to have a lower summer pool.

Marianne noted that in the early 2000s the Advisory Board chose to drop the lake full pool elevation a few tenths, but there was several complaints from the shallow lake property owners. If adjusting the lake level, more public involvement will be needed.

It was discussed that it may be a good idea to have homeowners stake their shoreline to better track erosion in reference to lake level. More education regarding areas of high erosion susceptibility and boat wakes was also discussed.

For the next newsletter have a proposed lake level graph showing a lower pool and also including education on erosion and solicitation of ideas.

Adjusting the lake level can also play a factor in the dike design.

Other –

The next Advisory Board meeting the agenda will include lake level and a NRCS update.

Reminders –

The NLFCZD summer meeting is scheduled for July 15th, 2010 at the Tri-Community Grange from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jane Anderson
NLFCZD Staff