Brant Lake Improvement Association

June 22, 2013

**Attendees**: Pat Leitheiser, Dave Gillespie, Dick Neish, Lori Basler, Pat Baxter, David Phalen, Dave Philips, Michelle Weisensee, Yvonne Ernster, Karen Noonan, Jan Nicolay

**Guest Speaker:** Lake County representatives Scott Pederson and John Maursetter were present to discuss important current issues in the county.

* Lake Herman had been experiencing spillway problems due to erosion and recently completed project with estimated cost of $250,000. GFP paid about $65K of that cost. Improvements include new fishing pier, fish gates, and handicap accessibility updates.
* Scott reported that with Highway 19 project there are no additional concern of additional water flow into Lake Madison
* There have been many discussions around Lake Thompson high water elevation marks. These marks are set jointly with DNR, GFP, and county representatives. Scott will be representing county in Pierre for additional discussions as final levels are set.
* New hospital construction will require additional road improvements around the area but state DOT has not prioritized helping with this yet.
* Current year tax assessments for county stand at $1.219B before exemptions.
  + 51% agriculture
  + 31% owner occupied
  + 18% commercial
  + .25% mobile homes and owner occupied mobile homes
* Property neglect issues around lake properties were raised as a topic of discussion by Yvonne Ernster. Scott advised that Yvonne could work with John Maursetter on any issues that are brought to BLIA attention.
* John Maursetter Environmental Specialist for Lake County
  + Lake Madison outlet issues continue to be a concern. The current concrete outlet was constructed in 1915 and no channel was made at the time. Only outlet plans that are available were from 2004 so plans to improve the outlet used those dimensions. Plans to continue were halted after the 2013 ice storm with no plans on when it will resume.
  + Algae control continues to be an issue because of phosphorous run off into ground water. Primary plan is one of a media campaign and brochure distribution to address how public can assist in reducing this.
  + Water quality board is currently reviewing draining ordinances
  + Exploring new technology for measuring elevation using a fly over laser that detects and maps points. Will be using the results of this to assist in drain reviews.
* State of BLIA and review of minutes from June 1 2013 BLIA board meeting
  + Dave Philips made motion to approve minutes; Dave G second. Minutes approved

**Treasurer Report:**

* No additional bills outstanding for current year
* $25,416.16 balance on hand
* 1 advertiser has not paid yet for directory (Royal Flush $250). It is expected this will be paid just late.
* Total advertising revenue for directory was $4,610.
* 2 checks received for printing of Water Quality brochures from Lake Madison and City of Madison (each $500). Still waiting on $500 from East Dakota.
* Dave Philips made motion to approve treasurer report. Dave G. second. Report approved.

**New Business:**

Discussion around results of annual meeting: it was rejected that the BLIA purchase a fidelity bond to protect the board and association against any theft by board members. Purpose of bond would be to pay the BLIA any money lost and the bond would collect money from perpetrator. Several board members were in opposition to NOT doing the bond. It was felt that membership general body did not understand the purpose and risk involved of not having the bond. Pat L will research if the bylaws allow the board to override the general membership on this vote.

**Regular Committee Updates:**

* Membership**:** Yvonne distributed lists of people of haven’t paid for membership and solicited board members help to collect dues/memberships
* Water Testing: Chair of the water testing committee reported that a recent spill occurred into the lake of approximately 5-10 gallons at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ address. Jan Nicolay, president of BL Sanitary District, reported the spill to DENR. BLIA worked with BLSD in reporting the problem. Clean up was completed with a pressure washer that went into a drain and into the lake. Dave Phalen visited the spillsite on 6-21-13 and 6-22-13 and still very smelly but improving.
* Webstite: Lots of updates and changes. Added RSS feeds for state and federal agency link updates regarding lake issues. Working to develop a newsletter. Reported usage of 50 visits per day. Survey has had very low participation but general responses are in favor of having the website, boat parades, “kill a carp” summer fish tourney, BLIA website store, etc. People are not in support of handicap accessibility projects paid for by the BLIA.
* Lake Clean Up: Everything is on schedule for 8-10-13 clean up. Plan is to send out a reminder approx 2 weeks before event and again 1 week before event.

**Additional Business: None**

**Next Meeting Date: August 3, 2013 9:00 a.m. Location TBD**

**Meeting adjourned 10:45**