

BEAR LAKE LAKE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday September 9, 2021, 6:00PM
Laketon Township Hall
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Kim Arter at 6:00PM

ROLL CALL:

- **Present:** Kim Arter, Darrell Van Fossan, Brenda Moore, Craig Howell and Doug Brown
- **Absent:** None
- **Also:** Mike Soloman of RLS,

MINUTES: Darrell VanFossan made the motion to approve the minutes of August 4, 2021. Doug Brown supported the motion. The motion carried by voice vote. The minutes will be placed on file.

REPORTS:

- **Restorative Lake Sciences** – Mike Soloman of RLS reported that the requested EGLE permit for Aeration was denied. Mike Soloman presented some ideas for a “Plan B” moving forward. He mentioned Alum and Bio-Blast as possible future options. He also mentioned the use of “surface circulators” in Fenner’s Ditch. Providing educational opportunities for residents regarding “good practices” was emphasized. Brenda Moore also supported this idea. A discussion also ensued on the oil issue and how best to move forward. Oil eating enzymes were discussed and core sampling. Mike Soloman endorsement of establishing a Citizens Committee. The BLLB had a brief discussion on the subject. Kim Arter and Doug Brown concluded the BLLB really needs to strategies and a written mission and objective in order to proceed with this concept. Craig Howell brought up the subject on how we can be more proactive on the status of the Lake in regards to treatments. Maybe establishing a treatment schedule for the season. Mike Soloman stated that pre-scheduling these events in advance hasn’t worked on many other lakes that they service in Western Michigan. Brenda Moore suggested residents could be educated on how to do interim testing of the lake to help guide timely surveys and treatments. It was discussed to set up a meeting with EGLE to obtain further direction on what they may endorse and/or approve and funding before the BLLB pursues other water quality improvement options.

COMMUNICATIONS: EGLE permit denial

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Doug Brown made a motion to have Brenda Moore and Mike Soloman make contact and set up a meeting with EGLE. Brenda Moore supported the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bonnie Slayton(524 Lake Dr.)Appreciated Kim Arter for her service/support to the BLLB. Uses water for irrigation. How long after spraying to not use for irrigation? Citizens committee good idea. When will the next Bear Lake Preservation Association Meeting take place?

Rob Morphew(N. Muskegon)The citizens really do appreciate all the BLLB is doing to improve Bear Lake. We are dealing with a very delicate balance of nature to help our lake to become healthy again.

Paul Pek(52 N. Bear Lake Rd.)Stated he endorsed developing a schedule for lake surveys and treatments. He likes the Citizens Committee concept. Suggested an auto e-mail notification system be used to keep residents updated.

Jim Panici(1505 Glenwood Ave.)Stated all residents want to be listened to and represented. Everyone really wants lake improvement. He likes citizens committee and to ask residents to help out.

Cindy Panici(1505 Glenwood Ave.)Endorses Paul Pek to represent the Laketon Township Board.

Justin Wilson(Laketon Township)Agrees with the concept to engage residents in the testing of Bear Lake. Wants to have a vote on who represents. Algae collects in the inlets.

Judy Cesaretti(630 E. Wedgewood)Why is the Board not spraying all of the lake? Brenda Moore commented that we can only treat what we can see. Endorsed educational programs to help educate residents.

William Ralls(1433 Glenwood)Requested the BLLB to be prudent with special assessment monies. Likes Paul Pek to represent.

Lynn Dudek(430 Bear Lake Rd.)Likes Paul Pek.

Mark Besteman(671 Mulder)Stated he use to belong to the Bear Lake Preservation Association. Emphasized how this association sent out fliers, provided some education opportunities and communicated often to residents, but ran out of volunteers to continue forward. For years the BLLB meetings had only a hand full of residents who attended meetings. He stated treating the Lake with just chemicals is wrong and will only create more issues for Bear Lake. The lake is sick but still alive. Let's all take a 30,000-foot view of the lake, recognizing this year was simply a bad year for the lake. Doesn't want to see the lake killed of natives.

Nathan Wilds(72 N. Green Creek)Does not live on the lake, but owns a company that installs many lifts and docks. He is willing to help keep an eye on the lake as he performs work.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Brenda Moore emphasized that we should all be more civil and respectful of each other and focus on moving forward. Kim Arter stated the BLLB has come a long way to improving Bear Lake. EGLE now needs to give us more direction and funding on what alternative ways they endorse lake improvements. Adding that we can't kill every plant in the lake, this is not a swimming pool that we are dealing with, it will just lead us to large volumes of Blue-Green Algae. Tracy Demarse absence was of concern to the Board. It was decided to look into the situation to confirm her ongoing interest to serve as recording secretary. Tracy continues to do an excellent job providing financial bookkeeping and reporting the information to the Board Treasurer. All members agreed we need to improve communications to

residents. Kim Arter endorses the idea of the BLLB establishing its own website as some Laketon Township Board members would like to see it removed from the current Laketon Township website.

ADJOURN: Brenda Moore made the motion to adjourn at 7:30pm, Doug Brown supported the motion. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted:
Brenda Moore
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Bear Lake Lake Board on October 14, 2021

Signed: 