CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Kim Arter at 6:02 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

ROLL CALL:
• Present: Darrell VanFossan, John Snider and Kim Arter
• Absent/Excused: Steve Johnson and Brenda Moore
• Also: Mike Solomon of RLS Recording Secretary Veronica West and eight (8) members of the public in the audience.

MINUTES: John Snider moved to approve the minutes of May 9, 2019 as presented. Darrell VanFossan supported the motion. The motion carried by voice vote. The minutes will be placed on file.

REPORTS:
• Treasurer’s Quarterly Report: Darrell VanFossan presented 2 documents, one dated Jan. 10, 2019 and one dated March 31, 2019 for the end of the quarter. He reviewed the basic information, noting the amount spent so far this calendar year, the amount received in assessment payments so far this calendar year and the total cash on hand as of 3/31/19. Mr. VanFossan noted that he did not see anything beyond the original 5 year project budget, it was explained that no direction or documents had been given to the township staff that manage the website. He expressed his desire to to place these documents online and under a heading of “financial documents” similar to the headings for the agendas and the minutes so they are easily found. John Snider moved to accept the reports and place them on file. Kim Arter supported the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.
• Restorative Lake Sciences Update: Dr. Jones put together a bid analysis and presented a document to each of the board members comparing the components of the two bids. She went down the list of each component and gave brief explanations. She noted the amount of linear feet of rubber hose in the PLM bid is double that of the EverBlue bid and it is an expensive component of this type of system and could be part of the large cost difference between the two bids. Dr. Jones reviewed the cost comparisons of the two bids and the differences between the purchase option costs and the lease option costs. She felt the purchase option is unaffordable. She also talked about the fact that the EverBlue bid also provided the electrical usage costs estimates for the system where PLM did not. She added that if the Board gets to the point they want to choose a bid, they should consider asking EverBlue to come in for a presentation of their bid and an interview. John Snider asked Dr. Jones if she has any experience working with EverBlue and she stated she did, and is currently working with them on about 16 lakes. Darrell VanFossan had several questions: he asked how many companies the bid request was sent to, he asked about the number of compressors and linear feet of rubber hose in the PLM bid versus the EverBlue bid and how the bioaugmentation component is included. Dr. Jones responded by stating the bid request was sent to 3 or 4 companies and 2 bids were received. She noted that she doesn’t feel the 38 compressors in the PLM bid is feasible and she feels more comfortable with the ceramic
diffusers in the EverBlue bid and has the most experience with this type of diffuser. She also noted the bioaugmentation is included in the overall costs per year. Darrell VanFossan also asked about any potential conflicts with the laminar flow aeration system considering the oil in Fenner's Ditch and how the system estimates for the budget were arrived at considering the large difference in the budgeted amounts and the bid amounts just received. Dr. Jones stated they are doing their due diligence and talking with the DEQ with regard to the oil found in the lake bottom sediment, they are collecting all the baseline data for the DEQ that they have to have for any permit applied for next year for a whole lake laminar flow aeration system. She also stated she asked people who are experts with the laminar flow aeration systems to give her cost estimates and she got numbers anywhere from $75,000 to $150,000 per year so she budgeted for the middle of that range, but at that time there was no knowledge that oil sediment would be found in the lake necessitating the need for bioaugmentation, which is why they are meeting with DEQ officials and seeking and hoping for state assistance financially. Kim Arter stated the board, including those not present, would review the comparison document from Dr. Jones.

- Darrell VanFossan asked Dr. Jones to talk about this year’s treatment activities thus far. Dr. Jones noted treatment took place on May 29th, and there was less area for milfoil to be treated this year, about 1 1/2 acres, she noted they are seeing some of the native vegetation bouncing back. She also noted less area to treat means less cost. She added the high water levels and the colder water temps are helping to keep algae down. She talked about the amount of education of the public being done, including teaching them how the copper containing treatments for certain aquatic plants encourages the blue-green algae. Kim Arter asked about phragmites, noting that they are still shown on the treatment map, but some treatment had been done last year. Dr. Jones noted that the phragmites are just beginning to grow this year so it’s not clear yet how much is still there and treatment for them will be done in Aug/September in the areas that still exist. She also noted that phragmites do not survive if they are completely submerged for too long, so high water levels may help with regard to phragmites. Darrell VanFossan also asked about grant funding. Kim Arter stated they are talking to the DEQ but have noting to present yet. Dr. Jones stated this is a unique situation with the oil in the sediment and that’s why they are talking to and looking for assistance from the state.

COMMUNICATION:

- Information from the Chair Kim Arter: Kim noted her only information at this meeting is the proposed liability insurance under new business.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

- Proposed Director’s Liability Insurance: Kim Arter sent out requests for proposals to several insurance companies, 3 responded, but only 1 submitted a proposal for insurance coverage. The document was quite lengthy and the bottom line was the cost of $1,917 per year. Darrell VanFossan commented that while $1 million dollars is a lot of money, it doesn’t seem like much for this type of liability insurance as he knows of individual homeowners can have this much coverage on their homeowners insurance policies. Kim Arter thought it would be better to wait for the full board to be present to make a decision on this subject. Darrell VanFossan moved to table this item. John Snider supported the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.
PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Steve Olsen, 820 Oakmere, commented on several things: suggesting that the board stop and re-evaluate where they are at and what they are doing and bring in other talents from West Michigan Shoreline Development Commission (WMSRDC) and the Annis Water Resource Institute (AWRI) as he feels the board is moving to hastily and not using these local expert assist is disappointing, he commented on the bids being way off from the budget figures and how this board will look foolish going forward with this plan; he stated he feels grant funding should be a priority; he stated he is glad to hear the financial statements will be posted online but added he thinks mailings should go to all homeowners rather than just posting them online.
- Dr. Justin Wilson, 60 N Bear Lake Rd, commented that he feels the need to involve all the leading scientists in the area to provide input on this project, WMSRDC and AWRI; he added the quotes are way off from the original budget figures and if oil sediment exists, then the need for more experts being involved should happen before any aeration system is installed; he added that this is a navigable body of water and more experts are needed before a system is installed as he has been told many of these systems have been removed from lakes; he also expressed frustration that more than one option was not provided to restore the lake; he added he feels the board will look foolish if they don’t use the local scientists available and is very upset as this could be harmful to the lake.
- Kathy Evans of WMSRDC - Ms. Evans stated she came to the meeting to learn and hear about what is going on in Bear Lake; she noted they are not scientists (but hires them when they need them), or a lake restoration organization, but are a planning organization that utilizes grant funding to improve water quality in the watershed and are interested in Bear Lake; She also added that a local lake board is a good idea and she added WMSRDC is there to help.
- Darrell VanFossan stated he has listened to all the comments and noted this board got proposals and presentations of their expert opinions from several lake restoration/consulting firms before selecting Restorative Lake Sciences. He added that he is still open minded and is not opposed to additional expert opinions and asked for anyone to send them expert opinions if they have them.

ADJOURN: John Snider moved to adjourn the meeting. Darrell VanFossan supported the motion. The motion carried by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm

Respectfully Submitted:
Veronica West
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Bear Lake Lake Board on__________________________

Signed: _______________________________