

Lakes and Drainage Committee Meeting  
8-7-23

Attending:  
Bill Reilly  
Betsy Just  
Lowell Lorenz  
David Scheirman  
Bobby Hoffer  
Ken Hecker  
Mark Hodges  
Karen Anthony  
Terry Sullivan  
Harry Shearer

Approval of the 7-3-23 minutes. Motion to approve by David and second by Mark.

**Agenda Additions:**

-David brought up the issue of undocumented or incomplete records for the now-disbanded Roads and Drainage Committee. The Drainage aspect of their work would apply to, and be useful for, this committee's current work.

He suggested we go through old files/boxes that might be in storage or the main office of old documentation of past Roads and Drainage Committee projects notes. Maybe check with past members to see if they still have records or notes. He feels there must be more information out there that we have just not discovered yet.

-David brought up a company Lake Tech Consulting that he and Bobby talked to at WALPA conference they attended this year. They use more natural solutions (like sufficient aeration) rather than relying on ever-increasing chemical applications. David will talk to the company and see what they would recommend for our village and a ball park estimate cost.

**Old Business:**

**Semiahmoo Highlands Development:**

Bill has not heard anything from them. It's been almost a year since they said they would submit stormwater plans but we still have not heard anything. They used to be in contact regularly.

**Carp Removal Status Report:**

Ken reported that Fish and Wildlife equipment broke down so they had to cancel the July 11 electroshock date to remove the carp. They have rescheduled to September 26. They said they would need some additional volunteer to help from BBVCC and we are confident that we have enough volunteers to get the job done.

**Status Report on the Gauges:**

Bobby reported they are all in. These are the 4-12 foot sticks that are in the lakes and ditches to measure the water depth. So we can see if water levels are rising or lowering in the case of a possible flooding event. They can easily be seen by the edge of the lakes. Bill and Lowell are going to recheck the elevations. They can be moved if needed.

**Status Report on Logs in Rogers Slough:**

Bill sent Kraig Olason and Holly Faulstich from Whatcom County an email describing the importance of removing logs from the slough. The increase of logs, sediment and the creation of the berm has impaired water flow from Rogers Slough. It has not been done in several years.

Bill has heard back from Kraig and they have agreed and are planning to remove logs from the slough.

**Status Report Lake Treatment:**

Bobby and crew have treated all the lakes and ponds with 1 treatment of EutroSORB and Thunderbird has had 2. Treating the lakes early in the season has worked really well this year.

Ken complimented Bobby and his team.

Bill recommended 1 more treatment to deal with the phosphorus on the bottom of the lakes. Lowell and Bobby suggested we test both the lakes before treatment so we can establish some baseline data

Because the board granted L&D extra funds to buy additional EutroSORB, Algaecides and pond dyes, these products have been purchased. So we are in great condition for next year.

It is Duckweed not algae that is in the pond on hole #5. It is filled with it. Carp and ducks love Duckweed. Currently there is no carp in that pond. We expect the this pond will clear up when we do the carp removal on September 26 and move live carp to this pond.

**Status on the Aeration System:**

There is one on Kwann Lake that is still not working.

Lowell suggested pulling them all up once a year and cleaning them once a year as part of maintenance.

BBV residents Uli and Rick used to take care of the aerators and now BBV maintenance has taken it over. It was suggested Uli and Rick might give us a tutorial.

**Status Report County Study:**

They were going to have done by summer and now they are saying October.

The County and BBWARM want to have their next meeting here at BBVCC. Everyone thought that was a great idea.

October 18 is what they had scheduled for their next quarterly meeting 6-8pm.

Bill will check with Krista tomorrow to see if we can schedule.

**Status of the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding for Capital Improvement Project Within Birch Bay Village) and Outreach:**

The village has signed the MOU and it has been sent to the County.

There was a very productive 1.5 hour meeting with Whatcom County representatives Molly and Kraig and one of their engineers. They went over the MOU and Bill and David said they felt they took it very seriously. They felt it was time well spent.

There was a lot of talk with the County of "Major Projects" and "Small Projects". Smaller projects are usually less expensive and easier to get through.

The Culvert is a BBVCC priority to get done. We think it would be fair to ask the County to do the engineering and permitting for the project of the culvert going between Rogers Slough and Kwann Lake. BBVCC would then do the work. We think the County might like that and it would become a "small project" category. If the County did the construction it would be a "Major Project"

### **Annual Maintenance of Drains:**

We used to have I&I help us maintain our drains and drain pipes under the roads. They have camera scopes that can give us a visual of what's in our drainage pipes. Not sure why we did away with this. We would like to suggest we bring this service back.

Bill suggested we have them concentrate with the main drains. If we can afford we should have done annually or semi-annually.

Bobby is going to check budget to see if there are funds.

### **Flood Protocols:**

Karen put together a very detailed spreadsheet of procedures and protocols of what to do in the event of a possible flooding event. It covers:

1. Maintenance and Preparation to help prevent flooding
2. Prediction of a potential flood.
3. When a probability of a flood has been predicted, what emergent actions need to be taken

It is a very impressive 5 page list.

Harry asked how we make this official? Is it ready to take it to the Board?

Karen asked if we go through each line item?

Bill thought we should present as one body of work.

Mark suggested using fluorescent paint to mark location of drains and pipes on roads. Great idea! Suggest we start on Salish.

There is a little more we need to work on but thanks to Karen this document very close to done.

### **Project Subcommittee:**

Working on next phase of MOU.

### **New Business:**

#### **Algae Report:**

David sent Algae water samples from Kwann and Thunderbird to the King County Testing Lab which is part of the Department of Ecology. He also sent copies of the algae sampling data forms to Lizabeth Seebacher PhD who is the Algae Program Lead for the Department of Ecology. Bobby and David met her at the WALPA Conference. She has reviewed our lakes situation and has provided helpful input.

When the test results came back the toxicity of the algae was below the detectable level. So that is great news.

Motion to adjourn by Ken and second by David.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Just

