

Lakes, Ponds and Drainage Committee Meeting
6-3-2024 (2pm @ REC Center) No Zoom

Attending:

Bill Reilly.
David Scheirman.
Betsy Just.
Bobby Hoffer.
Lowell Lorenz

BBVCC Board Members:

Harry Shearer. David Franklin
Terry Sullivan

Visitors:

Jack Dyrland

Approval of the 5-6-24 minutes motion made by David S. And 2nd by Lowell

Old Business:

Preliminary Survey of the Pump Outlet Thunderbird Pipe:

It was agreed upon in last months meeting that we need to start working on a different way to modify the outlet on from Thunderbird. It currently relies on a pump. Would be much better if it drained by gravity. We were going to do some surveying and get some measurements. But did not get it done this past month. We will try to have it done for next meeting.

Pushing County Projects/Financing:

David S. handed out a list of “Draft Points for Discussion with Whatcom County Executive”. It was a very good overview of what and why we need to County’s help. We have been told they could maybe get to us in 6 years. We feel that is way too long. As we are already looking at a possibility of 2 years just to get the permits.

The highest priority on the list for BBVCC is replacing the culvert under Birch Bay Drive and into Rogers Slough. The Birch Point Subwatershed Drainage Study was completed in September 2023 by Tetra Tech for Whatcom County Public Works and BBWARM. This study found that the existing culvert is grossly undersized to convey storms under the roadway. The undersized culverts played a major part in the flooding of BBVCC in 2021.

The subject of the undersized capacity of this culvert was also included in an engineering study that was done by Osborn Consulting (Everson WA) in 2011. It was then placed on the BBWARM list of projects but unfortunately

was removed because communications between BBVCC, Whatcom Public Works and a proposed subdivision became difficult.

David S. had discovered **Satpal Singh Sidhu** our current elected Whatcom County Executive had said in his campaign that he wanted to start a “Flood Hazard Reduction Program”. We are trying to get a meeting with him ASAP. Hoping to get a least 1/2 hour of his time to discuss the urgency of the culvert issue. We think its best to send 3-4 people. Possibly someone from the Board, Lakes and David Franklin. We will reach out to BBWARM to see if one of their members can join us.

Kwann Piping:

The roads on lower Salish are due to get repaved this summer. So Bobby had I&I coming and put the camera down the culvert that goes from the ditch that goes under the road to Kwann lake to be sure it was clear before the paving starts. They couldn't even get half way before it stopped. That means a blockage or collapsed pipe. Either way it needs to get replaced. Bobby has the correct size culvert/piping to replace.

Phosphorus Testing:

Have not done a follow up test after the last application on Kwann and Thunderbird. Our last test came back after testing as “Below minimum detection level” We are going to ask our vendor to include the exact percentage level in future testing.

Lakes and Golf Ponds Treatments:

While the lakes look pretty good the golf ponds look pretty bad. Especially the two on hole 3 and 5. The application of EutroSORB has been applied to the lakes last month but not the golf ponds. Bobby said he spoke with vendor and he is sending a product that works well on duckweed.

New Business:

Avista Development (Semiahmoo Highlands):

Bill received a copy of the application from Avista including the Preliminary Stormwater Site Plan Report. The notice of the application is the first step in the process and precedes the SEPA review. He went over the report carefully and responded to Avista by email with a 4 page very detailed list of concerns and questions he had with he had with their initial draft. We are waiting to hear back.

State of the Lakes:

David sent an email of pictures and the conditions of the lakes and ponds and how it has changed (or stayed the same) from the previous month.

A brief summary:

- Thunderbird is pretty as same as last month
- Kwann NE corner has a very minor increase of algae
- Kwann SE has no visible algae.
- Golf course ponds have some filamentous algae mats. The larger ponds seem in pretty good shape. The 2 smaller ones are worse.

Motion to adjourn by David S. And 2nd by Betsy
Minutes by Betsy Just