

## LAKE REDSTONE PROTECTION DISTRICT-SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 4, 2017 1:00 pm

### Minutes

**1. Call meeting to order:**

Meeting called to order at 1:15 pm by chair Tom Walters.

Compliance with the Open Meeting Law was verified.

**2. Roll Call:**

Present: Tom Walters, Glenn Choroszy, Ken Keegstra, Chuck Ecklund, Tom Happ

Others: Al Baade, Paul Burke, Janelle Skoyen Absent: Nathan Johnson, Ray Demaskie

**3. Approval of Agenda:**

Motion by Ecklund to approve agenda, second by Happ. Motion carried.

**4. Public Input:**

None

**5. Review, discuss, and make decisions regarding dredging plans with Janelle Skoyen from Ayres Associates**

**a.** Introductions- Janelle introduced herself to those present and all locals introduced themselves to Janelle.

**b.** Janelle confirmed that all present were familiar with the sampling report produced earlier by Ayres Associates.

**c.** Janelle provided a review of the dredging options; mechanical dredging versus hydraulic dredging. She illustrated examples of each type of dredging, using slides from Lake Altoona, where both types of dredging have been performed in recent years. She also illustrated the methods that they used for disposing of the dredging spoils. Mechanical dredging is typically cheaper, ~\$10/CY vs ~\$20/CY for hydraulic dredging. This is just for the dredging and not site restoration or preparation of the site for spoils disposal.

For mechanical dredging, a draw down of the water level is needed so the equipment can get into the dredged area, usually in the winter. For silt like we have, a cold winter will be needed to freeze the silt hard enough to drive on. A excavating company and not a dredging company is generally used.

After hearing about each type of dredging operation, the general consensus was that hydraulic dredging was most appropriate for Lake Redstone. However, there was some discussion that mechanical dredging might be considered for Martin-Meadowlark bay using a dam to keep water out of the area instead of a whole-lake draw down.

**d.** The information needed for the pre-application meeting with the DNR representatives was discussed. One important decision is to prioritize the areas for dredging. Most commissioners thought that we should try to do as much as possible, but that we should have a prioritized list of bays in case doing all areas is not possible for various reasons (cost or lack of DNR permits). Prior to the meeting with Janelle, Glenn Choroszy and Tom Walters had prepared a draft of priorities by region of the lake, with the highest priorities being the northern bays, and the lowest priorities the southern bays. It was agreed that we should try to generate a more specific list of priorities before the meeting with the DNR.

Another consideration that needs to be addressed before the meeting with the DNR was to have a list of options for how to dispose of the dredging spoils. Most of the discussion focused on the idea of purchasing or leasing land within a mile of the lake shore so that slurry could be pumped to settling ponds. The longer the distance and the higher the elevation change, the more it will cost to pump the slurry to the settling ponds because more booster

stations are needed. Another consideration is that the whole process is very loud, so it may be necessary to limit the hours of operation. Depending upon the rate of dredging, the water might be allowed to soak into the ground, or if the rate will be higher, it might be necessary to create a drainage system that would allow the water to return to the lake. The board should explore possible options for the location of two or three settling ponds and have them available for discussion with the DNR at the pre-application meeting.

A third consideration was the time frame for the dredging process. The issues mentioned above, as well as others mentioned below, need to be discussed and proposals made before the pre-application meeting with the DNR. Following the pre-application meeting with the DNR, Ayres "will revise the conceptual plan to incorporate the WDNR requirements. Based on this conceptual plan we will develop an opinion of probable costs for the dredging project to allow the Lake District to move forward with a plan for what areas and how much volume to dredge from Lake Redstone" (quote taken from our current contract with Ayres). At this point in time, the LRPD board will have the information needed to present general plans to property owners at the August annual meeting. However, we will also need to explore options for raising the dredging funds, so that these options can be presented to property owners in August.

At some point, either before or after the annual meeting, it will be necessary to develop a specific dredging plan. Ayres can assist with this effort. This will require a new contract with them and will incur extra costs. This specific dredging plan will allow the district to prepare a formal application to the DNR for a dredging permit. Once the permits are received (they are good for 2 years), it will be the time to pursue bids with contractors (many details need to be spelled out in the bid notices), arrange financing, get final approval from property owners, and move forward with the dredging process. All agreed that it would not be wise to dredge in 2017 and that the earliest feasible time for dredging would be 2018.

**e. Additional concerns that need to be addressed before the pre-application meeting with the DNR.** Because Lake Redstone has a number of areas that are designated as critical habitat (sensitive areas), we need to determine how these areas will be protected during the dredging process or restored afterwards. For example, how will fish habitat be protected? Or habitat for other species? Will there be a program to restore native plants in dredged areas?

Another issue is how dredging would impact bank stability. How close to the shore will dredging occur and what slope ratio will be used to make sure that the banks don't cave in. Janelle said that the slope is generally is 3:1 or 4:1 (3 or 4 feet out for each foot of depth increase).

Janelle said she would provide some additional information before our next LRPD board meeting to help the board with the decisions that need to be made before the pre-application meeting with the DNR. Depending upon schedules, we agreed that it would be nice to have the pre-application meeting sometime in February, if possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30.

KK/January 9, 2017