



**Date:** December 04, 2003

|                 |                |   |                |
|-----------------|----------------|---|----------------|
| <b>Board</b>    | Joe Gargano    | - | Vice President |
| <b>Members</b>  | Joe Olliges    | - | Secretary      |
| <b>Present:</b> | Amy Spelde     | - | Treasurer      |
|                 | Fred Stegbauer | - | Personnel      |

|                |               |   |           |
|----------------|---------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Absent:</b> | Tina O'Malley | - | President |
|----------------|---------------|---|-----------|

|                |                  |                    |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Guests:</b> | Roger V. Asplund | Pete Breckenfelder |
|                | Tom Clarey       | Richard Frueh      |
|                | Ralph Petersen   | Chris Roby         |
|                | Sonja Valdivieso |                    |

|                   |                     |   |        |
|-------------------|---------------------|---|--------|
| <b>Employees:</b> | Don Bluemel         | - | Absent |
|                   | Becky Breckenfelder |   |        |
|                   | Mason Moody         | - | Absent |
|                   | Mike Schiltz        | - | Absent |

**I. Called To Order:** Joe Gargano called the December 04, 2003 Lost Nation New Landing River Conservancy District of Illinois meeting to order at 7:06PM.

## **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Agenda:** Joe G. asked to move Richard Frueh's shoreline request to the first item after the approval of the agenda. Chris Roby had a question about discarding trees affected by Oak Wilt and Joe G. said that they would be discussing that during Old Business under Burn-Pile.

**Tom Clarey – Structure:** Tom Clarey gave a status report on the structure that they are putting into the lake: they have twelve pieces of structure that are ready to go down tomorrow and, depending on how cold it stays, the remaining twelve may stay on top of the ice until spring. They will be using GPS coordinates to mark where everything is located. Chris Roby asked when the boards would be put back in and Joe G. said he would address that in his report. Roger Asplund inquired about goose control using the propane cannon and Joe G. said that Joe O. would be addressing that in his report.

Amy motioned to approve the agenda with the change of moving Richard Frueh's shoreline improvement up to after the approval of the agenda. Fred seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-03-01]

## **Freuh's Shoreline Improvement: Discussed between Joe O.'s and Amy's reports**

**IV. Minutes:** Joe Olliges motioned to approve the November 6<sup>th</sup> minutes. Amy seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-03-02]

**V. Treasurer's Report:** The loan credit is listed under misc. income. The RCD paid out \$34,000+ for dredging last month. Joe G. asked if the \$151,222.07 was the amount paid out for dredging so far and Amy said yes. The insurance hasn't been paid out yet but should be coming. Interest income is down. Amy asked Becky what the big repairs and updates were that brought them over budget (paid out \$13,375 and they only budgeted \$7,000). Becky said that she put the signage and the playground update under Repairs and Updates. Joe G. asked if the \$5,435.69 under Acquisition and Construction was for the lakefront lots purchased and Amy said it should be. Amy said that the payroll is higher because they hired more employees this year. Joe O. motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Fred seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-03-03]

## **VI. Board Member Reports:**

### **1. Tina O'Malley – No Report**

## **2. Joe Gargano**

**A. Dredging:** Yesterday the contractors completed the dredging program for this year, removing approximately 47,000 cubic yards of material at a cost of \$174,000 so far. After they did the small island, which consisted of 4,560 cubic yards of material, Joe had them go over to the drying pit located on the newly purchased lots and haul an additional 1,680 cubic yards from that site. The cost of removing that 6,240 total cubic yards was \$22,775 (about \$3.65 a cubic yard). About 1 acre of surface area has been returned to the lake.

**B. Flash Boards at Dam** – Barring weather problems, Ken Oltmanns should be meeting them at 8:30-9:00AM to start putting the flash boards back in. They are intending to replace the boards and pipes (new pipes were machined which follow the original specs.). Joe asked Becky to call the golf course to let them know that we were putting the boards back in.

**C. Keys for Chain at Overflow** – Joe G. has the keys ready to give to the fishing club members, as voted on at last month's meeting.

**D. North Beach- Boat Launch Area** – The contractor cleaned out the boat launch area at the North Beach and graded the shoreline.

## **3. Joe Olliges**

### **A. Locks of Lake Court Center To Be Changed**

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, the locks will be changed on all the outside doors of the Lake court Center, excluding the library door. Joe O. gave Becky the extra keys for the building to distribute to those who need them.

### **B. Motion Light Installed at the Entrance of Lake Court Center**

A motion light was installed at the front entrance of the Lake Court Center to help heighten security there.

### **C. Propane Cannon for Goose Control**

There will be a notice, posted at both gates, informing the residents of a propane cannon to be used to frighten the geese. It will be set to go off 3-4 times an hour from 8:00AM to 5:00PM daily and will be moved around to different private properties around the lake of people who have offered use of their land. Copies of the nuisance permit, which was obtained from the DNR and which is good for 90 days, will be given to the participants. Joe O. added that this shouldn't be the only goose deterrent being used in order to be effective. The sound of the cannon registers about 110-120 decibels, which is equivalent to a shotgun going off. If anyone has questions or concerns about the cannon, they can call Joe Olliges about it.

Roger Asplund asked for the RCD's definition of migratory geese as outlined in the article that he read in the "Ripple" which stated that, "Permits may or may not be issued for the harassment of geese". Joe O. quoted from the nuisance permit: "Geese may be controlled only by scaring away and only within the sub-division with landowner permission. Permit may be used on the propane cannon." Joe O. said that all geese are migratory, even the ones that are on the lake in the summer. Roger asked what the basis for concern at Lost Lake – Joe O. responded that before he got on the board, everyone was complaining that the beaches get full of goose droppings and the population keeps growing and growing because no one, other than a few people, does anything to scare them off. Roger asked how many geese nested here last year and Joe O. said that they shook 70 eggs, however, he doesn't know how many geese nested here. Roger said that his concern was that the geese probably have as much right to be here as we do and this time of year we have a large population of geese on the lake because they are migrating and that they will be gone as soon as the lake freezes over. Roger said that last year there were about 30 geese here with five nests that produced young and his count of the amount of geese that they have is 60-65, which he doesn't feel is a threat to the quality of this lake. He realizes that eventually the goose population will grow exponentially, but right now it'll take a couple years for the geese that were born last year to mate so he doesn't think they will have an explosion of geese next year. He doesn't think that the geese that are nesting here are causing a problem with the quality of the water or anything else in the lake. Joe O. said that his (Roger's) comments will be duly noted and Joe G. said that he appreciated his comments, but if he would like to have an extensive discussion on the issue, he could do so after the meeting. Roger asked a final question regarding other wildlife that the cannon would scare off, like other birds and deer. Joe O. said that it will scare

other birds off of the lake, he's not sure about the deer – he thinks that if they are close enough to the lake it will scare them off of the lake, but he doesn't think they will leave the area as it is a haven for them. Roger's final comment - "It is too bad that we as human beings cannot learn to live with nature as it is, that we've got to take measures to harass geese, scare other animals, and cause disruption in the lives of people out here having to listen to that thing go off four times an hour. I come out here; I expect peace and quiet."

4. **Shoreline Improvement:** Rich's request is actually a replacement of an existing dock. Fred motioned to approve Richard Freuh's shoreline improvement request. Joe O. seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously. [12-03-04]

5. **Amy Spelde – No Report**

6. **Fred Stegbauer – No Report**

## VII. Employees

1. **Don Bluemel** - Joe O. informed the board that Don will be on vacation for a week starting Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> so Mike Schiltz will be taking care of the building while he is gone.

### 2. Becky Breckenfelder

**A. Added RCD Office Hours** – Becky presented a proposal to add midday hours from 10AM-2:00PM on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for the RCD office. The RCD board agreed to the proposal. Joe G. recommended that they make a motion on the change in Becky's schedule. Joe O. motioned to change Becky's schedule by adding Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10AM-200PM. Amy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-03-05]

**B. Brochure** – the RCD informational brochure is complete. Joe O. asked about the creel limits that were listed on there because they should be updated every time they are changed. Amy suggested that they title the creel limits section as "Current Fishing Regulations" with a revision date listed on the back of the brochure. Joe O. will ask the fishing club's recommendation on a size minimum for crappie and bluegill.

## VIII. Old Business

### 1. Burn-Pile

According to the sign posted there, the burn-pile is for brush only. Joe G. admitted that he had some willow trees dumped at the burn-pile, so he will pay the RCD his portion of the cost when they remove the entire contents of the burn-pile. He obtained a cost estimate from Ken Oltmanns of \$250-300 to clean out the burn-pile. There continues to be various prohibited debris dumped down there to include large concrete chunks, a wooden picnic table, Halloween pumpkins, household garbage, and grass-clippings. At the last meeting, Bob Bortman recommended prohibiting leaves at the burn-pile because they produce too much smoke; Fred and Amy agreed. Joe said that Brad's Tree Service was putting trees in the burn-pile and Joe G. allowed Brad to put a final tree on the pile because he had been told he could dump the trees there and so was without a chipper. In return for allowing him to dump that tree, Terry (one of Brad's workers) helped Joe burn the pile and push it up with his skid loader. Joe O. doesn't think that they should put a burn-pile on the 23 acres because it would be a lot harder to monitor. Also, he feels that the current burn-pile should remain for brush up to 4" or smaller only, that they need to get better signage up, and that they should warn the community that if prohibited items continue to be dumped there, then the burn-pile will be taken away. Amy would like to see the burn-pile shut down or at least have the community only put what they are supposed to down there. Fred thinks that the brush-pile should stay and he suggested that they could create a mulch area for grass-clippings and leaves. Joe O. thought that a mulch pile might be too tempting for people to put trash back there. Joe G. feels that there should be no trees put in the burn-pile either. He recommended having Ken Oltmanns clean out the pile, getting new signage at the burn-pile, and warning the public that the burn-pile will be closed down if prohibited items are discarded there. He did look into some alternatives for people who are trying to get rid of the trees – The sawmill in Kirkland will pay an estimated \$200-500 per semi-load of 15"-16" X 8'-10' or larger trees that are cut.

Joe O. motioned to maintain the current burn-pile, allowing only brush up to 4" in diameter (prohibiting leaves, grass-clippings, trees, or household garbage). Fred seconded the motion. Joe O. wants Becky to send letters to each POA explaining the RCD's policy. Motion passed unanimously [12-03-06]

## **IX. New Business**

### **1. North Beach Boat Racks**

Robert Rinaldi wrote a letter to the RCD expressing his concern with the placement of the boat racks at the North Beach. Joe G. said that he placed the boat racks there to stay in line with other sites where the boats racks are near the boat launch. He also said that he planned to build another set of boat racks for the other side to accommodate the boats that are currently lying on the ground there. Fred agreed with Mr. Rinaldi that it is unsightly to have the boat racks there and Joe O. polled the audience on what they thought. The general opinion was that the racks were unsightly and the RCD board decided that Joe G. will disassemble the boat racks and they will reevaluate the area next spring to decide if there is a better area to set them up or if they should be eliminated all together. The issue will be tabled until spring.

### **2. Animal Control Expenses**

There is an active beaver colony in the Flagg Road Silt Basin. Joe G. hired Sandy Lewis' father, who is an animal control person with permits from the DNR to trap year round. He has already trapped two beaver from there, one being 59 lbs. There is also some beaver activity at the creek by the campground. The trapper estimates a cost of about \$100 a beaver to remove them with there being 3-5 beaver at the Flagg Road area and more in the campground area. Tom Clarey said that there a beaver by him too. The board discussed budgeting \$1000-1500 for animal control expenses and Joe G. said that Becky should list it under Professional Services. Joe O. asked if the amount allotted for Professional services was based on what they used last year and Amy said that Tina would know that. Joe O. motioned to take up to \$1500 from Professional Services for eradicating the beaver. Fred seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously. [12-03-07]

### **3. Budgetary Review and Transfers**

The board discussed the amounts of money that they have in their budget and where Becky is taking the money from each time she writes the checks. Joe O. asked where they got the money for the playground and Amy said that it came out of the money market. Joe G. would like to assess the budget to ensure that they appropriate the right amounts in each category next year. Fred said that they would never stick to the budget in each category and Fred and Amy both said that the bottom line is what is most important.

## **X. Guests:**

**Richard Freuh :** Rich complemented the board on their pick of dredging contractors and asked what the RCD's future dredging plans were. He is specifically concerned with the area starting at Clear Creek, where they ended the dredging, and stopping where they took out the second island. He said that the lake is pretty low there and asked if there are any plans to dredge there. Joe G. responded that there are no plans to mechanically dredge there although they have discussed it extensively – the problem is what is occurring there with the water discharge. They would only be able to mechanically dredge that and other areas of the lake if they could lower it another two feet. They had also discussed siphoning the lake to bring it down. They had also discussed having a professional hydraulic dredging operation set up in the distant future, however, from estimates that they have received, Joe G. feels that it would be cost-prohibitive. Joe G. concluded by saying that future dredging plans in 2005 may include the areas by Tom Clarey's house, Park Drive Park, in front of the Kreger's house and Rich's house, especially if they can get the lake down another couple feet.

**Ralph Petersen:** Ralph said that members of the RCD board should be attending the ILAC meetings regularly or at least attend the next one because they are very informative. He added that he wished that he had known that they were going to have the lake lowered for so long because he would have done the shoreline improvement that he had wanted to do. He asked if the RCD could plan to keep it down for a longer period of time, like 12 weeks, even if they finish the job in 4 weeks. Ralph added that at Channel Lakes they lower the lake 3 feet every year in the winter to keep the shoreline damage due to ice and spring run-off down. Joe G. said that one concern of them keeping the lake down is the water main not being covered.

**Tom Clarey:** Tom Clarey said that some of the other lake communities were able to plan 10 years in advance and build up a reserve fund. Joe G. said that Tina doesn't like to carry over money, because, being a government taxing body, Ogle county could decide that the RCD doesn't need the money.

**XI. Adjourn:** Amy motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:23PM. Fred seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-03-08]

**Next Meeting:** January 8, 2004

**December 4<sup>th</sup> Motion List**

Amy motioned to approve the agenda with the change of moving the Richard Frueh's shoreline improvement up to after the approval of the agenda. Fred seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-03-01]

Joe Olliges motioned to approve the November 6<sup>th</sup> minutes. Amy seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [12-03-02]

Joe O. motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Fred seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote [12-03-03]

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