

**BPILA Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 21, 2009**

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Board meeting roll call

Tom Manikowski – President  
Jen Medema – VP  
Paul Mulheisen – Treasurer  
Lisa Zigmont – Secretary

All board members were present.

A motion was made by Jen Medema with a second from Paul Mulheisen to approve meeting minutes from April 7, 2009. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report

Paul Mulheisen reported that we have \$2766.22 in the checking account, and \$3204.06 in savings for a balance of \$5970.28. We've taken in \$5835.00, with expenditures of \$5034.98. We still have an outstanding bill of \$500 that will be coming from the Sheriff from July 3, which will leave roughly a \$300 net balance between receipts and expenses. Many individuals gave substantial checks this year for fireworks. Memberships are at 86 this year, as compared to 89 last year.

Tom Manikowski reminded meeting attendees that, although inquiries have been made from residents about using a barge to set off fireworks in the future, this limits the mortar size of fireworks that can be used. Hessler's are given a \$100 gift certificate and lawn mowing prior to the fireworks in exchange for permission to use their property to set off the BPIL fireworks show. No incidents were reported from the Sheriff.

Susie Manikowski reported that an additional \$350 was collected from the trailer park. There limited monies collected in prior years. Paul Mulheisen reported that possibly 4 people from the trailer park are new members.

Lake Improvement Board report

Dan Bailey attended the May Lake Improvement Board meeting. Adjustments have been made to tax assessments in order to stay under the maximum allowable surplus for weed management. The new assessment is \$118 per year (previously \$135). Only 1 of 6 bids on weed harvesting was submitted – Progressive Lake Management (PLM)/Progressive Engineering. PLM is contacting the lake boards with advance notice of treatments. They post signs only at treatment sites. Tom noted that he is trying to notify residents as much in advance as possible of PLM treatments.

Paul Mulheisen said that PLM has told them that there are no major effects on trees, etc. from irrigating with treated water (except on tomatoes and ornamental landscaping).

Our lake has been treated twice for Eurasian milfoil. The lake has also been treated several times for algae. Our phosphorous level is increasing (trending up), which is a major component of algae blooms. The Heffron inlet has been tested at 11ppm for phosphorous, which is in the safe

range (0-139ppm). The Abbott Rd. site has also been tested, which was 10ppm. They would like to test for ecoli, but warmer weather is required for this. This testing will be held off until the water temperature increases.

Dan met with Jim Beiner (sp?) from the Isaac Walton league regarding purple loosestrife taking over cattails. They did a visual survey on Sunday, and all major areas with the loosestrife had beetle activity. Lake resident Annette Beatty reported that beetles were released 8 or 10 years ago, sponsored by C-Grant. The beetles are exclusive to the loosestrife food source, and eat the seeds to eradicate the loosestrife. It's more difficult to keep beetles in submerged areas, so the cattail island near the channel is tougher to treat.

Annette Beatty inquired if there is a limit of copper to be added to the lake. Tom indicated that we need to be cautious on how much more copper is added to the lake, per his discussion with Progressive Engineering. Fertilizer on lawns increases algae, as does field runoff. This year's heavy rains in the spring did contribute in the form of added runoff. Dan has asked Progressive if algae bloom comes mainly from one source – Progressive indicated probably not. Tom informed attendees that we will continue to monitor this situation. Dan indicated that overall our lake is considered in the healthy condition range.

#### Township Supervisor update

Frank Force reported that the township is now 2 ½ months into the new sewer contract, with the new operator. The new company is organizing and inventorying, plus upgrading electrical panels. The May 2009 invoice was \$25,000, which is well over \$9000 above the township allowance. The company also adds a 10% surcharge for what they source.

There are 2 new sewer/sprinkler guns on the Grattan site, which was \$15,000 out of the capital fund. These run 550 gpm to help exhaust more from the holding lagoons. The township is hoping to make this a semi-permanent site. They toured the Grattan/Vergennes site with the DEQ. The DEQ needs to see the soil area west of the ponds in order to approve the new irrigation area. Frank is working with the engineer on a discharge management plan for this site. The desired start of this new area for irrigation is fall 2010.

Gran-tech is working on a sewer mechanical upgrade, at a cost of \$200,000. Crews are inspecting pump stations to confirm they are in good working order.

Tom reported that we had 2 SSOs on BPIL: Both were at Station 6 on Ravine Dr., were less than 15 gallons, and did not reach the lake. The float mechanisms were changed in these stations, which should alleviate the problem. An inquiry was made by Annette Beatty if the new subdivision on the north end of the lake is on a grinder system. The homes in this area have their own small versions (lift stations) which feed into the main.

The dock ordinance was also reviewed by the township. Per Jack Proos, the entire dock ordinance program has been sent back to the SBA for more work, as there was not enough information to make a decision. A subcommittee of the SBA was encouraged in order to develop ideas to make the ordinance work. The current ordinance is not enforceable, and is currently complaint driven.

#### Newsletter report

Pat Talbott reported that the next newsletter will be issued in September. Possible article content could include update on purple loosestrife from Dan. Another article will be added on BPIL history. Tom asked for an article on the sewer tax assessment, and reminders and tips on things to avoid with pump stations and reminders of minimizing use during power outages, and notifying emergency call numbers. Frank Force indicated labor cost of \$5000 to pump station to station during outages.

Tom inquired with Frank as to the status of reducing power outage frequency. The township is working with Consumer's Power to take the trees out of power lines. Frank urged residents to call Infrastructure (sewer operator) personnel number when there is a power outage, rather than the answering service.

The board agreed to publish member names again in the newsletter.

#### Web and Safety Network

Scott DeMeyer has set up a free Comcast website for BPILA.

<http://home.comcast.net/~bpila/site/?/home/>

Residents can send Scott photos, upcoming events, and more to post on the site. The site also features hyperlinks to other helpful sites, a lake historian link, directory of board members, future board meeting schedule, weather, and more. There is also a safety network link to allow residents to view a map and listing of break-ins or thefts around the lake. Pat will add the website address to the newsletter. A simpler URL web address is only available if we are willing to pay. The board agreed to continue to monitor traffic levels on the free version.

#### Township Lake Coalition

Tom reported that one meeting has taken place for the Coalition. This board will work with the township to represent the area lakes. Ratigan Lake asked for information regarding a goose round-up. Annette Beatty reported that she had sent the information.

#### Volunteer Party

Tom inquired of the board the idea of hosting a party for all of this year's volunteers. A motion was made by Paul Mulheisen to approve up to \$150 in expenses to cover costs, with a second from Jen Medema. Motion carried.

#### Other business

Resident Nancy Popma reminded attendees that on August 20<sup>th</sup> there will be a local twilight cancer walk at the Grattan Raceway with proceeds to go to Gilda's Club. The cost is \$10 to buy a flag in someone's name.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.