



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 July 12, 2017

Attendance		Present	Absent
Dan Jones, Chair	City of White Bear Lake	X	
Jim Lindner, Vice Chair	City of Gem Lake	X	
Rob Rafferty, Secretary-Treasurer	City of Lino Lakes		X
Ed Prudhon	White Bear Township	X	
Marty Long	City of North Oaks		X
Terry Nyblom	City of Vadnais Heights	X	
Stephanie McNamara	Administrator	X	
Kristine Jenson	Program Mgr.	X	
Brian Corcoran	Water Resources Mgr.	X	
Nick Voss	Education & Outreach Cord.	X	
Tyler Thompson	Water Resource Tech.	X	

Others in attendance: Margaret Behrens (Ramsey Conservation District), Mark Graham (City of Vadnais Heights Engineer & TEC Chair), Paul Duxbury (White Bear Township TEC representative), Jeff Moore, Mary Gregory, and Anton Gregory (City of Vadnais Heights residents)

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Jones. A quorum is present for the meeting.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

A request was made by staff to add Action Items under Goose Lake – Alum Treatment action item to approve funding to do the final design analysis and apply for grants as well as under Birch Lake. Jones would like to add an item under IV.B. - Presentation

A motion was made by Lindner and seconded by Prudhon to approve the agenda as amended. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**III. Approval of Minutes from April 26, 2017**

A motion was made by Lindner and seconded by Nyblom to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting. Vote: 3 aye, 1 abstain (Prudhon). Motion passed.

**IV. New Business**

A. Request for legal opinion - consideration of authority and process to assess benefiting area for capital projects

This topic has been discussed with the Finance Committee to determine how we can generate the funds to implement projects. The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) give us options beyond our current methods which is primarily the Storm Sewer Utility (SSU). We could establish taxing districts to assess properties benefitting from particular projects in the subwatersheds. McNamara feels that if we want to pursue this, we should have our attorney provide input.

*Consideration before the Board: Should VLAWMO increase the 2018 legal budget up to \$10,000 in budget to consider clarifying questions on (1) VLAWMO drainage responsibility and (2) the watershed's ability to fund future capital improvement projects (CIPs).*

The Members may establish a watershed management tax district for the purposes of paying for the engineering and planning required to make a watershed management plan for that GUF area. Perhaps we could have a Goose Lake GUF or a Lambert Creek GUF? The subwatershed planning in our new Water Plan goes in this direction but we would probably have to take our current very general project plans to a much more fleshed out design level so we would really have better cost

estimates, timelines and maintenance expenses and plans. VLAWMO may need to go through a plan amendment process when big projects are really starting to gel. The language here leaves me a little unsure if there are two different levels of tax districts the members may have, one for planning another for implementation and operations. I don't see an option in the current JPA for VLAWMO to have a Special Tax District, only for our members to have it on our behalf. But I may be missing something.

**Possible questions for the attorney:**

Our questions for the attorney may fall into two categories, although they are connected. The first has to do with VLAWMO responsibility and authority to manage Lambert Creek (14) and Dillon Ditch (13) and the second has to do with if and how VLAWMO could pay for larger CIPs by subwatershed. Below are possible questions the Board may wish to send to the VLAWMO counsel for his opinion.

1. One of the Duties of the Board (Section VI, Subdivision 5) involves the Transfer of Drainage System. VLAWMO accepted the authority to manage County Ditch 14 (Lambert Creek) and its branches in 1987. This requires VLAWMO to repair, improve, maintain the transferred drainage systems and potentially construct new drainage systems. What is VLAWMO's responsibility and rights under this authority? What is the process for responding to requests for maintenance or improvements?
2. The second area of questions involved funding CIPs that might be needed in the drainage area of the ditches or elsewhere in the watershed. The VLAWMO JPA identifies assessment of subwatershed area as a funding mechanism for capital projects. The affected municipalities would collect the funds through a special assessment process is the current understanding. This would need clarification and discussion with VLAWMO members.

**Discussion:**

Jones stated that he asked McNamara to look into this because we are looking to do larger projects and while we may get grants, that is not guaranteed, and therefore it is worth discussing the other funding options. Jones stated he doesn't have a problem with adding funds to the Legal budget to look into this more.

Nyblom stated he thinks we should look into this so that we know what our options are.

Prudhon asked if all properties (i.e. residential vs commercial) would be taxed the same with taxing districts. Stephanie stated that would be something the attorney could provide input on. From what she can understand of how the process works, we would assess the communities who would then collect it from the properties.

Lindner stated that he would like to understand how assessments could be fairly spread out within different subwatersheds since our area has portions that have a lot of residential properties close together (such as White Bear Lake) and then areas where there isn't such dense properties.

Jones asked what our actions could be right now. Stephanie stated that she could send the attorney some questions but that if we want to look into this further, we'd need to add money to our budget (which is up for approval tonight) so that we can use their services as we work through this.

Prudhon asked if there were other watersheds that we could talk to in regards to how to handle these projects. Stephanie said she would be reaching out to Rice Creek Watershed regarding drainage management as well as implementing large projects. She also speaks with other watersheds regularly about funding capital improvement projects.

It was moved by Jones and seconded by Prudhon to add \$7000 to the 2018 budget for our attorney to research Ditch Maintenance activities and directs staff to gather more information regarding the funding of large capital improvement projects. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**B. Presentation of 10 Year Recognition Award to Kristine Jenson**

Jones recognized Kristine Jenson for her 10 years of excellent service to VLAWMO and thanked her with an award.

**V. Old Business**

- A. Lambert Creek – Lambert Lake/Pennington – Kohler Flume

Corcoran presented the delineation for the Pennington Place parcels that had come to VLAWMO regarding the water in their backyards. The delineation was completed by Sambatek May 2, 2017. The boundary and type of the wetland as well as wetland jurisdiction has been approved. The delineated area was roughly 0.21 acres total on 4 residential yards along Lambert Creek/Ditch 14. Wetland is a seasonally flooded floodplain. The Corps of Engineers also has jurisdiction over the water resources identified in the delineation report.

Thompson presented his findings from his walk through examination of the ditches in Vadnais Heights on June 14<sup>th</sup>. The group included Mark Graham, P.E., VH's City Engineer; Kevin Watson, VH's Administrator; Ed Haddon, VH resident; and Tyler Thompson of VLAWMO. The purpose of this walk was to get a visual survey of the ditches, how they were working, and to identify areas in need of maintenance. This inspection took place after a VH Public Works crew cleaned debris out of Branch Ditch 5 and the beginning of 5A, and VLAWMO staff cleared a good deal of tree debris in Ditch 14 between the entry of branch ditch 5 and further downstream to the exit of the first Koehler culvert, however, there are still major trees down and additional debris that should be cleared.

Looking at the Creek/Ditch 14 and branch ditch 5, there was a consensus that while maintenance is needed by means of further branch and tree debris removal, the ditches were flowing well and there were no major blockages or bottlenecks. At the time of inspection, the water level was down along the Pennington Place section of Ditch 14 quite noticeably, correlating with the low rainfall in the first half of June '17. By the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2017 we had 1.1 inches of rain, as compared to 4.74 inches on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Although, in May of 2017, there was a total of 7.04 inches of precipitation, compared to 2.32 inches in May 2016. Coupled with a very wet fall and into winter of 2016, the system is just now getting its first chance to draw down and dry out since 2015.

The City of Vadnais Heights is looking into tree and debris removal by hiring a contractor to remove obstructions in Ditch 14 to keep it moving at its maximum capacity. Ditch bottom elevations have been found from the last comprehensive cleaning of Ditch 14 from 1987 and processed into GIS data.

Staff is asking for direction from the Board for moving forward.

**Discussion:**

Lindner stated this sort of thing is a reason for why we may need to find alternative ways to fund projects. Jones stated that he thinks it is a reasonable request to survey the ditch to see how it has changed over the last 30 years. Nyblom stated that there is a 1 foot elevation in the ditch and he wonders if that could be removed to allow for water to stay in the ditch. Nyblom stated that he lived adjacent to the Pennington Place area and the ditch was never as wide as it is today.

Jones stated that we are the ditch authority and it is time to start addressing these issues but we have no budget set for this.

Nyblom feels that maintaining these ditches is a priority, more so than other items that are in the proposed 2018 budget and that he would ask the Board to table approving the budget today so that we could take time to reallocate the budget. Nyblom states that VH residents' basements and backyards are being flooded and that is a priority.

Lindner commented that sometimes a wetland "wants" to be a wetland.

Anton Gregory 738 Pennington Place came forward and pointed on the map how far up the water has come in the backyards. Jones asked how often in the last 5 years has the water been in the yard, Gregory stated that it has been consistently wet through the summer. This year, they have been able to get further

Jeff Moore 714 Pennington Place – he feels that Branch Ditch 5 is causing severe problems that must be addressed now. There is a pipe that isn't draining effectively and there is a lot of debris in the ditch which is not allowing water to move.

Corcoran asked if we are supposed to start doing anything. Jones stated that he cannot give that. The Board suggested that bids for cleaning out the creek and surveying be sought.

B. Goose-Wilkinson study update and next steps

We have received the final report prepared by Greg Wilson, Barr Engineering and Della Young, Young Environmental Consulting Group regarding the feasibility of reducing the nutrient levels in East and West Goose Lakes as well as Wilkinson Lake. Greg and Della presented their preliminary findings at the April Board meeting.

**Wilkinson Lake:** They feel that the sources of nutrients (phosphorus or TP) for Wilkinson are coming primarily from the wetland complexes north and south of the lake. Wetlands can export TP and the monitoring data we have so far indicates that the levels of this nutrient spike somewhere (Figure 3-5) between Amelia Lake and Ash Street on the northern end of the subwatershed as well as within the stream system coming into Wilkinson from the south. Their recommendation for Wilkinson is to do some site-specific monitoring to ascertain where these “hot spots” might be. If the source can be determined, we could possibly pursue an iron-sand filter project to reduce the TP output. Staff has spoken with Greg to come up with a plan for this monitoring effort.

**East & West Goose Lakes:** The report states that the primary source of TP in both of the Goose Lake basins is internal and therefore a project such as an alum treatment is what is prescribed to reduce the nutrient levels. Based on Barr’s modeling, if we did an alum treatment on East Goose and it was able to reduce the internal load by 80%, we could be very close to meeting state standards. The modeling shows that with just the East Goose alum application, West Goose’s water quality would improve as well. We could also do alum in West Goose to bring it even closer to standards.

#### 1. Alum Treatment Grant Application

Staff hosted a technical meeting with Goose Lake partners on June 19<sup>th</sup> and again on June 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the next steps and how we can work together to perform an alum treatment for the lake(s). Barr included information for BMPs that could be installed within the subwatershed of Goose Lake but none of them come close to the reduction potential of alum treatment. There is concern, however, that the alum treatment won’t work as well or that it won’t last as long as in other lakes due to the stirring up of the lake bottom that occurs on the Goose Lake basins. However Greg Wilson stated that he was confident that with the proper planning, alum would be the best possible option for us to reduce nutrients in the lakes. In order to be financially able to do an alum treatment, we will need to pursue grant opportunities. And in order to have a competitive application, there is some additional work to be done. According to Barr, they can get us the information we need that will support our grant application(s) at a cost of \$10,000. The major tasks they would do are: 1) Collect 6 sediment cores in both basins and analyze for phosphorus fractionations; 2) Determine alum dosing and develop more accurate cost estimates involving one or more treatment combinations for the basins; 3) Develop a technical memo summarizing the tasks; 4) Prepare supporting information for grant applications.

The partners and VLAWMO staff feel this is a worthy investment in order to have a competitive grant application. VLAWMO asked the partners if they would be willing to provide half of the funds towards this work. The St. Paul Regional Water Service (SPRWS) committed \$5000. Staff is now asking the Board to approve the other \$5000 *to determine proper alum treatment doses and to produce a memo with their results.* The application window for the BWSR Clean Water Fund Grants is now open and closes on August 9th. Staff would like approval from the Board to pursue funding from this grant program and other grant opportunities when they arise.

*Staff also requests the Board approve staff pursuing grant opportunities funding the alum treatment at Goose Lake.*

It was moved by Nyblom and seconded by Lindner to approve \$10,000, in conjunction with \$5000 from SPRWS to hire Barr for additional alum treatment diagnostic studies.

Vote: all aye

If we are to go for grants which could fund up to 75% of the costs, we would still have to find a match which could be \$125,000-\$160,000. Jones stated this brings up the concern of how we pay for things when our budget doesn't reflect that work. The current budget would have to be increased about 24% which equals about \$8 per homeowner. Nyblom thinks we should wait to apply for grants until next year. Lindner stated he was ok with waiting to apply as well. He feels that from a historical perspective, it isn't urgent. Jones stated that Goose Lake has been discussed for years and there was consensus that it is a priority. He added that pausing for a year would allow more time for community involvement. Prudhon agreed to wait until next year.

The Board directs staff to keep gathering information so that we have a more concrete plan for treating Goose Lake before applying for grants and to work with partners to get their buy-in for local costs.

## 2. Spent Lime Pilot Project

Barr also suggested trying spent lime to be used in place of alum to bind with phosphorus and make it unavailable for plant growth. Other projects that have used spent lime as a treatment but not as a whole lake application. Projects have used lime or limestone as a part of a filter for stormwater to run through before entering a waterbody. Barr suggested that it could be something we may want to look into further because it would be significantly cheaper since spent lime is available for free from the St. Paul Water Utility or the City of White Bear Lake. There are many unknowns and it would require at least a couple years of research to determine what the effects may be – not just on nutrients but on the whole lake ecosystem. Barr said they could conduct a study with the help of VLAWMO for \$15,000-\$30,000. VLAWMO does not have the budget or man power for this study at the moment. At the June partner meetings, it was agreed that there could be potential for trying this out but there are many things that would need to be worked out and we wouldn't know if it is a truly viable option for a few years. So partners agreed to move ahead with pursuing grants for alum treatment and keep discussing spent lime as an alternative.

**Discussion:** Jones is intrigued by this idea and would like to pursue it. Stephanie spoke with Greg Wilson about this some more and he feels we could treat West Goose with this and test the effects. Jones would like to add another \$10,000 to the earlier approval to have Barr investigate the use of spent lime on West Goose. This would bring the total amount approved tonight to \$20,000.

It was moved by Jones and seconded by Nyblom to approve an additional \$10,000 to study the use of spent lime as a nutrient reduction option. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

## C. 2018 Budget – Resolution 01-2017

The proposed budget recommended by the Finance committee for 2018 shows an increase from 2017 of \$44,960 which includes \$20,000 of approved grant funding for the Whitaker Wetlands. Removing the Whitaker wetland grant funding the percent increase for 2018 is 6.6%. The grant funding is to cover costs of the first year of monitoring of our treatment wetlands at Whitaker. The amount is an estimate but covered by the LCCMR grant. The storm sewer utility (SSU) fees remain the main source of VLAWMO funding. Rates are proposed to be going up about 6.97%. In 2017 VLAWMO has moved substantially toward a self-sustaining budget that doesn't rely on reserves to subsidize the budgeted expense. Final SSU rates will be available in the August Board materials using updated parcel data and the approved budget. VLAWMO SSU fees remain lower than the taxes charged by our neighboring watersheds.

VLAWMO increased the amount of work accomplished in 2016- 2017 with the GIS watershed technician staff position and the Education and Outreach coordinator. Elements of the new Water Plan are incorporated into this budget. We have several projects in 2017 and 2018 that have leveraged grant funding and partner contributions. \$400,000 (LCCMR grant for Whitaker) +

\$263,000 grant and partner funding for Sucker channel restoration + \$52,000 in State grant money through Ramsey CD for the Kohler streambank stabilization = \$715,000. That literally doubles our budget.

Increases were in areas of IT support, a new office lease, health insurance, and subwatershed priorities. Decreases were in Community Blue grant funds, postponing the Deep Lake feasibility study, project research, maintenance and plan review funding. Please look at the Footnotes for the 2018 budget for further detail.

The Policy and Personnel and the Finance committee have considered the draft 2018 budget and are recommending it with no funding transferred from reserves.

In summary, the total proposed budget is \$715,900 including \$20,000 of the Whitaker Wetland budget. The non-grant project 2018 budget would be \$695,900 compared to the 2017 budget of \$650,140. We will not know the final 2017 expenditures until February 2019.

**Discussion:** Prudhon asked if there were any items that could be trimmed or postponed. Stephanie responded that all budget items were evaluated and trimmed where possible.

Nyblom asked about the \$54,000 in the landscape grant program and this money could be better spent on ditch maintenance. Staff explained the popularity of the landscape grant programs and that they are both an educational tool as well as a water quality benefit. Lindner stated that he feels these programs are important and he feels it is a disservice to not have it. Jones stated that Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed has a very competitive grant program. He considers it is an effective marketing tool. The program is spreading best management practices & stewardship.

Nyblom said that if the budget is approved tonight and in a month we get information regarding costs for ditch maintenance, would we be locked into not being able to fund the work? Lindner said that our budget lacks a contingency fund to handle emergencies such as a storm causing damage that needs to be dealt with.

Nyblom also asked what the money in the Gilfillan-Tamarack-Black budget item was for. Stephanie said that was for the increased monitoring in Wilkinson and possibly planning for a BMP. Nyblom asked about the Birch Lake line item. Stephanie stated that is for a project that will be discussed a little later in the agenda.

Jones recommended a 5% increase over the proposed help fund a plan for our bigger projects. This would be roughly a \$35,000 increase to the budget. Prudhon agreed saying that the effects of the increase are relatively small and the reality is that water and projects are expensive.

Jones stated that our budget and SSU rates stayed low through the recession and current increases are reflection of the cost of business. The Chair noted that the earlier study approvals add \$20,000 to the budget and with an additional \$35,000 for ditch management (Lambert Creek subwatershed) which would bring the budget to \$771,400.

Stephanie explained that if they don't approve a budget tonight, we will have to have a special meeting in September in order to develop the 2018 SSU rates.

It was moved by Jones and seconded by Prudon to approve Resolution 01-2017 regarding the approval of the 2018 budget for \$771,400. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**Resolution 01-2017**

Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)

**Approving the 2018 Budget**

The Board of Directors of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization met in a regular meeting at the Vadnais Heights City Hall on Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017 at 7:00 o'clock p.m.

The following members were present:

Jones, Lindner, Nyblom, Prudhon

The following members were absent: Rafferty, Long

Resolution 01-2017 was moved by Director Jones and seconded by Director Prudhon :

**Whereas**, the Board of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization has considered the 2018 draft Budget as recommended by the Finance Committee, the Technical Commission and the attendant information. The 2018 budget and footnotes are attached to this Resolution, and

**Whereas**, the income and expenses of the for the 2018 budget, inclusive of grant funding for the Whitaker Wetlands project received will be \$771,400.

**Therefore** be it resolved that the 2018 Budget, dated 7-12-2017 is approved.

Vote: Aye: 4  
Nay: 0; Abstain: 0

**D. Whitaker Treatment Wetlands construction contract**

At the April meeting the Board authorized proceeding with the RFP for the Whitaker Treatment Wetlands construction and to have staff bring a contractor recommendation to the next Board meeting. Six bids were received for the project ranging from \$217,250 to \$354,000. The engineer's estimated cost was \$247,000.

Staff asked our engineers, Burns & McDonnell, to conduct an evaluation of the bids received and to give a letter of recommendation for the lowest qualified bidder. Attached you will find the *VLAWMO Bid Recommendation Memorandum* which also includes the breakdown of each bid.

VLAWMO staff, along with our engineer Burns & McDonnell, recommend approval of the low bidder, Belair Builders, Inc. as the Whitaker Treatment Wetlands construction contractor.

*Staff requests approval to of the contract with Belair Builders for the Whitaker Treatment Wetlands construction at a cost not to exceed \$217,250.*

**Discussion:** Prudhon asked when it will start. Corcoran stated they would want to break ground October 2 and would be completed in 4-6 weeks.

It was moved by Jones and seconded by Lindner to approve the hiring of Belair Builders with a proposal of \$217,250 to perform the construction of the Whitaker Treatment Wetlands project. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**VI. Operations and Administration - Reports**

**A. TEC Report to the Board**

Mark Graham, TEC Chair, summarized activities from the TEC.

Graham stated that the City bears some of the responsibility for the maintenance of the ditch and they will be working on cleaning the ditch and working with VLAWMO staff.

**B. Finance**

The financial picture is in reasonable shape. While reserves remain low, they are proving adequate. The Whitaker treatment wetland grant has paid out twice and the Kohler project grant funding is expected shortly. Receiving these payments allows VLAWMO to pay incoming bills on current work. The first payment of the Storm sewer utility fees for 2017 is anticipated the first week of July from Ramsey and Anoka Counties. Requested and received was a \$50,000 advance in May to make sure we had enough to cover June bills. In reviewing the bank statements for the June report it became apparent that our long-time municipal savings account at US Bank was no longer a good financial instrument for VLAWMO. We were earning, on average, \$0.24/month on \$58,000 and the bank had started charging a \$5/month service charge. After talking to the banker, I had them roll those funds into VLAWMO's checking account. So now instead of 0.00498%, the funds will be earning 0.56% interest with no \$5 service charge. The TEC report shows no funds in the Reserve Savings. The account has been closed. The money is in the 4M and 4M Plus accounts.

Also of note, is that our bookkeeper of the last year has accepted a new job for the City of Afton and is no longer with VLAWMO. After talking over the options with Kristine and our auditor, Chris Knopik, we plan to try the bookkeeping in house. The June report is our first effort and I think it is going well so far. Your comments or requests for information are welcome.

C. Project Updates

1. Sucker Channel restoration project

The Joint Powers Agreement between VLAWMO, Ramsey County Parks, Ramsey Conservation District, and the St. Paul Regional Water Service has been approved and signed by all the respective Boards and the project is now in the final planning phases and should go out for bid this summer and construction to begin in the fall.

2. Birch Lake

Staff received the technical memo from Barr Engineering regarding the installation of a BMP at the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> and Otter Lake Road which outlets to Birch Lake.

*Staff requests approval from the Board to pursue grant opportunities to help fund this project.*

It was moved by Lindner and seconded by Prudhon to direct staff to pursue working with partners and applying for grants to help fund this project. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

D. Education and Outreach

1. Community Outreach Update

Events: VLAWMO held a booth at the Saint Paul Regional Water Service (SPRWS) open house, the Vadnais Heights Economic Development Expo, the North Oaks Community Fair, and the White Bear Lake Water Symposium (school district). Nick presented VLAWMO's activities, opportunities, and data on Birch Lake to the Birch Lake Improvement District (BLID) annual meeting.

Partnerships: Sunrise Park Middle School, Urgency Room/Allina Nurses, and Eagle Scouts have been active in Storm drain Stenciling. Macroinvertebrate (water bugs) workshops have taken place with AFSA high school, Vadnais Heights summer day camp, and the WaterJourney summer camp (Hamline University). Public water bugs workshops are in planning stages.

Raingarden Clean-ups: Recent raingarden clean-ups have taken place with help from students and Watershed Action Volunteers (WAV) members. Maintained gardens included Vadnais Heights Elementary, Lakeaires Elementary, Gem Lake Heritage Hall, and Children's Discovery Academy.

2. Storm pond/wetland buffers

A series of documents have been developed in an effort to create understanding on buffers and policies pertaining to them in the VLAWMO Water Plan. Each document pertains to various audiences with varying degrees of detail, creating a gradient of ways to become more familiar with the water policy. Target audiences include the public, city staff and select city officials and developers.

E. Landscape Level 2 Grant Application Considerations

1. L2-2017-01: Pines of North Oaks

The Pines of North Oaks (LL2-2017-01) is a home association within North Oaks and they are asking for assistance to upgrade their existing irrigation system on their property from a conventional controller to a "smart" controllers which monitors daily weather conditions and provides adjustments to the system. They will be using two different types of "smart" controllers. There are 7 irrigation zones on the property. They plan to install the Rainbird IQ system at two most heavily used zones which they expect will reduce water use by 20-40%; the other five locations will use a Wireless Solar Sync system will provide 10-15% water use reduction. Cost of the Rainbird system is \$6555 each while the Solar system will cost \$410 for each for the other 5 zone. If the Rainbird systems are as successful as they predict, they

hope it will convince the association to invest in more of them – not only from a financial standpoint (they claim that their water bill is one of their largest expenses) but also for the positive environmental impact as well. The total cost of this project is \$15,165 and they are requesting a grant of \$11,375. The TEC recommends approval of this grant for \$10,000. It was moved by Lindner and seconded by Prudhon to approve L2-2017-01 in the amount of \$10,000. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

2. Cabin 61 (LL2-2017-02) is the site of what was formally known as “The Little Bar” on West Goose Lake. The business entity that owns the property is Little Goose Development Corp which is made up of members of the Ski Otters Club. They have done extensive work to rehabilitate the bar and restaurant, as well as the rental cottages next door. They would like to work on the landscape now and implement projects that will capture most of the stormwater runoff that would otherwise go into West Goose. They are working with HabAdapt which is a landscaping company that has done other successful projects in the watershed. They have initial designs and will be finalizing their plans and completing the installation later this summer and fall.

The grant would be used for approximately 4000 sq ft of shoreline buffer plantings and 700-1000 sq ft of raingardens. The applicant has expressed their desire to do their part to help enhance West Goose Lake, which is one of our impaired waters and is a priority for restoration for the watershed.

The applicant expects to spend \$30,000 on this project and are asking for a \$20,000 grant. The TEC recommends approval of this grant for \$20,000.

**Discussion:** Nyblom thinks \$20,000 for a grant to a commercial business is a lot. Jones stated that the ownership group is the Ski Otters and he does not appreciate what they have done to the public shoreline to the south including adding sand to the shore which continuously erodes into the lake. So for them to ask for money to enhance the piece of land they own is duplicitous. Lindner stated that the public sees the strip of land that they have destroyed and not the area that they now own.

It was moved by Prudhon and seconded by Nyblom to deny L2-2017-02 in the amount of \$20,000. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

**VII. Discussion**

**A. Agenda**

Jones discussed how he would like the agenda changed in the future. He would add an item called Visitors and Presentations further up the agenda.

Nyblom said that we could consider using grant funds for ditch maintenance.

**VIII. Administration Communication**

**IX. Public Comment**

**X. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Lindner and seconded by Jones to adjourn at 9:27pm. Vote: all aye. Motion passed.

Minutes compiled and submitted by Kristine Jenson.