

Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Location: Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG), Auburn, Maine

Time: Meeting began at 3:33 PM

Recording: The meeting was recorded.

Commissioners Present: Evan Cyr, Dale Doughty, Caleb Roebuck, Amy Landry, Camille Parrish and Dan Bilodeau

Commissioners Absent: Alicia Rea, Alan Holbrook, Steve French

Others Present: Sid Hazelton and Kevin Gagne, LAWPC Clerks, Michael Broadbent LAWPC Secretary, Erica Kidd Watershed Manager and Mary Ann Brenchick in-coming Lewiston Commissioner.

Agenda Item 1: Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 14, 2021

Vote 1 – On a motion by Commissioner Cyr and seconded by Commissioner Parrish to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Passed 6-0

Agenda Item 2: Quarterly Financial Update – Heather Hunter

The financial update was tabled with the absence of Heather Hunter.

Agenda Item 3: Presentation from Attorney Jim Pross – Jim Pross

Jim Pross presented on the Rights and Responsibilities of the Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission. Jim had prepared handouts of his presentation that he made available to all those present at the meeting. Jim also referenced the recently prepared Commissioner Handbook that was prepared by staff. This document covers most of what Jim presented on.

Agenda Item 4: Water Quality Update and Activity Report – Erica Kidd

Erica reported that the courtesy boat inspections have begun for the season. This is a volunteer program; the Commission has been conducting these inspections for a number of years. We are able to re-coup funds through a MDIFW Grant Program. We currently have one boat

inspector hired and are looking for a second for the summer season. Erica reported that she has advertised for the Education and Outreach Coordinator position vacancy. She hopes to have this position filled as soon as possible. Erica reported that she has applied for grant funds for the Southern Link Trail. Erica reported that the water quality in Lake Auburn was good. Turbidity and secci disk readings all look good for this time of year. There were several water quality graphs included in the packets that Erica went over with the Commissioners. She also reported that we lost the last two rounds of phosphorus data due to an error made at the State Lab. New samples have been collected and sent for analysis. Erica also went over a document that she has created that has summarized all of the studies of the Lake and Watershed. This document focuses on the recommendations of each study and the status of those recommendations.

Agenda Item 5: Request from Perkins Ridge Snow Travelers to bypass the Middle and South Gates on Whitman Spring Road. – Sid Hazelton

This request was discussed at the last Commission meeting. The discussion was tabled and staff was directed to develop a map. Auburn Water staff prepared a map showing the section of the Whitman Spring Road that the Perkins Ridge Snow Travelers (PRST) has requested access for the purpose of passage of the snow groomer. Commissioners reviewed the map and discussed several points that they would like incorporated into a written agreement with the PRST. The Commission asked the Clerks if they felt comfortable drafting the agreement and bringing it before the Board at the next meeting.

Vote 2 – On a motion by Commissioner Landry and seconded by Commissioner Cyr to authorize the Commission Clerks to develop a written agreement between LAWPCA and PRST. This agreement will be renewed annually, require PRST to provide a padlock that can be daisy chained to the middle and south gates and the agreement should include a revocation procedure.

Passed 5-0 with 1 abstention(Dan Bilodeau)

Agenda Item 6: Land Negotiation – Executive Session regarding negotiations of potential land transactions in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C).

Vote 3 – On a motion by Commissioner Cyr and seconded by Commissioner Roebuck to go into executive session in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C).

Passed 6-0

Chair Doughty brought the meeting out of Executive session at 5:43pm

Agenda Item 7: Open Session – Public

There were no members of the public present at the meeting. The open session was closed with no discussion.

Agenda Item 8: Open Session – Commissioners

Commissioner Cyr brought up a previous conversation of creating Rules of Order for the Commission. Commissioner Cyr referenced the recently distributed Commissioner Packets. He feels there are additional items needed and would like to have this as an agenda item to discuss further.

Commissioner Bilodeau asked that staff work closely with the City regarding water quality. Specifically he would like the water quality data that was discussed at tonight's meeting be distributed to the City of Auburn Planning Board.

Sid asked the Commissioners if they would like to review the By-laws for the protection of Lake Auburn. It was agreed that the Commissioners would like to review and discuss the By-laws. Sid will distribute the By-laws for the Commissioners to review.

Sid also reported that on June 22 there will be a presentation at Auburn City Hall on the results of the City's study of Lake Auburn.

Commissioner Doughty reported that his seat on the Commission will be passed on to Mary Ann Brenchick who is the new Public Works Director in Lewiston. The Commission will need to appoint a new chair at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 9: Adjourn Meeting.

Vote 4 – On a motion by Commissioner Cyr and seconded by Commissioner Parrish to adjourn the meeting.

Passed 6-0

A true record, attest;



Michael Broadbent
Secretary of the LAWPC

