

LAKE KAMPESKA WATER PROJECT DISTRICT

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DISTRICT

WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA

APRIL 24, 2018

7:00 O'CLOCK P.M.

The directors of the Lake Kampeska Water Project District hosted the annual meeting of the district. Members of the board of directors present at the meeting were: Paul I. Hinderaker, Gregory K. Blow, John C. Wiles, Doug Modica, Secretary-Treasurer Paula R. Newman, as well as several members of the District and the public.

Paul I. Hinderaker acted as chairman of the meeting, and Paula R. Newman acted as secretary.

The first order of business was approval of the minutes of the last annual last annual meeting on April 24, 2017. Upon motion made, seconded, and carried without opposition, the minutes were approved.

The Secretary-Treasurer presented the financial report.

The reading of the Treasurer's report sparked discussion about the District's funds earmarked for the City of Watertown Flood Risk Management Feasibility Study. Mayor Sarah Caron reported that she recently met with a representative of U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and Senator John Thune concerning the dam project. The project needs appropriation from the United States Congress to move forward. Thune pledged to write a letter in support of funding.

Mayor Sarah Caron presented a program to report on the City of Watertown's activity and interest with respect to lake and city projects:

- A. Watertown's H2020 Committee Efforts. Attached to these minutes is an outline of information presented.
- B. Development Permit Request. Bob Drake recently renewed his request for a permit to dredge a channel at Hidden Valley. His request is subject to review by several agencies before a permit may be issued. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers approved the proposal, but South Dakota Game Fish & Parks denied the request. GF&P denied the request based on its opinion there are no suitable high quality wetlands available for mitigation. GF&P stated they would consider a mitigation proposal but were not aware of a suitable location.
- C. Potential New Flood Mapping. FEMA is doing a discovery in our area, which includes preliminary mapping of possible additional floodplains which may be added to flood mapping in our area. The map shows few changes with most of the changes being northeast of Lake Kampeska and S. D. Highway 20 near the Big Sioux River. Mayor Caron remarked the discovery is important for development in and near Watertown in order avoid future developments being detrimentally affected by future flood mapping that pulls newly developed property into mandatory flood insurance zones.
- D. Big Sioux River Modeling. South Dakota Department of Energy and Natural Resources has funded a project to do modeling of the Big Sioux

River, using LIDAR, which stands for Light Detection and Ranging, in its surveys. The mayor indicated the LIDAR data will be useful in predicting the effects of flooding as well as the effects of flood control efforts.

- E. Bike Trail. Lake Kampeska bike trail completion estimates are in. The project is estimated at just under \$2,000,000.00. The project will not be completed soon, but the City has hired a consultant for planning purposes. She commented it may be possible to complete a couple of segments by the end of this year.
- F. 20 Year Anniversary of Rip-Rap Projects. Around Lake Kampeska, FEMA shoreline stabilization contracts from the late 1990's are beginning to expire, relieving landowners from the maintenance provisions under the contracts. The mayor expressed her opinion that the rip-rap projects have performed better over 20 years than other shoreline stabilization methods.
- G. Spring Water Levels. Lake Kampeska and the Big Sioux River have peaked for the spring and are predicted to begin receding. The National Weather Service offers a mapping app that shows flooding levels.
- H. Downstream Weir. The weir downstream of Lake Kampeska was repaired, but erosion of newly packed soil has been a problem. The City has been refilling soil and sod to keep the structure intact. It is hoped that as vegetation fills in this year, the soil will be stabilized. She also said stop logs were removed from the weir and water is down, but the battle against erosion and breach will be continuing project.
- I. Water Quality Weir. The gates on the water quality weir at the inlet-outlet of Lake Kampeska are usually closed. However, preparations are being made to open the gates to allow lake levels to be lowered to a more normal level. She added the State Water Board establishes rules for operation of the gates, and that Watertown Municipal Utilities acts as a neutral reporter of conditions and also operates the gates.

Greg Blow addressed development at the lake, referring to the District's opposition to proposed development at Stony Pont two years ago. He stated the District is not opposed to development, but was opposed to the particular plan proposed at that time.

Discussion was held about reasons water levels in Lake Kampeska are high this spring, despite dry winter conditions.

An attendee recognized Roger Foote for his quick response to the attendee's recent concerns about ice jams on Willow Creek. Mayor Caron commented that the City of Watertown is asking FEMA to take another look at the Willow Creek area for purposes of responsible development near flood zones.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned.

Paula R. Newman
Secretary

Terms of directors:

2017-2020 Wiles, Johnson
2016-2019 Roby, Modica, Blow
2018-2020 Messerli , _____, (to be appointed)

Developing a Vision for Lake Kampeska

The 2012 H2O-20 Vision Plan concluded that Lake Kampeska is Watertown's most underutilized asset.

Residents want a cleaner lake with greater access and more recreational options for both residents and visitors.

H2O-20 Plan Goal #4: vibrant cultural and recreational amenities

Objectives-

- Provide residents and visitors with a clean and amenity-rich Lake Kampeska.
- Maximize the economic impact of our cultural and recreational assets.
- Develop new facilities and events that improve entertainment and recreation options in Watertown.
- Provide necessary amenities to meet the varied interests of residents and visitors.

Strategic Actions-

- *Develop a marina and system of boardwalks at Lake Kampeska that can serve as a home for new entertainment and recreational uses.*

"When asked what kinds of amenities they would like to see at Lake Kampeska, residents frequently mentioned a place for boats to dock and enjoy waterfront dining; a place to rent jet skis, canoes, kayaks, and other equipment; and piers for fishing. The development of a multi-purpose marina and system of boardwalks could support such uses. A small above-water boardwalk could be constructed in rather shallow areas, allowing greater access for fishing to those without a boat, while providing a new lake-front amenity. The boardwalk could potentially connect to one or more of the aforementioned man-made islands. A marina could complement the boardwalk, seeking anchor establishments such as a restaurant and an equipment rental business. The City could work with private property owners, the state, and other relevant partners to identify potential locations for such a development, with recent and planned future investments at Stokes-Thomas Lake City Park serving as a potential starting point."
From Vision Plan

- *Complete the planning and construction of a dam*
- *Remove algae-generating phosphates to increase the attractiveness of Lake Kampeska.*
- *Dredge Lake Kampeska and create a small man-made island(s).*

Focus Groups Tried.

Progress was minimal.

We need help meeting the objectives and taking strategic action.

Lake Kampeska Master Plan Project

Consultant will

- Review existing comprehensive land use plan and zoning ordinances to assess whether adequate for current uses and to propose changes where appropriate to accommodate proposed uses.
- Make recommendations for incorporating surrounding wetlands and/or in lake enhancements for fishery improvements to habitat. Consultation with qualified fish biologist a must.
- Identify opportunities for public amenities to include but not limited to:
 - Bike pullout/services
 - Fish cleaning stations
 - Wedding venue
 - Public access areas, enhancements
 - Park enhancements (biological and structural)
- Review information on marina proposals and make recommendations.
- Review current water management strategies and make recommendations.
- Review strategies for water quality improvements including in-lake reduction of nutrients and environmental impacts related to development/redevelopment and make recommendations.
- Establish a dredging strategy.
- Cost/benefit analysis to the City of Watertown and residents.
- Meet all applicable federal, state and local requirements and standards.