

Lake DeSmet Advisory Board Meeting
April 18, 2018
11:30AM

Board Members Present: Mike Whitaker, Commissioner Bob Rolston, Bert Jellison, Jim Fennema, Joe Kalus, Paul Mavrakis, Dave Belus

Operating Department Personnel Present: Cheryl Benner, Harvey Crowe

Public in attendance: Dayton Alsaker, Pierson Hodgens, Dick Hall, Shannon Anderson, Stephen Dow

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 by Chairman Whitaker. Chairman Whitaker asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Rolston moved and Mr. Kalus seconded that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

Ms. Benner submitted a department report.


- The elevation of the lake on April 1, 2018 was 4609.40. Tunnel is not open yet as there is still ice on the lake.
- Trespass issue has been resolved.
- Bill passed the Wyoming Legislature to purchase Healy reservoir and associated water rights for \$2.5M. Additional \$2M allocated for O&M account.
- Ms. Benner met with the county attorney and Mr. Crowe to discuss the water contracted. Commissioner Greenough also sat in on the meeting. Kirven's office destroyed all Lake DeSmet related documents in 2016.
- Ms. Benner attended the Lower Piney Water Users meeting February 12.
- Commissioner Greenough and Ms. Benner met with John Mumm from the BOC regarding the water order spreadsheet. Minor corrections will be made.
- Two members of the public asked if fishing access could be improved on the south dam for some of the older fishermen. Mr. Mavrakis suggested a simple hand railing would be a simple addition to help access.

Board terms were discussed. Chairman Whitaker, Mr. Mavrakis, Mr. Belus, and Mr. Fennema's terms are up, and all are willing to serve another term. Chairman Whitaker asked the public in attendance if they had any interest in serving on the board. Mr. Belus moved and Commissioner Rolston seconded a motion to continue with the current slate of officers. Motion carried.

Commissioner Rolston did inform the Board that he will not be running for re-election, so the Sheridan County Commissioners may appoint a different representative after January 1.

Mr. Fennema gave an update on the Leiter Ditch project and provided a tentative schedule. They hope to begin construction in August, and may carry over into 2019. All funding necessary has been secured. 1850 feet of 78-inch pipe and a new head gate will be installed, and the entire ditch will be cleaned. Ditch capacity will be 300 cfs.

As there was no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM with a motion from Mr. Belus and a second from Mr. Kalus. Motion carried.


Michael Whitaker, Chairman