

Lake DeSmet Advisory Board Meeting
January 12, 2022
1:00 PM

Board Members Present: Mike Whitaker, Joe Kalus, Jim Fennema, Bob Rolston, Dave Belus, Nathan Lindsey, Paul Mavrakis by phone
Operating Department Personnel Present: Cheryl Benner, Linda Greenough
Public in attendance: County Attorney Tucker Ruby, Dick Hall, Dennis Lawrence, Kevin Michelena

The meeting was called to order at 1:01PM by Chairman Whitaker. Chairman Whitaker asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2021 meeting. Mr. Belus moved and Mr. Rolston seconded that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

Ms. Benner reported the following:

- The elevation of the lake January, 2022 was 4608.78.
- J.F. Brennan Co. did on site assessment on October 26. RVU sent down to try and inspect butterfly valves, but hoses were too short. Inspected the entire system, and they suggested we start with the hydraulic system. If not hydraulics, then may be actuator. If actuator ok then the butterfly valve is leaking. Important to fix leaking gate.
- Spencer Fluid Power sent hydraulic technician from Gillette to inspect hydraulic system at outlet house. He stated that the hydraulic system appeared to be in good shape and suggested installing ball valve on the line to the drifting butterfly valve. Also thought that the pump may not be putting out as much power as it should. Will research pump for parts, filters, etc.
- DEQ advised of Harmful Cyanobacterial Bloom on north shore of Lake DeSmet on November 30, 2021. Issue has resolved after freeze. First time it has been an issue at the lake.
- Mike, Jim, Dave, Paul terms up spring 2022. Advertise February 24, appoint March 15.
- Overview of Lake DeSmet presentation January 19, 2022 5:30PM at the Johnson County Planning office.

Mr. Fennema asked about filling through the winter if drought continues. Ms. Benner said she would visit with the other operating department members about the matter.

Revised shoreline regulations were presented. Mr. Belus moved to accept the revised regulations. Mr. Rolston seconded the motion. During discussion County Attorney Ruby gave an overview of the changes. The most significant change was allowing a process for adjacent landowners to request permission from the county to disturb or alter the County's property below the 4620. Mr. Belus questioned if the "no fireworks" regulation would be enforced. County Attorney Ruby advised the board that these regulations give law enforcement teeth if a fire starts as a result of the fireworks, but they likely won't be heavy handed in the enforcement. Chairman Whitaker asked when the revised regulations would go to the Commissioners. County Attorney Ruby stated as soon as they were approved by the Advisory Board. Mr. Lawrence asked when the regulations would be approved. The state statute for rule changes was explained to Mr. Lawrence. County Attorney

Ruby reminded the public that the county does not have to approve any requests that come before them, but it will allow them to do so. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rolston moved to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation. Mr. Belus seconded the motion. Board went into executive session at 2:00PM.

Regular meeting resumed at 2:25PM. Next meeting was set for April 20 at 1PM at the Johnson County Commissioners chambers.

Mr. Belus moved and Mr. Rolston seconded to adjourn the meeting at 2:45PM. Motion carried.


Michael Whitaker, Chairman