



Minutes of the 8/15/2017 Meeting

The August meeting of the Lake Housatonic Authority was held at the VRPA offices in the Derby train station.

Members Present

Ames, Scott (Oxford)
Behuniak, Paul (Seymour)
Blanchard, Sandy (Shelton)
Stahl, Mike (Derby)
Zitnay, David (Derby)

Members Absent

Manion, Tim (Shelton)

Also present was Ed Baclawski, LHAMP Chief and Dr. Mark June-Wells, from AER.

The Chairman, Mike Stahl, called the meeting to order at 7:28 p.m. and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC PORTION:

No public present

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

The minutes for the July 2017 meeting was presented to the board for approval.

Motion to accept the July 2017 meeting minutes as presented:

Motion: Behuniak Second: Blanchard Vote: Unanimous

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer, Sandy Blanchard, presented the August treasurer's report. The Treasurer noted that all the town had approved full funding with the exception of Derby which was \$900 under budget. The funds from the Town of Oxford have already been received. All bills are up to date.

GUEST PRESENTATION:

Dr. Mark June-Wells from Aquatic Ecosystem Research (AER) gave a brief presentation on his firm and what they can offer the LHA in regards to lake management. In particular help with reviewing the results from the survey and how to address the weed and algae issue.

Dr. June-Wells also educated the board on different methods of mitigating weeds and the pros and cons of each. He explained that using chemicals to kill weeds similar to done on Lake Zoar can potentially cause the issue of the blue-green algae blooms. When weeds die off naturally it's a slow process. When weeds are removed by a harvester they are taken out of the water. But when

chemicals are used you get a mass killing and the overabundance of dead weeds on the lake bed can fuel the algae blooms. He suggested that chemistry may be the answer but it must be managed properly. He also discussed how residents could create inexpensive Benton barriers on their water front.

Dr. June-Wells was extremely helpful and very informative. The board thanked him for his time and he excused himself from the meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Patrol:

Chief Baclawski reported that patrols were going well. There was some issue with a battery and they have had problems with weeds in the intake of the engines. Patrols would be reduced to one boat after Labor Day and would end after the October regatta.

Water Quality:

The July sample was taken and the August sample is scheduled to be taken later this week. This year's data hasn't been analyzed closely but a quick review indicates it is typical to previous year's.

Weed Harvester:

The harvester has been running hard with two operators. Typically at least four loads a day. The dump truck is running 2 full loads a day. The harvester is running at maximum capacity but is having little impact on the weeds.

Vessels and Equipment:

The boards need to be put back on the dump truck in order to get a full load. The new patrol boat is not running right and was out of commission for the fireworks display.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Insurance

The insurance program is on track with all renewals to be via the Miller agency. The LHA is currently fully insured and all lapsed policies have been replaced.

Water Survey

The first survey is complete. The second survey will be conducted in the fall. The report will be ready late November.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Patrol Boat

The board discussed the purchase of a replacement patrol boat. Money had been appropriated and put into a capital expense account specifically for that purpose. Currently the LHAMP has a 1998 and 2007 Skiff. The nearly 20 year old Skiff is long overdue for replacement. The board reviewed a quote and brochure for a 19ft Sundance with a 90hp mercury. The board will continue to research options and get other estimates.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence received since July was made available for the Board to review.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

None at this time

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn the August meeting.

Motion: Blanchard Second: Behuniak Vote: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Ames
Secretary - LHA

These minutes are subject to approval.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LAKE HOUSATONIC AUTHORITY IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER, 19, 2017, AT THE VRPA OFFICES IN THE DERBY RR STATION AT 7:30 P.M.