

Sylvan Lakes Metropolitan District Board Meeting 6/21/2014 4:00 PM  
Lake County Public Library – Amax Room

Board Members Present:

Irv Tracy

Ginny Peros

Greg Conway

Via phone:

Jerry Vargo

Absent: Alan Agee

Attendees:

Ante Peros

Dick Reed

Pete Prestari

Lance Hooper

Diana & Reed Ruck

Mark Oliver

Tracey Branch

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM

Minutes: From 5/24/2014 approved as corrected – not Irving Tracy but Irv Tracy.  
We still have not received the minutes from the previous meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as of 6/16/2014 \$42,781.07

See attached transaction report

Irv Tracy made a motion to pay \$5,000.00 towards paying off the lakes. A discussion ensued about expenditures and interest rates. The \$10,000 that was paid in January 2014 was to pay down the principal. There will still be \$15,000 due in September of this year. Subject dropped for now – Irv and Ante will get together to discuss options. The amortization tables on this loan are attached to help clarify.

New Business:

Greg asked to discuss helping Lance Hooper obtain a better weather "tracker. He has gathered detailed weather information for the last 5 years or more that will help us confirm important data for a water augmentation plan. It comprises 79 detailed pages. He really needs a better machine and Greg is going to make a motion for the SLPOA to help pay for a better one – or should we split the cost? The new system will be about \$600.00. Discussion will resume after the SLPOA meeting next Saturday.

Old Business:

- Mosquito Spraying: Ginny has contacted Colorado Mosquito Control several times. Rob has returned her calls and promised that they could do the job before July 4<sup>th</sup>. She has requested a bid and a chance to talk in person as the mosquitoes are getting bad! She looked on line for other providers and found none. She will also call Lake County about if they are spraying this year. \$1,000 has been allocated for mosquito control.

Stagnate ponds are mosquito breeding ground. Mosquitos can fly 2 to 5 miles but will keep coming back in just a few days. Mosquito brickets for stagnant water areas are available on line or any kind of oil will smother the larvae –corn oil is best environmentally. Ginny will call Jackie Littlepage, Lake County Public Health, and check to make sure the oil is not damaging to the environment. The District will send out an e-mail to inform residents how to help themselves and the community. Irv Tracy pointed out that this was a point defense. If each property owner takes care of their own mosquito problems it will benefit all of us.

- Water

Ginny gave an overview of the water issues and the meetings that have taken place over the last few months. The lake “headgates” will not be unlocked this year or any other year until we have a water augmentation plan. We need to hire a Professional Engineer to help us plan the best strategy to get water and create our own water augmentation plan. Our best bet is to work with Lake County for storage water, or we could lease or buy water from the Pueblo or Aurora Water Authorities. We could also look into doing a Temporary Substitute Water Supply Plan. The Leadville Golf course has been using this process for over 20 years.

Meeting with Water Commissioners Brian Sutton and Gary Hanks. They were very positive about the work we have done so far as to getting water in our lakes and our attempts to find a permanent solution. They stated that they could require us to drain the lakes – even take out the lakes with heavy equipment. Since we, in good faith, are working out solutions they will work with us and give us time to finish this. Gary Hanks emphasized that Lake County wants to work locally and that we are their best bet as well. The only problem being their water augmentation plan might take years to finalize.

Greg and Ante met with 2 members of the BOCC – Mike Bordogna and Bruce Hix (a professional engineer). They were positive about the storage in the lakes but would need to submit this to their engineers. Minutes from this meeting are attached.

Pete Prestarri brought up the point that we should just forget about the lakes as they are a lot of trouble and expense. It was pointed out that it is very important to keep the aquifer for wells and property values. Reed Ruck did say we could buy water but it would be expensive. We have asked for him to give us a presentation of expenses and water information.

Our main goal is to work with Lake County and until they have their water augmentation plan together we could try to lease water.

A letter from Brian Sutton, District 11 Water Commissioner, was read as he had several great ideas as to what our options might be. Copy is attached to the minutes.

Ginny made a motion to have Irv investigate the Pueblo board of water and the Arkansas Water Coalition to lease/purchase availability and expense. Reed Ruck said he would help. Greg seconded and all were in favor.

Greg made a motion to authorize that Ginny and Ante find Professional Engineers or water experts and get bids on helping us make water decisions. Irv seconded all in favor. We need to know exactly what is required in water rights for evaporative loss: i.e. surface volume and evaporation at our altitude, etc.... as well as what capital improvements might be necessary to do water storage. This would include head gate improvements and actually creating deeper lakes for more storage. Dick provided a name of a woman who works at the Lake County Public Library who would be interested in helping. She just earned an engineering degree. Mike Conlin provided 3 names and numbers of Professional Engineers who have worked in the area.

We have some springs feeding the lakes but we need to figure flow volume and create a water right that could be used for credit – would that be worth it. Another question to ask would be about an agricultural water law that “reservoirs” less than 10 feet deep do not require water rights.

Irv made a motion to have Greg send out his private informative primer on the water of Sylvan Lakes and the current water issues as an e-mail. Jerry Vargo seconded with the addendum that he helps edit the final copy before it is sent. Ginny seconded and all were in favor. A copy of this letter is attached.

Greg will be the focal point for all information.

#### Internet:

Pete Prestarri gave an update on High Speed Internet through Century Link. They are running the fiber optic cable from the cross box at the Homestake Trout Club all the way to us. Other subdivisions and concerned neighbors have been contacted to increase the volume of people who want this service in hopes that it would reduce the cost to individuals. Century Link will be at the SLPOA meeting on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> at the Oesterle’s house at noon and will be first on the agenda. The next step is a system that competes with cable called PRISM: TV, high speed internet and phones.

#### Public Comment:

The question was brought up as to why there are 2 entities – SLMD and SLPOA. The Metro District is a small government, taxing entity that is limited to it’s service plan.

The SLPOA is a non-profit, voluntary group that focuses on community needs. This is comparable to a County Library and a Friends of the Library group. The friends can raise money and expend funds on projects without having to jump through the hoops that government entities are required to perform. Reed Ruck brought up the fact that our mill levy is really low and would need to go up to cover the expensive issues of creating a water augmentation plan. This brought up the issue that our population is varied and some people feel that the mill levy is already too high vs. Reed's opinion that it is too low!

Mark Oliver asked who had been cutting wood on his property. His renter is not very happy with this. It should be brought up at the SLPOA meeting. He also stated that the small bridge going over the creek on his property needs to come down. It is sagging dangerously and is a huge liability for him. Pete Prestarri mentioned that County Road 20 has an easement across that creek. Mark Oliver argued that it is his easement. They will try to figure out whose easement it is. Mark, Ante and Greg are working with the County on using Mark's property and road to go back to Webster's as an emergency egress.

A computer CD of the recording of this meeting is available by contacting Greg Conway. A small fee for duplication and mailing would be requested.

The next meeting will be the last part of July. Greg made a motion for an Executive session citing § 24-6-402(4) [Thereby fulfilling legal requirements for holding an 'Executive Session', during which discussion will be limited to water, there will be no formal actions taken and there will be an electronic record] for a move to an executive session if it is necessary. Ginny 2nded and there was a unanimous approval. Saturdays at the Lake County Public Library at 4:00 seem to work best.

There being no other discussion, Ginny Peros made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Irv seconded and all approved.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Ginny Peros