



Date: April 1, 2004

Board Members Present:	Tina O'Malley	-	President
	Joe Gargano	-	Vice President
	Joe Olliges	-	Secretary
	Amy Spelde	-	Treasurer
	Fred Stegbauer	-	Personnel

Guests:	Bob Bortman	Tom Clarey
	Frank Durkin	Chuck Jolicoeur
	Mick Kazmerski	Lorraine Murray
	Dan Nicolini	Ralph Petersen
	Jerry Sellers	Barb Wiese

Employees: Becky Breckenfelder
Mike Schiltz

I. Called To Order: The April 1, 2004 meeting was called to order at 7:05PM by Tina O'Malley.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Agenda: Tina requested that "Dog and Parks" and Joe Olliges asked that "Boats for Structure" and "Wood at East Beach" be added under New Business. Joe G. motioned to approve the agenda with the requested amendments added. Fred seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [04-04-01]

IV. Minutes: Joe O. motioned to approve March's minutes. Joe G. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote. [04-04-02]

V. Treasurer's Report: On the Profit and Loss: YTD report, there is no interest reported because they haven't gotten the bank statements yet. Joe G. asked if the \$173,977.07 under dredging is what they have expended so far and Amy said yes. He wants to know where the balance of what they have left to spend on dredging is listed (he figures that they have about \$15,000 remaining for dredging). Tina said that the remaining amount is there but in order to see it they would have to print a budget vs. actual for the total fiscal year. Because the current report was printed only through March, it shows only \$5,000, which isn't the amount for the remainder of the year (that will be another \$10,000). Joe G. motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Fred seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote [04-04-03]

VI. Board Member Reports:

A. Tina O'Malley – Tina said that findings from a survey done 1 ½ years ago by Lost Nation POA indicated that there were 26 property owners that would be interested in utilizing a boat/RV storage facility. New Landing is willing to add the same question that was posed in the Ripple regarding interest in boat/RV storage if the RCD is interested. The board agreed that it would be a good idea and asked Tom Clarey and he agreed to bring a copy of the same question back to the Lost Nation Board to ask if they would put it in with their Annual Meeting Invitations that go out in July.

B. Joe Gargano

1. Dredging / Restoration Update - Joe G. met with Bill Nordman and talked with him about modifying the shoreline (by the east entrance), hauling the remaining debris out and leveling the pit out and he said he thinks he can do it for about \$6,000-7,000. For under \$10,000, he thinks he could do the above work, plus take the broken concrete that is on the shoreline, pull it out and store it, grade the shoreline, and reuse the concrete along with more rip-rap to put on it for aesthetics. Joe O. asked about the parking area that they proposed on there and Joe G. said that he thinks that that was included in the amount. Tom Clarey asked about the road repairs that were supposed to be done and Joe G. said that he went out with Paul Harkins and identified them – Bill Nordman will dress up those two areas and he wants to put in gravel and dress up the area in front of Henry Cachel's house and finally, Joe asked him to clean out the ditch in the bend in front of Rich Freuh's house. Tom asked about the cost on the road repairs and Tina said that in the contract it said that the contractor would be responsible to fix any road damages that were done by them.

C. Joe Olliges

1. Fish Stocking - Joe O. obtained quotes for fish stocking from Gollon and three other fish dealers recommended to him by the DNR, at \$4,878, Gollon had the best prices out of all of them. Joe recommended that they carry over \$1,000 from this year's budget into next year's budget to cover the entire amount for fish stocking in the fall. Fred said that they won't have \$1,000 to carry over because they still have carp removal to perform, which will come out of the budget still. Joe O. then recommended that they increase next year's budget to cover the extra fish stocking costs that he has proposed. Fred said that he would be opposed to spending that amount of money on fish stocking for the year, considering all the other things that they have to do to the lake. On a yearly basis in the past, they have only spent \$3,000 on fish stocking and \$500-\$1000 on carp removal, which he feels more comfortable with spending.

Joe G. agreed with Fred on being opposed to spending that amount on stocking, citing the good fish population that has been indicated in the most recent past shocking reports. He also suggested that they implement a catch and release rule for the next 2 years on all game fish to monitor whether the fish are reproducing. Joe O. didn't agree on a catch and release rule on all game fish, however, the fishing club did recommend the implementation of catch and release on Northern and Muskie per the recommendation of Al Pulley. Fred said that he thinks that the DNR has already told them that large-mouth bass are reproducing, although they are not sure about walleye or small-mouth bass. Joe O. said that the DNR doesn't believe that the walleye are reproducing (that is the reason for their recommendation of adding 1500 walleye). Amy suggested that in order to meet the recommendation of 1500 walleye they could cut back on some of the other breeds of fish that they are stocking.

Joe O. remembers that they took \$1,000 out of fish stocking last year and moved it to do a shoreline improvement and he feels that they should move it back. Joe G. reiterated that the fish reports indicate that there is a healthy fish population in the lake.

Jerry stated that in the past they had always stocked \$3,000 worth of fish and the added expense of removing the carp was never a part of that \$3,000. Fred agreed that they are keeping the \$3,000 for fish stocking and that the carp removal was budgeted in at \$500-\$1000 more. Jerry added that the amount that Joe O. is recommending for stocking is based on Al Pulley's recommendation. Tina said that they understood that, however, in the past they haven't stocked everything that is in the recommendation, rather they try to follow the recommendation as closely as

possible while still staying within the budget. They already spent \$3000 on stocking last fall, so with the carp removal they have planned, they will have spent their fishing budget.

Tina recommended that they table it until next month to vote on their fishing allowance because they are need to be presenting their proposed spending budget at that time anyway, as well as what they are going to be asking the county for (Tax Levy). They have to wait until they get the amounts they are slated to receive from the county before they can work on their budget. Tina offered to assist the new treasurer on presenting the working budget paperwork for their budgetary review meeting. Tina added that by the end of June they should have their proposed tax levy ready for the county and a tax levy hearing if more than a certain % is requested (which they always ask for more than that % anyway to ensure that the county gives them the full amount that they should get. Joe O. wanted to motion to spend at least \$3,000 for next year, but Fred said that he might cut himself short by doing that now so he should hold off until the budget review.

2. Fishing at Silt Basin – The fishing club had requested permission to fish down at the Flagg Road Silt Basin. Joe O. suggested that they could accommodate that request by fixing the gate and putting a chain on it then issuing a key through the fishing club to whomever wants it without opening it to the general public. They could specify that they can only park on the road or over in the new area across the street that they are providing.

Tina said that if they are opening it up, then they have to open it up to everybody, including the general public. Tom Clarey asked if only property owners within the RCD taxing district are allowed to use the lake and Tina responded by saying that although the general public would be trespassing on the private roads owned by the POA's to get to the lake, the RCD is technically like a park district, which can only charge in-district and out-of-district rates, not charge someone with trespassing if they are on the property.

The board discussed the details of opening up the basin for fishing when it is not being used for dredging, like taking down the No Trespassing signs and unlocking the gate. Amy suggested that they put up a No Parking sign. Joe O. would like to see a smaller gate so that people can only walk in and out rather than being able to drive through. Joe O. motioned to open up the Flagg Road Silt Basin to the community for fishing. Fred seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll-call vote with 4 ayes and 1 no from Joe G. [04-04-04]

D. **Amy Spelde** – Amy said that there was money set aside in the budget last year to make a payment on the loan before the end of this fiscal year, however, when they redid the loan, the new payment is not due until October. Joe G. suggested that they could roll the amount over into next years budget and make a double payment in October. Later in the agenda is Budget Review and Loan Update

E. **Fred Stegbauer**

1. Carp Removal – Tony Pate will be out the last Monday or Tuesday of this month for carp removal at \$500 a day. Joe G. was wondering if they could have him come out in warmer weather. Joe O. said that he contacted Al Pulley and he recommended it be done in late April or early May.

VII. Employees

A. **Becky**

1a. HP Warranty Extension- A warranty extension is being offered by HP for the computer and printer. Becky recommended that they get it because the warranty

was helpful to her in the past for repairing the computer when it had problems and replacing the printer when it got struck by lightning last year. The board agreed that it would be wise to upgrade the warranty for one year.

1b. Quickbooks Upgrade – An offer came in the mail to upgrade Quickbooks and Becky was wondering if they would need the upgrade to do the Quarterly Federal Tax Reports. Tina said that they would need the Quickbooks Payroll Portion, which is not automatically included on our current edition, to do Federal Reports. Barb offered to let the RCD try their Quickbooks version out to see if it would work for our needs so that we could then purchase our own copy. Barb spent \$89 for her version and the upgrade would cost \$89 for Quickbooks Basic and \$200 for Quickbooks Pro.

2. New Digital Recorder to Record Meetings – Becky purchased a new digital recorder for \$146 for recording the meetings because Tina said that there is a new law out that requires governmental meetings have to have their verbal recordings saved.

3. Web-site Training - Tina is training Becky on how to update the web-site and modify the e-mail accounts. As soon as she feels comfortable with working with it, she can train Joe O.

VIII. Old Business

A. Proposed Repairs/Updates to Lake Court Center

1. Kitchen Area – The social club asked about putting an island in the kitchen and tile all throughout. Joe O. obtained an itemized proposal from Classic Home Improvement for removing the carpet and putting down tile (\$610), putting in an 8' island with a 36" deep counter-top (\$720), and putting more counters in along the wall (\$1,600) came to \$3,010. If they chose to add a cook-top into the island, the cost of the cook-top alone would be another \$1,400 (not including labor to put in. Joe G. asked Joe O. if he got any other quotes and Joe O. said that he wasn't going to get anymore quotes until they knew for sure if they were going to do it. Tina commented that putting in the tile was a good idea to aid in the floor clean-up in there, however, with the island being put in, she didn't feel that they needed more cabinets on the wall too. Ralph responded that they did need more cabinet space to avoid having to bring over stuff that is being stored at the New Landing Office every time there is an event. Tina agreed that they do need more counters, however, she felt that the island would be enough. Joe G. agreed with Tina. Fred remembered it being brought up at the last meeting that if the RCD put in money toward this improvement, the social committee might be willing to help with funding too. Barb said that she can take that question back to the social committee. Tina said that the floor should be redone even without funds from the social committee. The rest of the board agreed. Ralph said that if the RCD covered the cost for the \$610 floors and the \$658 cabinet under the microwave, he could ask the social committee if they would cover the \$720 island w/ the countertop. Joe O. recommended that they table the issue until they hear back from the social committee on what they would like to do. Tina and Joe G. recommended that Joe O. get another bid in the meantime.

2. Parking Lot Improvement/Basement Flooding – Joe G. would like to discuss the Parking Lot expansion idea that he brought up last year as well as reducing the flooding that occurs in the basement each time it rains. He figures that it'll cost \$4,000-5,000 to do both with the parking lot itself costing around \$3,000 (not including paving). Joe said he can get quotes on the jobs if the board is interested. Tina said that there may be of more prevalence than a parking lot that is working at this time. For example, there are a lot of cracks in the cement in front of the building that people could trip on and the other half of the roof still needs to be repaired (there were issues with the supports and rotted wood found on the one half that was fixed). Joe G. said

that the basement should be addressed first and foremost. Fred suggested that they get some quotes on fixing the basement and repairing the roof. During certain rains the women's bathroom leaks by the light fixture. Dan Lewis did the other side of the roof –the board agreed that it would be a good idea to have him come out and look at the roof.

B. Animal Control: Geese and Beaver

B1. Beaver Control – Joe G. walked the property with the beaver trapper, Sid Butler, and where they noticed that the most damage was over by the campground area. There was also some damage on the east shoreline and over at the Flagg Road Basin. In a week, he was able to trap four beaver ranging in weight of 24-40 pounds. Last November he also trapped two other beaver. If anyone should notice any more activity, Joe G. requested that they give him a call.

B2. Goose Control – Frank is submitting before the board for approval, a goose control action plan that he will also be presenting to both POA's. He wants it to be endorsed by all three entities, keeping it a community effort. Tina read the Goose Patrol Action Plan (See Attachment 1)

Tom Clarey recapped a letter that was sent to the Lost Nation Board. The letter questioned the number of geese that are on the lake and suggested that another count be made prior to an action plan being enforced. He was also requesting that the DNR/Wildlife biologist make an assessment of the lake property. In response to that request, Joe and Tom both contacted the DNR and found that there is no biologist that available to do an assessment – they no longer do assessments and they don't have a recommended population ratio for lake size. Roy Domazlicky with the DNR said that it is a community issue that should be worked within the community and what is considered acceptable will vary from community to community. Tom thinks that everything in Frank's action plan is realistic and non-destructive. Mick Kasmerski said that they have to take into consideration everybody's opinion and not everyone is in favor of doing what they have proposed here.

Mick agrees that something should be done about the geese; he doesn't want them to go overboard and start affecting other wildlife that we enjoy, obstruct the view of the lake, or have them shooting off fireworks in the middle of the night. Frank responded to Mick by saying that his comments are justified, however, he asked that he not paint a black picture of the Goose Patrol because their job will be to improve the community's lake environment. Tina added that the natural plants that they propose in their plan for people to grow along their shoreline don't have to be very tall so the view of the lake won't be obstructed. The plants and the rocks will do two things, deter the geese and protect the shoreline against erosion. Frank read a copy of the letter that he plans to send to lakefront property owners. (See attachment 2) Frank also suggested that the Lake Management Committee meet with the Goose Patrol so that the Goose Patrol can lay out the plans and start moving forward. He ended by saying that if he doesn't have the support of both POA's and the RCD, then the Goose Patrol is history.

Joe said that his concern is that there is a wealth of information of the subject of geese and our environment (with concerns of the overpopulation of geese coming from even the Audubon Society to the Fish and Wildlife Service); however, we need to get the information out to the public more. He is in favor of the egg-shaking that the Goose Patrol wants to perform this year. Tina said that they need to vote to approve the egg-shaking this year and approve their generalized plan. Joe G. motioned to approve egg-shaking program this year, per the permit that was issued by the DNR. Fred seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote. [04-04-04]. Joe G. motioned to approve the Action Plan proposed by Frank Durkin with the addition of a signature line for the property owner and the elimination of paragraph C under the

Action Plan – Goose Patrol section. Amy seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll-call vote with Joe O. abstaining and Joe G., Fred, Amy and Tina approving it. [04-04-05] Ralph asked if they had to get a permit to capture the beaver and Joe said that the trapper that they use has a year-round animal nuisance trapping permit.

C. Budget Review and Loan Update – There is a balance of \$114,695.27 on the loan with the first payment of \$28,000 due in October.

D. Burn-Pile – Various debris have been deposited at the burn-pile to include an old staircase, wooden pallets, an old fish bucket, wire mesh, and cardboard. Joe G. said that New Landing now requires that all their new construction contractors must have a dumpster on site at all times during construction. Lost Nation will possibly adopt the same policy. Ken Oltmanns would also be leveling the burn-pile soon so they will see if any more unauthorized debris gets dumped there.

IX. New Business

A. New Signage on RCD Property – the RCD started a program last year of putting signs on its properties to clearly identify where public property lies. They also began to assign some of the properties that have specific rules for those properties with those rules. As a continued effort to show where public property begins and ends plus as a way to protect private property adjacent to RCD property, Tina recommends that they send letters to the property owners that are affected. These letters would indicate that the RCD would be putting up “Private Property Beyond This Point – No Trespassing” signs up along the property lines and to please not remove them as they are for the protection of all and would cost the RCD additional funds to replace them. Some areas, like Schings Park and the North Beach, are not clearly marked, making the property lines hard to tell. They obtained one quote which was too pricey and so thought they could try to come up with something on their own. Tom Clarey asked at what interval the signs would be placed on the property. Tina responded that they could put them up at each corner of the property.

Fred suggested that if certain property owners are having a problem, perhaps they could put something up and Tina replied that she was suggesting this as a preventive measure of goodwill to the community of trying to keep their space private. He asked if the RCD knew where all the boundary lines are on the properties or are they going to need to be surveyed – they are going to need to establish all of their boundaries first. Tom said maybe they should contact the property owners first to see if they want these signs up and Tina said that that is why she wants to send the letters first and that they will specify that the property owner can contact the RCD with their questions and concerns. If a property owner called and said that they really didn't want the signs then they wouldn't put them up. Joe O. said that there has been instances of people wandering onto private property and agrees with Tina that it would be a good neighbor policy to do it.

Joe O. recommended that they post some “Please Do Not Feed the Geese” signs on the beaches as well.

B. Clearing of lots 1, 2 & 3 by West Entrance

Joe O. showed the lots to Bill Nordman and asked him to quote knocking down all of the scrub trees and grading off the property there. He said that he would knock them down and pile them up, (however, we would have to burn them) for about \$800. Last year they obtained a quote from someone last year for \$2,700 to cut, haul and burn it. Tina said that her only concern was that if the trees were removed from there, their root systems would no longer be there to help slow down the water flow, which helps control the erosion of the shoreline coming into the lake there. Fred said that there is so much grass there and it is so built up that he didn't feel there would be a problem. Joe G. said that that was valid concern and Fred said that if they are worried there then they ought to put

some rip-rap there where it enters the lake. Tina suggested that gabion baskets could be used along there too. Joe G. motioned to clear lots 1, 2, and 3 by the west entrance, not to exceed \$1,000. Fred seconded the motion. Motion passed by roll-call vote with Tina abstaining and Joe O., Joe G., Fred, and Amy approving it. [04-04-06]

C. Dogs and Parks

Currently the RCD has been pretty lenient about dogs wandering on RCD property without a leash as long as their owners are present. On Page 8, Chapter 10, Section D of our ordinances it requires that all dogs be under physical restraint or a leash not to exceed 6 feet in length. Unless a certain property is designated as a dog park, they must abide by the leash laws. In the ordinances, there is a section that enables the RCD to enact rules and designate areas as they see fit. Tina suggested to the board that they could designate one of the RCD properties (like the old east beach, the two lots by the east entrance, or the dam turnaround as a dog run area). Mick was concerned that designating an area for dogs would fly in the face of the leash laws that are currently enforced in the community, creating a big battle. Tina said that if they are going to enforce the leash laws on certain individuals in the future, then they are going to have to contact all the property owners that are allowing their dogs free run and they are going to have to ask them to keep them on a leash from now on. Tina said that this issue would need to be addressed by the RCD soon because she thinks it may become a pretty hot issue in the future. Joe G. agreed that it would be wise to get some feedback and that Oregon is addressing the same issue in their park system up there right now. Ralph said that when dealing with ordinances, if you have a rule that has not been enforced in 3 or 4 years and then you try to enforce it, chances are it might not hold up. Tina agreed and added that in the past, when someone has violated an ordinance, rather than file a chapter 14 on enforcement and taking them to court, they have instead tried to talk to the individual about it, educating and reasoning with the individual and most of the time that has worked.

D. Boats to Install Structure – Joe O. is in charge of overseeing the structure that is put in the lake by the fishing club. He is requesting that a variance be granted to allow 2 fishing club members, who have Jon boats with 10 or less horse motors on them, to help Joe O., who will be in RCD boat, place the structure in the spots they need to be. The board members all agreed to allow them to go out there with their boats at that time. Tina suggested that Joe O. e-mail everyone at all@rcdinfo.com when they are ready to do it, that way both POA's are aware of what is going on if anyone should call about it.

E. Wood at East Beach – The fishing club wants to use the old boards, which were taken out of the dam and replaced, to build horseshoe pits in the sand at the old east beach. The RCD board agreed to allow them to use the boards for that purpose.

F. Bridge – The idea of putting a bridge up between the old east beach and Park Drive Park has been discussed by the RCD in the past and has recently been brought up at both POA meetings. Tina asked how many feet this proposed bridge would be and Joe said 220'. Tina said that they would need three piers in the middle of the waterway to hold it up. Joe G. said it is in a discussion phase right now with the suggestion of the two POA's and the RCD being involved in the construction of it if it was feasible. It would be capable of handling golf carts, bicycles and pedestrian traffic, but not for automobiles. Tina said that it would be one step to further connect the two communities.

X. Guests: Joe G. asked Joe O. if he and Jerry got the opportunity to go to the ILAC conference and Joe O. said no because there were no provisions for them to go to the conference on just the day that they wanted to go so it wasn't worth going to the whole thing.

XI. Adjourn: Joe G. motioned to adjourn the April 1st meeting at 9:40PM. Joe O seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll call vote. Meeting adjourned to move into executive session for interviews.

Next Meeting:

April 1st Motion List

Joe G. motioned to approve the agenda with the requested amendments added. Fred seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote. [04-04-01]

Joe O. motioned to approve March's minutes. Joe G. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote. [04-04-02]

Joe G. motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Fred seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll-call vote [04-04-03]

Joe G. motioned to approve egg-shaking program this year, per the permit that was issued by the DNR. Fred seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote. [04-04-04].

Joe G. motioned to approve the Action Plan proposed by Frank Durkin with the addition of a signature line for the property owner and the elimination of paragraph C under the Action Plan – Goose Patrol section. Amy seconded the motion. Motion carried by roll-call vote with Joe O. abstaining and Joe G., Fred, Amy and Tina approving it. [04-04-05]

Joe G. motioned to clear lots 1, 2, and 3 by the west entrance, not to exceed \$1,000. Fred seconded the motion. Motion passed by roll-call vote with Tina abstaining and Joe O., Joe G., Fred, and Amy approving it. [04-04-06]

Joe G. motioned to adjourn the April 1st meeting at 9:40PM. Joe O seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by roll call vote. Meeting adjourned to move into executive session for interviews.

Attachment 1:

Action Plan — RCD

The first step we must take is to ask the RCD, the governing body of our lake, to set the positive example for our community to follow. They must establish the ground rules for the lakeshore property owners to work as a team.

- A. The RCD should establish the proper deterrents for all public areas, beaches, boat launches and Lake Court Center's shore area.
- B. Establish the proper physical barriers at lake shore areas; modify if necessary.
- C. Establish a ban on waterfowl feeding. Provide the necessary signage to be secured at public areas.
- D. Provide shore habitat modifications, including shoreline plantings and vegetation strips on open turf areas, such as Schings Park.
- E. Maintain strong contact with Federal and State agencies for current seminars outlining updated goose control methods.

Action Plan—Lake Shore Property Owners

A. Adhere to the RCD's "No Feeding" ordinances Keep turf grass from going all the way to the water's edge.

B. Geese thrive where the water's edge meets the shoreline. An excellent method for discouraging geese from lakeshore property is to establish a buffer strip between your property and the lake, possibly 4' to 6' wide, with plantings or tall grasses.

C. Install large rock to increase the height of your shoreline. This creates a permanent, effective barrier that protects the lake's ecology further by filtering run-off that enters the lake. The natural approach works best if the majority of the shoreline homeowners participate in it. The main objective here is to make the geese find the lake inhospitable and go someplace else (like the Rock River).

D. Lakeshore property owners must remove all nesting materials located on their property. If a nest becomes active, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REMOVE ACTIVE NESTS OR EGGS ON YOUR PROPERTY, please contact the Goose Patrol. We have the Illinois State permits and adhere to the state laws pertaining to nesting geese and eggs, as well as their removal.

E. Lakeshore property owners must accept the fact that we are the first line of defense. We must be willing to take action and establish effective deterrents. If no action is taken, then we will be reason that the lake will continue to be a sanctuary for an exploding goose population.

Action Plan—Goose Patrol

A. Assist the RCD in establishing the proper deterrents applied to public areas.

B. Assist Lakeshore property owners in applying the approved deterrents to their lakeshore area.

C. Move out into the lake with our boats. The Goose patrol will establish teams to apply the necessary scare tactics and harassment techniques endorsed by the RCD. (*Tina added that it also needs to be endorsed by the DNR*). The teams will meet the geese where they swim and sleep in open water, maintaining pressure both day and night, if required.

D. The Goose Patrol must change our lake environment by making the geese look at us as the predators; it's incumbent upon us as the highest order of predator to succeed. And to succeed, we need the total cooperation and support of our community to bring back the balance and harmony in and around Lost Lake. Hopefully you will join us.

Frank Durkin
330 Birch Lane