



Lake Oversight Committee
Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen
April 6, 2021 Minutes

Members Present: Lynn Johnson, Dawn Kamay, Sam Spratlin, Dori Ferrence, Doug Cayer

Meeting opened by acting chair, Lynn Johnson, at 6:31pm. Dawn Kamay to take minutes.

Dori, Chris, Sam and Dawn were at the last meeting which was a quorum to vote on the minutes (4 of 6).

Old Business:

Stormwater Management Plan was discussed. Sam and Dawn attended the March 17th video conference given by Sorensen. Sam sent the minutes from that stakeholders meeting which was also attended by Brian Johnson, JoAnn Higgins, Stacy Stout, Tom Wilhelm and others. The stakeholders were involved as part of the 319 grant recently received for road and culvert/catch basin improvements. There was discussion about Brian Johnson cleaning out existing, and replacing subpar and/or failing catch basins. Concom still getting cleanout schedules quarterly from Highway. Lynn asked if the State inspects. Sam said no State roads so they don't inspect them. Doug wanted to know who is involved and who is leading this watershed planning process – what is the objective and who will end up with this plan. Dori Ferrence will be reaching out to Westfield's planning board to get a copy of their plan to get an idea of how this will end up. Dori will also check with Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. Lynn will send the Sorensen report to all LOC members.

Dam Inspection: Covered in the earlier meeting with BOS. Lynn asked Dawn to send Bob Kamay's presentation to LOC. Dawn will send the 2010 and 2018 dam inspection reports to LOC. Doug commented that he's surprised that every report shows the same problems yet nobody is held responsible for fixing anything. Doug suggested that someone else (professional company) handle the water level maintenance, not a subcommittee of LOC due to insurance/liability risk. Dori said Brian Johnson was given an Operation and Maintenance Manual about 7 years ago. Whoever does it needs to be proficient at it. Dawn mentioned that one of the problems each inspection is "no manual". Dori said he was given it. Sam asked if Planning Board has a copy. Dori doesn't know. She'll see if Lynn Arnold remembers who may have a copy. Dori also concerned that a non-"professional" do it. However, Brian has several highway employees doing it, not just himself. Sam suggested apply for a

grant to have a professional handle all this. Lynn said grant money hard to come by, better to use Town's resources/residents. Dawn informed that to the best of her knowledge, the water sluice would be managed by the subcommittee, but clearing of vegetation, etc. would be subcontracted to professionals. Lynn asked if creation of a subcommittee needs to go to the Town via an article on a warrant.

New Business:

Most of this was covered in the joint meeting earlier this evening. Question as to why Brian Johnson is talking to the Army Corp of Engineers. Nobody was certain about his topic with them.

Some discussion about Jay (grant writer) and how he gets paid because the budget line has been fully used for this fiscal year. He'll be available again starting with the 2021/22 budget year. Lynn will check with BOS as to how much money Jay has brought into the Town this past year.

Lynn discussed the large causeway improvement, perhaps a grant to prevent natural disaster / road washout due to insufficient culvert capacity. Discussion of siltation in the culvert. Need for increased waterflow south to north. LOC will continue to look for grant money to add more culverts to the large causeway. Dori Ferrence discussed that the causeway is, in essence, a dam. Lynn reiterated public safety issue of road washout would be the determining factor in getting grant money to add culverts under the road.

Dawn made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Sam seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed at 7:19pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Kamay, Acting Recording Secretary