

# Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 9, 2016

**Location:** Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG), Auburn, Maine

**Time:** Meeting began at 3:30 PM

**Commissioners Present:** Tizz Crowley, Joe Grube, David Jones, Bethel Shields, Dick Thibodeau, John Bonneau, Robert Thompson and Steve French

**Commissioners Absent:** Michael Lachance

**Others Present:** Lynne Richard, Michael Broadbent, Sid Hazelton, Kevin Gagne, Mary Jane Dillingham and members of the public

Commissioner Grube called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

### Agenda Item 1: Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 14, 2016

**Vote 1– Motion by Commissioner Crowley, seconded by Commissioner Shields to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of 9/14/16 and place on file with the following corrections.**

**Bethel Shields was added to the minutes as present at the September meeting, there were also some spelling corrections.**

**Passed 8 - 0**

### Agenda Item 2: Financial Update- Heather Hunter

Heather Hunter went over a series of financial statements that were provided to the Commissioners. Heather reported that all of the revenue and expenditures are up to date, Heather also pointed out withdrawals from the sinking fund have been minimal through the course of the year.

**Vote 2 - Motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Bonneau to accept the financial reports as presented.**

**Passed 8 - 0**

### Agenda Item 3: Presentation of 2017 LAWPC Budget- Heather Hunter

Heather presented the Commissioners with the 2017 Budget; the budget included historical data for the commissioners to review and the anticipated 2017 expenditures. The budget was discussed line by line.

**Vote 3 - Motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner French to approve the budget as presented.**

There was discussion after the motion; Commissioner Crowley raised the following concerns.

- She questioned the 3% Cola increase for 2017, reporting that Auburn Water District would not have a 3% Cola for its employees for 2017.
- She raised concerns with funneling Watershed expenses through the Auburn Water and Sewer Districts. Heather reported that there have been some changes in the last month that should reduce the number of transactions that go through AWSD
- Discussion was also had on one of the line items in the 2017 budget that is reserved for Algaecide application. Commissioner Crowley was concerned that this Budget Item was covered by not only the Commission but by both AWD and the City of Lewiston by their operating budgets. Sid Hazelton explained that the Watershed commission carries this in their budget so that in the event of an emergency funds will be available for lake treatment.
- She suggested that in the future the Commission should review and approve the budgets in separate meetings. Commissioner Grube agreed and suggested that we preview the 2018 Budget at the September 13, 2017 meeting.

**Passed 7 - 0 , 1 abstained**

#### **Agenda Item 4: Water Quality Update & Activity Report- Sid Hazelton**

Sid went over a report prepared by Mary Jane Dillingham, algae and turbidity levels are normal. There were a few days when the turbidity exceeded 1.0 NTU, these occurrences did not result in any issues for Lewiston or Auburn. Through observations of the lake this summer we do believe there was a brief period on anoxia. This was attributed to the lower than average lake levels. Sid presented several graphs that showed lake elevations, dissolved oxygen levels, secci disk readings and turbidity.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Education & Outreach Update – Lynne Richard**

Lynne went over an Education/Outreach Report that was given to all of the Commissioners. She reported that monthly lessons have started. She reported that she is in Tripp Middle,

Auburn Middle, Lewiston High School and Hebron Station School. She has acquired the necessary permits to get brook trout eggs again this year. The trout will be ready in January.

Lynne also reported that the quarter mile markers have been installed along Spring Road. We received a plaque from the Triple Crown Organization for our donation to their race.

### **Agenda Item 6: Open Session – Public Comments**

There was one announcement. Winter Fest in Auburn is the last full weekend in January if we would like to promote activity in the watershed we should reach out to the Auburn Recreation Department.

The Commissioners discussed the 2017 meeting schedule. There has also been discussion on the time and locations of the meetings. The commissioners agreed to not change the time and location of the meetings for 2017.

The 2017 meeting dates are scheduled; February 8, April 12, June 14, September 13, November 8 and December 6 as necessary.

**Vote 4- Motion by Commissioner Crowley, seconded by Commissioner French to record all future meetings and post the recordings to the Commission's website and Facebook page.**

**Passed 8 - 0**

### **Agenda Item 7: Perkins Ridge Sno-Travelers- Consideration of Alternate Trails**

Sid Reported that he and Dave Jones met with Dan Bilideau to discuss an alternate route for one of their snowmobile trails which currently goes across Lake Auburn. Dan asked if it would be possible move the trail to Spring Road. Currently the Auburn Water District plows spring road to maintain access two camps for the Fire Department.

The Commissioners agreed that moving the trail is in the best interest of the Lake. The Commissioners would like Sid to look into why the District plows Spring Road.

### **Agenda Item 8: Potential Land Purchase- Executive Session regarding negotiations of potential land transaction in accordance with M.R.S.A 405 (6) (C)**

**Vote 5- Motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner French to go into executive session to discuss negotiations of potential land transaction in accordance with M.R.S.A 405 (6) (C)**

**Passed 8 - 0**

**Vote 6- Motion by Commissioner Shields, seconded by Commissioner Crowley to come out of executive session to discuss negotiations of potential land transaction in accordance with M.R.S.A 405 (6) (C)**

**Passed 8 - 0**

**Vote 5- Motion by Commissioner Bonneau, seconded by Commissioner Crowley to authorize Sid Hazelton to pursue getting an appraisal for a 40' x 90' lot off Itner Street**

**Passed 8 - 0**

**Vote 6 - Motion by Commissioner Shields, seconded by Commissioner Crowley to adjourn the meeting.**

**Passed 8 - 0**

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 PM**

A true record, Attest:

Michael Broadbent,

Secretary of the LAWPC

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Broadbent".