



# BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS ASSOCIATION

## Lake Quality Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 3, 2023, at 6 pm Whiting Center-Green Room & ZOOM

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Items that involved a committee vote are highlighted in yellow.

Fred called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm

### A. Attendance

Committee Members: Fred Hicks, Kimberly Clow, Scott Ostrem, Rick Flores, Jane Custer, Jeff Gadzia

Staff: Butch Reyburn

Visitor/guest: Paul Garibaldi, Kayli Chavez

### B. Approval of Agenda

1. Jane – motioned to approve
2. Kim – seconded the motion

### C. Approval of Minutes

March minutes were approved via email

Fred asked if anyone had issues with his dual role (i.e. Lake Consultant/Committee Chair). Specifically, does he talk too much and not provide others the opportunity to speak openly. No one shared this sentiment.

### D. Lake Levels

1. Fred asked about draining the reservoir on Jamaica Dunes into 4-Island Lake
2. Two weeks of summer water use approximately equals the water in the Jamaica Dunes Reservoir
3. Motion to ask the liaison committee to bring up the idea of opening the dam located at the Jamaica dunes basin and drain the water into Four Island Lake as soon as feasible based on water levels. This will likely be the first part of June. Kim made the motion. Scott seconded the motion. Motion approved.
4. Discussion regarding Surprise Lake. Fred explained that the water in Surprise Lake is slowly recharging the aquifer between San Juan, and Dart drive.

### E. Water Quality

1. Four Island has a nitrate level of 4.1 (mg/L) which is a bit high
2. Aerators off in Cub Lake only (not Four Island). This is being done to conserve energy during the winter when additional oxygen is not needed.
3. Jacks Hole, Cub Lake nitrate levels between 1.1 and 2.0 mg/L.
4. Visibility as much as 3 feet at Jacks Hole

### F. Lake Treatment

1. Solitude still owes us a \$6k (\$6,754) credit from last year. Unfortunately, they are the 'only operation in town'. The only other option is to get an aquatic applicators license. No written response to the \$6k credit question. Fred's opinion is the best-case scenario is we get half.
2. Last year we treated the lakes for 3.5 months
3. \$14.8k was the cost of 3.5 months of treatment
4. \$27.0k for 7 months of treatment this year. This uses all of BVSA's previously purchased lake chemicals.



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5. \$14k budget gets us through June
6. Copper sulfate is the chemical we primarily use to treat algae. The bacteria and enzymes break down the muck. We use black dye in the lakes. The dark color reflects the light and helps to inhibit algae growth. The black dye is often used to give the pond or water feature a more reflective property. The blue/black mix is recommended for a more natural look, adding depth. Dyes can be used year-round and, if used, should be part of an overall pond management tool.
7. This year we extended the service contract to get ahead of the problem by starting the treatments in April.
8. Kimberly question ... what is the “visual inspection”? Answer ... someone from their company in a boat simply observing the lakeshore while treating the lake.
9. Kimberly question ... how long out does cattail removal license extend? Answer ... our permit extension is still being processed by the state. Fred has reached out multiple times and is being told it is still being processed. The permit is only required when the cattails are in the water. When they are dry it does not matter. The new permit lists our utilization of an aquatic herbicide.
10. Kimberly question ... nano bubbles – what are these? Solitude is trying to sell us nano bubbles (a type of aeration product). We are not going to use their nano bubbles. Fred said they are totally trying to sell us stuff.
11. Recommend that the BVSA BOD approves the Solitude Lake proposal which should include the contested ~\$6754 due to BVSA from the previously cancelled Solitude contract. This will provide double the treatment service timeframe and comes in just less than double what we paid last year. This contract also controls the cattail growth through a treatment every fall at the end of our season. Jeff made the motion; Jane seconded the motion. Motion approved.
12. Motion to recommend to the BVSA Board of Directors the following: “To ensure the health and safety of our residents the LQAC recommends closing Four island lake to aquatic recreation from sunrise until 12:00 am twice a month during the Lake treatments.” Jane motioned; Kim seconded. Motion approved.

#### G. Fish Remediation

1. The lakes are 50-51 deg F currently
2. Catching a lot of the smaller Bullheads
3. Memphis net has completed 3 of 9 nets. Shipping via truck. \$1000 shipping cost for a single delivery, so waiting for all nets to be complete.
4. The new nets are ¼ inch net with a fiberglass hoop. The fiberglass hoop will make them much easier to work with.
5. Currently short nets to put a full net in front of the closed section near the 7<sup>th</sup> hole drainage.
6. The hoist (davit) is marvelous. Can lift the nets and move into the boat
7. Seeing some healthy adult Crappies. Losing very few of the bi-catch.
8. Motion to change the 2023 fish harvest rules to: unlimited harvest with no size restriction for Bullheads, Crappie, and Goldfish. All other fish Bluegills, Largemouth bass, and Redear Sunfish will be catch and release only. Jeff motioned; Rick seconded. Motion approved.

#### H. Master Database

1. List of all assets. Fred will get the list compiled and then share back with this group.



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2. Fred will determine where the Dams are to be included.
3. Fred will bounce his list off Jim Panek for completeness. Jim oversees the reserve money.
4. Butch – include the floating islands in the master database

#### I. Plants

1. Water Hyacinth will help with the nitrates.
2. If we remove the plant while the nitrates are in the plants the nitrate problem is more controllable. The water Hyacinth will utilize the nitrates in the lake to grow. If the water Hyacinth is removed before they die and breakdown the nitrates are removed from the lake along with the plant.
3. Water lettuce was tested in 2022 and did not survive or reproduce well as such it is not a plant we want to continue using.
4. Idea to use old “lane lines” from the pool for the plant dividers on Four Island Lake/ 7<sup>th</sup> hole. Maybe need to paint them black.
5. Water Irises that Cathy Carrie donated are doing extremely well
6. Until we get a good looking prototype completed, all efforts will go into perfecting one or two big floating islands on Four Island Lake going forward. Any Island without plants will be removed and stored.
7. Fred and Rick will coordinate on the islands. Rick is gone in April.
8. Motion to move forward with placing water Hyacinth within Four Island Lake in front of the NW well discharge, as well as the closed location near the seventh hole. Butch motioned, Kim seconded. Motion approved.

#### J. Questions and comments

1. Kimberly ... thanks to Fred for all his work!
2. Fred has two comments from on his coordinating with the Sportsman Club:
  - Casting for Recovery May 20<sup>th</sup> event. This is a program for women and their families who have gone through breast cancer.
  - Also potential for a ‘Wounded Warrior’ event once per month. Great response from the group.
  - Butch commented that we should work on getting these out for good PR as we are one of the few if not the only advisory committee trying to partner with outside groups.
3. Two fishing clinics in April. The LQAC purchased an aquarium which will be used for the group’s activities.
4. Fred has another Bear Tracks article in the works.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

Meeting notes by Scott Ostrem