

Friendship Lake District
Financial Advisory Committee
Meeting
Summary
September 30, 2017
Adams County Community Center

1. Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order by Bob Berry at 10:20am on September 30, 2017. Present were commissioners Bob Berry, Karen Pokorny, and Tina Meinen, with committee members, Chuck Spargo, Fran Schmidt and Carol Berry. Larry Swaziek and Steve Lavalley were both unavailable.
2. Review Updated Strategic Action Plan – Karen had emailed an updated copy to all members on the committee. It was decided by the committee that we do not need to continue to update and detail the information. It was the decision that as we progress with the action plan we can remove items as they have been completed.
3. Review By-Laws – Karen emailed a copy of the current By-Laws for the Friendship Lake District for review. Karen reported that she has spoken with Doug Bentley from Central Insurance. He is an independent agent and is providing a quote for the district regarding insuring the Friendship Dam once acquired. Our current insurance carrier, EMC has stated they will not provide coverage on the dam. Karen shared that Mr. Bentley reviewed our current By-Laws and recommended that they will need to be updated to include ownership of the dam, and to obtain insurance coverage. The committee asked that we have our attorney, Michael Hahn please review our current By-Laws and make the recommendations we will need to include the dam. We will also need clarification on when and how we will need to proceed with the changes, including notices sent to property owners, etc. Karen will contact our attorney to get clarification. Chuck Spargo said that we may need to change the language to state that the By-Laws can be changed with notice and not only at the annual meeting, but also during a special meeting of the property owners. Also reviewed were the Mission and Vision statements shared by Linda Moonan from our Lake Advisory Committee. Chuck Spargo recommended that we place the same as an agenda item at our next board meeting. These statements need to be confirmed and documented on our website and all documents. These will be needed in the process of not only our grant applications, but also ongoing and future Lake District business.
4. Report on Insurance Policy Coverage – Karen again stated that she is the point of contact working with Doug Bentley at Central Insurance. Karen reported that she received an email from Carol at G-2 our insurance agent that EMC will not insure the dam once we take ownership.

Mr. Bentley recommended that we continue with EMC for all of our existing policies and review all policy coverage with him early 2018, as our policies expire in May of 2018. Karen notified Carol at G-2 that we purchased three laptop computers for the district board members and that they will need to be insured. Carol will get the marine coverage in place and also recommended Cyber coverage. A form to complete for the Cyber coverage was given to Tina Meinen to complete and get to Carol as soon as possible.

- 5 Report on Operations Agreement with County – Bob stated that the county does not want to proceed with any agreement until it sees that we have ownership and also insurance on the dam. The committee decided that at this time, until the decision of the courts with regard to Mr. Pheiffer’s contest our ability to take the lake through condemnation, all negotiations are on hold till on or after October 11, 2017 hearing.
- 6 Discuss Loan Application Process with State of WI – Karen presented the download application process to borrow money through the State of Wisconsin. Tina agreed to review and begin the process of that application again after the decision has been made in the courts regarding proceeding with condemnation. The committee agreed that the loan application should be for the \$300,000.00 projected expenses for purchasing and repairs as detailed in the May 27, 2017 special meeting spreadsheet and voted by the property owners. Bob shared that we also need to apply for a loan with Grand Marsh State Bank as they have agreed to partner with the district towards acquisition of the dam and have stated they want to compete for the loan.
- 7 Report on Special Charge Increase Process – Carol Berry performed the special charge increase calculations to be submitted the Sue Theisen at the County Tax Office prior to November 1, 2017. She also has an electronic version and will share that with Tina. Carol stated that she works with Sue and is in contact with her several times a week. Carol has agreed to submit the information to Sue Theisen within the next week so that the increases would be reflected on the property tax bills for 2018.
- 8 Correspondence for Financial Assistance – Fran shared a draft letter she created for the purpose of requesting financial assistance from our local municipalities, as well as our county government. After review by the committee, Fran will edit the letter and share with the committee members for review. Fran shared a list of contacts that will receive our financial request.

Karen shared that after our earlier board meeting she was approached by Deborah Parr, Adams County Rep, who stated that to date the County has not received any formal request from the district for financial help.

Deborah recommended that the Lake District send a request to the Adams County Finance Committee, attention Cindy Phillipi. Ron Johnson also recommended that a letter for financial request be submitted the Town of Adams, attention Jim Bays, Sr. It was agreed by the committee to hold off on any requests till after the hearing of October 11, 2017. Karen shared that the district has received \$3000.00 each from the Village of Friendship and the Town of Preston, promised by each municipality previously to help the district off set the costs of the appraisal and or legal proceedings towards the acquisition of the dam. Karen will send a thank you to each district.

- 9 Grant Applications – Tina reported on three grant options researched shared a spreadsheet with details and direction on the process. She recommended that the DNR is our first and best direction. She spoke with Meg Galloway at length and was given further direction. Since the State of Wisconsin recently approved their budget the website has not yet been updated, but Meg shared that there will be 2.5 million in the budget for grants initially. Due to the delayed budget process in Madison the timeline for the grant application process will be postponed. Meg also stated that the more we have in place the more points we will receive towards the process, as example, engineering study, dam failure analysis, emergency action plan, etc. Again this process will be ongoing as the decisions are made according to the action plan and working directly with the DNR once we acquire the dam. Mia Van Horn's name was shared as contact as she is the coordinator of emergency action plans for the DNR. She will be able to help with the creation of the emergency action plan documents. Bob shared that Steve Lavalley and Larry Swaziek will be of great help going forward with this process.

Discussion was also shared with regard to upgrades to the dam, including a security system. Tina shared a few options she has researched. Bob also shared he works with a business out of the Rapids that has provided security cameras at Friendship Park. We need to review bids for best equipment and provider once ownership is transferred.

Bob also stated he has been in contact with Alliant with regard to power generation. There is a new application process on line to set up an agreement for reimbursement for power generation. Chuck Spargo will help review that agreement again once ownership of the dam is transferred. There was discussion as to what other options Alliant may offer to work with the district, as well as grant opportunities.

10. This committee agreed it would meet as soon as possible after the October 11, 2017 hearing date. The next Friendship Lake District Board meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2017. We may coordinate that same evening or before, time and place to be determined.

Respectfully
Karen Pokorny

