



# LOST NATION-NEW LANDING RCD

## July 16, 2012                      Time: 7:00PM

I. **Call to order** – Glenn called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

**Board Members Present**

**Glenn Baldwin – President**

**Dennis Cantrell – Vice President**

**John Harris – Secretary**

**Tim Spelde – Member at Large**

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

III. **Motion to Approve the Agenda** – Tim motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session at the end of the meeting and Dennis seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously. [07-12-01]

IV. **Motions to Approve the 5/8/2012, 5/8/2012 Executive & 6/12/2012 Minutes – Tabled Until Next Meeting**

V. **Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report** – Dennis motioned to approve the treasurer's report and John seconded the motion. Motion not approved. The board reviewed the treasurer's report. Tim motioned to approve the treasurer's report and John seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [07-12-02]

VI. **Director/Volunteer/Reports**

**A. Glenn Baldwin – Insurance Quote** – Diane w/ Rochelle Insurance gave a presentation on the insurance package that they are offering the RCD. She presented a couple different options – one that was more comparable to what the RCD currently has and other policies with options that had more coverage such as if the dam fails for an extra \$1,600 (our current policy doesn't cover this). This policy covers employee dishonesty up to \$50,000 while their current policy covered it up to \$25,000. Glenn added that he spoke to their attorney and found that as a government body, they are covered under the tort immunity act which protects them in many ways from any lawsuits. Regarding the dam, liability if someone gets hurt on the dam is covered; however, the actual cost to replace the dam and bridge structure would not be covered. Dennis motioned to change insurance companies from Grant Bullis Insurance to Rochelle Insurance for liability insurance and directors & officers insurance and with State Farm as the workman's comp insurance provider. For a cost savings of about \$2,500. John seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [07-12-03].

**B. Dennis Cantrell** – Dennis said that the docks are in and working. There are 3 customers that have signed up so far.

**C. John Harris** - Paul Killian called about a concern that he had with the temperatures getting so high as to whether the RCD could open the community center for people who don't have air conditioning. Steve recommended that the CARE group could be in charge of keeping track of

who needs it and manning it when the need arises. The board was in favor of opening up the center for that purpose and having the volunteers run it.

**D. Tim Spelde – Security** - Tim had a report of a confrontation that occurred at the N. Beach where there was alcohol involved. He wants to put the word out to the people of the community to be aware of what their children and young adult family members are doing and that their behavior is a reflection on their parents and grandparents and that we don't need those types of things happening in the community.

**Carp Removal** – Tim and Joe went out on the lake with a shocking boat and removed 500 lbs of carp with that method. They've had trouble getting a commercial fisherman out to fish for the carp that we have because they are so busy getting rid of Asian carp out of larger bodies of water and our little lake isn't cost effective enough for them to fish in comparison. Steve and Glenn had a meeting with Stacy Gilpin, a pro cat fisherman who is going to come out to fish for the carp using channel nets for the price of gas money and is going to try to sell the fish in Thompson Illinois for about 7 cents a lb. Any game fish that he catches he will treat them gently and release them back into the lake. He already has all the necessary permits from the DNR to do this.

**Fishing Derby** – The fishing club has a kids fishing derby scheduled for August 4<sup>th</sup> at the north beach and Tim wants to make sure that they mow or trim down the shoreline around there beforehand so that the kids can easily access the shoreline.

**Repair of Road on Dam** – Tim had Shawn do some filling in and repairs of the road going across the dam.

**Fish Stocking** – haven't decided on the species or amount yet although they have decided to put in more hybrid striped bass to control the shad. Jerry Sellers is working with Cat Fish Jones to cast net some the shad in the lake.

**E. Steve Larry – Watershed Partnership** – Steve met with same project team that managed the RCD Babbling Brook stabilization project about managing Babbling Brook further upstream. The good news is that most of the stream runs through property (3,000-4,000 acres) that is owned by one farmer, Ed Bettner, who is willing to implement techniques on his property to help slow the water flow coming through there. The other property is managed by Nachusa Grasslands, who is cleaning up and re-meandering the streams on their property. Steve referred to a map that he gave to the board and pointed out areas that Joe Rush identified as key areas on the stream for slowing down the velocity of the water. One area that they are looking to re-meander is 288 ft long. He also pointed out a huge gully wash that comes out just under Hay Rd that they want to stabilize. There would be about 1000 ft. of stabilization performed on Ed Bettner's property if the project goes through. They are going to apply for a 319 grant from the EPA of which, the EPA would fund 60% and Ed Bettner and the LNNLRCD would share the cost of 40% of it. That means that the RCD's cost in terms of in-kind match and cash would be \$120,000. Of that \$240,000, Ed Bettner plans on doing a lot of the work himself such as tree removal and digging so that will bring his and the RCD's real cash amount even lower. As part of the project, Ed is going to fence off cattle that he has so that they only have certain areas where they can cross the stream.

Glenn asked Steve to explain how he was able to tremendously reduce the actual cash amount spent under the last grant the RCD obtained from the EPA. Steve said that the EPA requires them to fund 40% of projects funded by 319 grants. The Babbling Brook project that they finished this year was for \$528,500 of which the RCD was responsible for \$211,400. Much of that work (over \$130,000) was able to be charged as in-kind work such as Steve's volunteer work as project manager for \$150, the volunteer work on the peninsula, private property owners' cost of stabilizing their lake shoreline, and Becky's time as administrative assistant. The work that was performed on Babbling Brook as it enters the lake was designed so that that area can withstand another 100 year flood like the area experienced in 2009 when it took out the bridge. Early estimates of the load reduction of the work that they want to do further upstream indicate that they could reduce the solids coming into the lake from that area by as much as 60%. Steve asked the board's permission to move forward on this EPA request, the upfront administrative costs of which have already been budgeted in the FY2012-2013 fiscal year. Steve said that they are very fortunate to have Nachusa Grasslands owning much of the property that is just upstream of the lake and that the RCD should continue to foster a relationship with them. Dennis motioned to continue to pursue the \$600,000 Upper Babbling Brook Multiple-BMP Project 319 grant application through the EPA and John seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [07-12-04]

## VII. New Business

**A. Frank Durkin – LCC Playground** – There is a volunteer committee looking at raising funds and planning the improvement of the parks in Lost Lake, starting with the playground at the LCC. Working in conjunction with them, Frank, along with four young teenage entrepreneurs, is asking the Lost Lake Fishing Club and the RCD to support them in some fundraising events such as an annual kayak regatta, a fundraiser luncheon, a flea-market/bake sale, a carnival and game day, an art/wine show, and a monthly 50/50 raffle to help raise money for the Pennies for Parks. Another way to raise funds would be to ask the local governing bodies such as the ULLPOA, the LLUD, and the RCD to budget a certain amount toward the park committee annually, ask local businesses to contribute and to ask the residents themselves to make individual contributions and event contributions. To generate interest in the kayak regatta, they would post notices at the gate kiosks and in the newsletter stating that the 1<sup>st</sup> annual kayak regatta, to support the Pennies for Parks committee will be held on such and such a date, with 3 age categories – 9-13; 14-18; and 19 and above, sponsored by the RCD/ Lost Lake Fishing Club newly formed Pennies for Parks committee to raise money for LCC playground equipment. Charlie said that he has done some research in park equipment and it is very expensive. Frank agreed that it can be expensive and added if they take a look at the Water Feature Park in Oregon, their layout is really nice and incorporates a natural look using sandstone from the area. Tim said he thinks it a good idea and he likes seeing the kids getting involved. The board said that they are in favor of the regatta and the groups other fundraising ideas.

## VIII. Guest Comments

**Grant Writing** – A guest stated that grant writing is a very difficult and asked how many hours they have spent on writing the grants. Steve said that they have a professional grant writer, Rebecca Olson, who does the grant writing. To put together a grant request, it probably takes Rebecca 3-4 weeks or more of research and engineering because they have to show the EPA what the results of the work are expected to be in terms of sediment load reduction and the engineering the work that is to be contracted. To actually write the grant, it probably takes

Rebecca 3-4 days to do the actual writing of the grant. The speaker asked for a round of applause for all the work that Steve has put into making the grants a reality. Steve said that he loves the lake and he didn't know a thing about it when he started but has since learned a lot about how they can improve the lake and he guarantees that as a result of their efforts, they will see a better lake in terms of clearer water, more fish diversity, plant growth, and removal of carp. Glenn said that a regular person, without the expert knowledge and contacts that Rebecca has, would be unable to get the results that she has in getting the grant funding. Tim mentioned that their efforts are already showing in that they haven't had to close the beaches this year yet; although part of that can be attributed to the lack of rain that we have had where there is not as much run-off from the upstream farm fields. Steve said that the RCD, POA and LLUD need to work very closely with Nachusa Grasslands as they do a major part upstream to keep this lake clean like taking cattle off if the streams and re-meandering the streams. They control a large portion of the upstream land and their maintenance of it doesn't cost the community a thing except for maintaining a good relationship with them and anything that the community can do to help them out with what they are doing around us, they should. The idea has been put out there to put in a bike and golf path in on the property that is above Lost Lake that used to belong to Orland; but it takes a good relationship with them to do that.

**Possible ATV/BMX Park** – a guest expressed her concern at a proposed ATV/BMX park, stating that the noise would be terrible and that the insurance company may not cover liability on such a park. Steve said that there would be no liability concerns for the RCD for the park because they are covered under a tort immunity act that is for government agencies that own land. For example, if someone was to snowmobile in a state park and would get injured, the state does not carry extra insurance for that as they would be protected from liability under that act. Regarding the noise, Steve said that the noise concern is a real good point. They don't know how many people would show an interest in it – they have three adults that have stepped forward so far and they would ask them to submit a proposal to the RCD on what the rules would be for the people that would use it. Specifically, they would have rules governing when they would use it and they would certainly not use it on Sundays while church is in session or late at night or early morning. To access it, they would need to trailer their vehicle in and only use the access road that is off of Flagg Rd, to the west of the dirt mound and just east of the public safety building. The guest stated that she is concerned with the trespassing that would occur from people that are not supposed to be using the park and how they would regulate it and Steve said that her concerns are correct and that is why they are waiting to see what ideas the group will come up with to address those concerns and that if the group couldn't come up with something valid then the RCD wouldn't let them build it. She asked how many people the park was designed to support that the RCD would be spending money on and Steve said that the RCD would not be spending money on the park. Someone made the comment that this would take away from the quiet community atmosphere and Steve said that they've got lots of kids that deserve a place to play; however, if it becomes a burden, they wouldn't do it. Charlie Moore said that he didn't like the statement about liability not being a concern of the RCD and that they would have more security problems with people taking their ATV's on the POA roads to get to the trail – they already have trespassing issues with a young man that takes his ATV out on Lowden and Flagg Rd. Glenn said that they have only gotten a few responses from people interested in building an ATV park and as they have not made any decisions on this or had anyone come forward with a plan yet, that they should wait and they can talk about this at the next meeting. Someone asked if the community will have a vote on it or if the board would make the vote on it. Glenn said that the board would have to make the vote on it but that they would listen to everyone that comes in, both pro and con and make a reasonable decision based on the input is the need and how many people really are interested in the program. Charlie Moore added that he would support a BMX park, just not an ATV park.

- IX. Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session – Office** – the board went to the library for an executive session at 8:29PM
- X. Reconvene Meeting** – The board reconvened the meeting at 1:53PM. Dennis motioned to move the RCD office to the library of the LCC and John seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [07-12-05]
- XI. Motion to Adjourn** – Dennis motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:55PM and Tim seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously. [07-12-06]

### July 16 Motion List

1. Tim motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session at the end of the meeting and Dennis seconded the motion. The board approved the agenda unanimously. [07-12-01]
2. Tim motioned to approve the treasurer's report and John seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [07-12-02]
3. Dennis motioned to change insurance companies from Grant Bullis Insurance to Rochelle Insurance for liability insurance and directors & officers insurance and with State Farm as the workman's comp insurance provider, for a cost savings of about \$2,500. John seconded the motion and the board approved the motion unanimously by roll-call vote. [07-12-03].
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