

Minutes

Show Low Creek Watershed Enhancement Partnership and Rainbow Lake Coalition
Tuesday, 9 Mar 2010, Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall

See list of attendees for Sign-In Sheet Below;

Meeting called to order at 1:03 PM by Interim Chair David Newlin, LCR Watershed

Nick Scienski moved and Larry Whipple seconded approval of the 29 Jan 2010 Minutes. All favored. Motion carried.

In the interests of time, Paul Horton discussed his e-mail regarding the status of the 501(c) 3 and other issues. Major questions appear to include:

- Ownership of the Lake and property underneath and the consequent..
- Creation of a Public Corporation that could be considered to benefit strictly private interests
- Area to be included in the 501(c)3
- Committee formed to consider – members include Ken Wilcock, David Newlin, Larry Whipple and others to be solicited from the group
- Larry Whipple and Paul Horton will get together to discuss a “partnership” between the Irrigation Company and the SLCWEP.

Time was turned to Jim Snitzer for a discussion of the multiple alternatives for weed control on Rainbow Lake.

Mike Lopez indicated that a major advance for AZGF in the issue of carp barriers. As long as a monitoring plan is developed for the Big Springs area (Larry Whipple indicated that the Irrigation Company is already doing this and could be depended upon to ensure this is complied with) then an upstream barrier *is not required* as previously stated. **NOTE: Mike Lopez to review these DRAFT minutes to ensure that the issue is correctly covered.**

Jim made a number of points pertinent to the discussion:

1. Weevils were really not nearly as satisfactory as might have been thought and were likely as costly as herbicides with poor success rates. They work best on American Milfoil which is not what is in Rainbow Lake.
2. Carp such as were used at Lake of the Woods were a good alternative but there is just too much red tape to go through.
3. Divers appear to be the best alternative but are also the most expensive.
4. The Shores is reluctant to spend any money to turn their small weed harvester into a better machine.
5. Herbicides were discussed at length. Data sheets for three herbicides were distributed – Renovate, Renovate Max and Sculpin G.
6. The best herbicide, because it works in an entirely different way, is the Sonar®. No data sheet was available. This works by destroying the way that the weed grows and is considered to be very

effective and of low toxicity. The problem is that it is hard to keep in one area (supposing that a test must be made to provide some type of measurements for success).

7. Milfoil is technically a broadleaf plant, not a grass like every other type of weed in the lake is. There are different kinds of herbicides to handle the milfoil. The Sonar® is like the weed killer in the lawn – that is, it is toxic to broadleaf weeds (dandelions, etc.)
8. Sonar® is very difficult to measure for expense. It mixes and is used in a different way than other herbicides. Measurements is in pp Billion, not pp Million.
9. Consistent testing of the Lake water has to be done to satisfy requirements. These run about \$100 per test.
10. Any herbicide treatment has to be done on a regular basis
11. Insurance and liability and coordination with the Irrigation Company are critical. Larry Whipple attended the meeting and was most cooperative and amenable.

Mike Lopez commented that the large harvester was looking like one of the better alternatives in the short-term however, he was not optimistic that issues could be resolved with the tribes this year. The small harvester is fine and will be used likely in the June/July time frame but the large harvester will not likely come in this year.

Larry Whipple commented that the Irrigation Company felt that the large harvester was one of the best things that had happened on Rainbow Lake.

Jim commented and the group essentially concluded that the combination of the large harvester and the use of Sonar® appears to be the best alternative.

Al Crawford's discussion on the Report to the Shores was used for talking points as it seems to be the best summary of what is going on.

Doris from the Shores asked if AZGF could/would oversee the necessary Licensed Application Process. Mike Lopez said that AZGF have the necessary licenses but that they could only assist and review, not actually do the application or any of the physical process itself.

David reviewed the Wetland Prospectus from Woodruff Lake about putting together something that can be used for grants and public information.

Nick made some pertinent and important comments about the needs for fund raising and ideas about how to do this.

Ken Wilcock made a suggestion to give bonuses (money) to anyone that would come out to the Lake and pull weeds this spring.

As always, funding is the major issues.

Jim and others to attend the Shores Board Meeting Saturday, 16 March to provide support and information for Al Crawford.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM with the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 13 April at 1:00 PM at the Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall.

Respectively Submitted;

David M. Newlin
Interim Chair

Jim SUTTON
DORIS MORIN
Herand
Hutton
Larry Whipple
NICK SCIENSKI
PAUL HORTON
Leslee Wessel
Ken Wilcock
DAVID M. NEWLIN
BYRON JAMES
Mike Lopez
Tom Thomas
JAMES LARSON