

BIG CEDAR LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT
MEETING OF THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE TO CREATE A BOAT/WATER SURVEY
QUESTIONNAIRE AND DELIVERY/RESPONSE PROCEDURES

Commissioners: Roger E. Walsh, Mike Burns and David Claussen, and Operations Manager and Water Safety Patrol Chief, Daniel W. Carroll, and several residents around Big Cedar Lake

February 26, 2019 Minutes

PRESENT: Mike Burns, David Claussen, and Daniel Carroll, several residents who are members of the Committee

ABSENT: Roger E. Walsh-excused

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Mike Burns led Commissioners in the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 p.m. Mike Burns took roll call. Those present and absent are listed above.

2. Approval of minutes of the 2/11/19 Survey Committee meeting

David Claussen made a motion to approve the Survey Committee meeting minutes for the February 11, 2019 meeting. Tim Keith seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

3. Refine questions discussed at the 2/11/19 meeting

All present discussed the questions that were initially gathered and made slight modifications to the questions.

4. Discuss additional questions, additional topics, and preface to questions.

The initial questions presented were:

a) In regards to boating safety; Are you aware of what the ordinances/rules on Big Cedar Lake are? David Claussen suggested that there should be prefaces to each question in order to educate the resident taking the survey. Mike Burns brought up that the question might be irrelevant as it was thought that if those taking the survey are residents on the lake, that they are most likely to already know the rules/ordinances on the lake. It was decided to leave this question out of the survey and maybe include the concern within another question.

b) In regards to boating safety; Do you feel that the lake has a crowding issue on weekends and holidays during the boating season? Do you feel that there is a safety issues on weekends and holidays during the boating season?

The committee suggested that this question be written using an answering scale (i.e. strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree) rather than yes/no.

c) In regards to boating safety; What boater safety issues do you feel need to be addressed on Big Cedar Lake? Mike Burns requested that Dan Carroll gather statistics from the prior boating season/s as far as safety violations/citations that have been issued in the past. David Claussen suggested that dangerous wakes be brought up. The committee generally suggested that a question be added on the topic of wake restrictions that would be prefaced with information to include environmental/ecological concerns along with safety concerns.

Also, erosion concerns. Tim Wiedmeyer asked Dan Carroll if the PRD has tools to enforce dangerous wakes on the lakes besides speeding. Dan Carroll confirmed that there is a violation that can be enforced, and citations have been written. Dan Carroll will be gathering top violation/citation information related to boating safety to present to the committee at the next meeting.

d) In regards to boating safety; Do you feel that there is a boating safety issue in the peninsula narrows (the channel) The committee members agreed that this question should be scaled answer (agree/disagree 5-scale)

- e) In regards to boating safety; Do you feel that Big Cedar Lake is adequately patrolled? The committee members agreed that this question should be scaled answer (agree/disagree 5-scale)
- f) In regards to riparian rights; How do you feel about riparian property owners renting pier/boat slips to boat owners outside the District? David Claussen suggested that this question be prefaced with an explanation of what the DNR regulations allow and what the law actually is. Also, what the definition of “riparian” is. Instead of using the word “riparian”, Mike Burns suggested using “shoreline property owners”. Explanation of the Town ordinances that restrict residential/commercial zoning. It was suggested that this question be answered on a scale (agree/disagree 5-scale)
- g) In regards to riparian rights; Do you feel that the PRD should take action in order to be able to enforce the DNR laws? (seeking ordinances through the Town of West Bend and Town of Polk
Suggestion of the preface to include exactly the DNR allowed boats per feet of frontage and what they will enforce, and who will enforce it. It was suggested that this question be answered on a scale (agree/disagree 5-scale)
- h) In regards to riparian rights; Are you aware of riparian owners having excessive pier/boat slips in use. Preface explaining what the DNR regulations allow for shoreline frontage and number boats/pwc per amount of frontage. Mike Burns and Tim Wiedmeyer suggested to table this item until the next meeting so that more information can be gathered, in order to find relevance on the survey. Are certain properties grandfathered?
- i) In regards to the temporary closing of the Gonring Drive Public Boat Launch when the parking spaces in Gonring Drive parking lots are full; Are you aware that the DNR had established the maximum number of public parking spaces allowed in the Gonring Drive parking lots for public launching (year established?)
Mike Burns made the suggestion that this question actually be just an informational preface to another question.
- j) In regards to the temporary closing of the Gonring Drive Public Boat Launch when the parking spaces in Gonring Drive parking lots are full; Do you feel that the PRD should continue to enforce? Scaled answer (agree/disagree 5-scale)
- k) In regards to the temporary closing of the Gonring Drive Public Boat Launch when the parking spaces in Gonring Drive parking lots are full; Do you feel that non-shoreline (riparian) property owners who live in the district should be able to launch using the Gonring Drive boat launch provided they do not park in either of the two public parking lots? Discussion about District residents that are non-shoreline property owners involved a suggestion of a specific permit given to these residents to present in order to launch and return trailer to their own property for parking.
- l) In regards to DNR regulations; If the DNR is unwilling or unable to enforce regulations relating to the number of pier/boat slips allowed on resident property and excess slips being rented, should the PRD seek West Bend and Polk Township capabilities to grant the PRD the ability to enforce these regulations? It was suggested that this question be removed from the survey.

Mike Burns suggested that the committee gather environmental and ecological questions to be discussed at the next meeting for another topic that would include any environmental concerns. Questions could also include a proposed PRD meet and greet. Also, preface to specific questions discussed. Tim Wiedmeyer suggested that a question or feedback request be included in the survey in regards to what residents think that the PRD should focus their efforts on, and/or a preface for residents to understand what their Protection and Rehabilitation District responsibilities are and what they do.

5. Discuss delivery methods and response procedures for the survey

There was discussion of using mailer options and also an online survey. Mike Burns will gather information as to costs associated with online survey options such as survey monkey. He explained that from what he understands there is sequencing/numbering system established therefore you know how many surveys were answered, and that a link can be distributed to those interested in taking the survey online. Those who are unable to take the survey

online, can mail their survey in and can then be manually entered to be included in the findings of the survey. Costs associated with online surveys are unknown and information will be gathered to be presented at the next meeting. Also, costs associated with a mailer including return label/stamped envelopes was also discussed. Both options may be necessary in order to gather a higher percentage of completed and returned surveys. Committee members all thought it was necessary to have sequenced/numbered surveys in order to have true opinions of the PRD residents. The committee suggested that the Commissioners establish who will be able to fill out a survey. Discussion of renters of BCL property, husband and wife, adult children, LLC may participate? Dan Carroll informed the members of the committee that only Lake District property owner addresses are available from the County to provide addresses that surveys can be mailed to. Mike Burns proposed that one survey be mailed per taxpaying property. Mike Burns will contact Commissioner Brian Krebs about his knowledge of survey monkey and how it works.

6. Set time and date of future meetings of the committee.

Next meeting is set for Monday, March 11, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Big Cedar Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District Building located at 4480 Gonring Drive, West Bend, WI.

7. Adjourn

David Claussen made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned. Tim Wiedmeyer seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Julie Riley

March 10, 2019

/s/ Mike Burns

Mike Burns