

**BELLA VISTA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION LAKES COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES, January 21, 2015**

Committee Members/Liaisons in Attendance: Alan Akey, Jerry Argetsinger, John Doyle, Walter Hinojosa, Larry Lamar, and Rick Yorman

Board Liaisons: John Nuttall present, Linda Leffler absent.

Management Liaisons: Darrell Bowman and Vern Olafson

Guests: Ron Blackwelder, Bill Davis, Mike Lemoine (GRIP), Bob McGrath, Kori Nye, Charlie Teal (POA Board Chair) and Lynn Atkins (The Weekly Vista).

Call to Order: Chairman Hinojosa called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Election of Officers: The following were nominated and elected as new Lakes JAC officers:

1. Walter Hinojosa as Chairman;
2. John Doyle as vice-Chair; and
3. Jerry Argetsinger as Secretary.

Additions/deletions to the Agenda: The chairman proposed two additions to the published agenda under "Old Business":

1. Updating the Lake Inspection and the Water Sampling rosters.
2. GRIP Status.

Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of the December 3rd, 2014, Lakes JAC meeting were approved and accepted. Mr. Hinojosa asked all JAC members and Management Liaisons to assist the secretary by reviewing the minutes prior to the meeting.

Orientation Topics: Tommy Bailey, General Manager, POA presented a "new member/annual" orientation to the members of the Lakes JAC.

In addition to the usual overview of responsibilities and procedures, the General Manager specifically addressed the 2015 Lakes JAC Tasks contained in the 2015 POA Committee Orientation he provided each member. These duties included:

1. Assist with the 50th Anniversary Fishing in Paradise event to be held on June 13th.
2. Participate in and promote activities for the POA's 50th Anniversary.
3. Continue lake volunteer programs to sample secchi disk transparency, water temperature, and make notes of aquatic vegetation.
4. Expand fish habitat structures.
5. Continue monthly Lake and Parks inspections, documenting repairs and maintenance issues.
6. Develop programs to expand fishing and lake usage with POA Marketing and Communications Manager.

7. Continue to participate in GRIP.

In response to a question from the floor on duty #6, Mr. Bailey said that the new POA Marketing Manager, Ashley Napier, would attend a Lakes JAC meeting in the next month or two.

POA Board Member Liaison Comments:

John Nuttall apologized for being late.

Open Forum:

1. POA Board Chair, Charlie Teal attending as a guest, said that the volunteer “Shoreline Cleanup” project needs to continue. The Lake Rangers and volunteers spent a half-day cleaning each of the lakes in 2013. Due to limited resources in the Lakes and Parks Department, volunteers weren't used in 2014. He also noted that Lake Windsor was looking wonderful.
2. POA Lakes JAC vice-Chair John Doyle told Mr. Bailey that he and the Lakes JAC were very appreciative of the efforts of both Mr. Olafson and Mr. Bowman in managing their respective departments and in how well they worked with the Lakes JAC.
3. Mr. Hinojosa welcomed new member Rick Yorman to the Lakes JAC. The second new member, William Cloud, was not present.

Management Comments:

1) Lakes and Parks Superintendent, Vern Olafson, outlined Lakes and Park activities. In December they worked primarily in the Parks. Overall the lakes and the parks are looking good. Erratic weather drove many of their activities in December.

- They worked on the buoys on the lakes. There are ten lighted buoys and each costs \$250.
- Vern informed the JAC that a car had been driven into Lake Ann. The driver did not survive and a dock was damaged. The dock will need to be repaired by the dock owner.
- Personnel performed preventive maintenance on the rental boats in preparation for the 1st of March marina opening.
- In 2014 Lake Rangers made 10,014 contacts.
- The Lakes and Parks Department will host a Boat Safety Training Course on May 2, 2015, 8:00am to 5:00pm at Riordan Hall. This course is open to any POA member as well as the public. All boat operators born after 1986 are required by Arkansas to take this, or a similar course, before operating a boat. The training is conducted by the Coast Guard Auxiliary.
- The Capital project to replace a rental pontoon boat in 2015 has been approved. This is consistent with the 5-year rotation plan.

2) Lake Ecology and Fisheries Manager (LEFM), Darrell Bowman talked about ongoing departmental efforts.

- He started by noting, despite having fewer Lake Rangers than in previous years, Vern Olafson had led his Rangers to an average productivity rate of 27 contacts per day or 192 per week throughout 2014. Kudo(s) to Vern.
- Darrell talked about ongoing Lakes JAC efforts to sponsor a *Fishing in Paradise* event to be

held at the upper end of Lake Avalon on the weekend of June 13th. This new event will mimic the annual *Paddle in Paradise* sponsored by the Lakes and Parks Department.

The focus of this happening will be fishing. It coincides with the Arkansas “Free Fishing Weekend.” Darrell is working with the AFGC so our lake(s) can be included in the free fishing. Tentatively, the event will include a multi-lake, multi-species fishing tournament. Darrell and John Doyle, the Lakes JAC representative to the POA 50th Anniversary Committee, are making plans for several attractions, including a kids fishing derby, fish-fry, bands, hands-on fishing training, and food trucks.

- Lakes data entry work continues and significant progress is being made.
- The Lake Ecology and Fisheries Department is under contract to support the City of Bella Vista's Storm-water Management Plan to monitor water quality in Little Sugar Creek and Gordon Hollow Creek. Over the past two years the department has developed the capability to locally perform the necessary formal water testing need for the city.
- Mention of Bella Vista City triggered several additional comments from Mr. Charlie Teal regarding improving communications between the city and the POA. The city has allowed the POA to access it's Geographic information system (GIS). Further, the city and the POA will jointly fund the two new “Welcome to Bella Vista” signs. The new Mayor has made better communications between the two entities a priority for 2015.
- Lake Brittany was stocked with 750 catchable size (eleven inch and no fingerling) rainbow trout on January 15th. Darrell is hopeful that he can resume normal stocking levels in 2016.
- Mr. Bowman, Mr. Olafson and Mr. Teal all presented information about the ongoing Tanyard Creek restoration project. Mr. Bowman was extremely high on the Watershed Conservation Resource Center engineers leading the project. Their “natural channel design” is state of the art and unique in Arkansas and even the United States. He volunteered to escort any interested Lakes JAC members to the construction site. Mr. Teal wanted to ensure the members that most of the work was being funded through grants. Mr. Olafson noted that the trail would open in the spring when construction was complete; however, with the changes in the creek bed and new vegetation along the creek, the trail is not likely to follow the creek banks very closely anymore. He further noted that no POA money has been budgeted for trails, that the resurrected trail would have to be a part of the overall NW Arkansas trail plan; and that if public funding is used then the trails will be available to the public as well as POA members. An advantage of public funding is that Arkansas law limits liability for the owners.
- Darrell is shopping for a dedicated “herbicide” boat. He hopes to get the boat in February. The boat is needed to minimize wasted time converting the existing “work” boat between different tasks and because of the danger in moving heavy equipment during conversion.

Old Business:

- The members of the Lakes Committee volunteered 25 hours since their last meeting on 15 October.
- The Goose Reproduction Intervention Program will not be funded in 2015. However the members of the GRIP group will continue to monitor the goose population throughout 2015.

Bob McGrath introduced Mike Lemoine who will be heading up the GRIP volunteers this year. Welcome Mike.

- The rosters for the Lake Inspection and the Water Sampling teams need to be updated because two members have departed and two new members have joined the committee.

New Business: There was no new business. The chairman asked if anyone wanted to change the time and place of the Lakes JAC meeting for 2015. The committee unanimously agreed to continue to meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm at Riordan Hall. Chairman Hinojosa will reserve a room for these meetings.

Announcements and next meeting: Chairman Walter announced that the next Lakes' JAC meeting would be at Riordan Hall at 2 pm on February 18th, 2015. The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerrold Argetsinger, Secretary