

BELLA VISTA VILLAGE LAKES JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES June 12, 2019

Committee Members in Attendance: Matt Champagne (Chairman), Marvin Macedo, Kelly Austin (Vice Chair), Paul Bickford (Secretary), Grace Turley, Harrold Robinson, Lloyd Walker

Bella Vista POA Board Liaisons in Attendance: Tom Judson, Jerre Barron Jr., Kim Carlson

Management Liaisons in Attendance: Rick Echols

Guests Present: Steve Curtis, Bill Ginger

Call to Order: Matt Champagne called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm with seven committee members present.

Additions/deletions to the Agenda: None

Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of the May, 2019 Lakes' JAC meeting were approved as submitted.

Management Comments:

1) **Rick Echols** - Lakes, Parks and Fisheries Superintendent –

Presently In the process of establishing a law enforcement policy/procedures between the POA lake rangers and the BV police force. It was tested Saturday 6/8 when a resident near Granton access noticed an individual staggering around struggling to enter a boat. The resident called the lake ranger at (479) 855-5148 which in turn called BV police. Lake rangers located the suspected boat in violation of the law. It sped back to the Granton access, presumably hoping to escape; however, he was met by two awaiting BV police officers and arrested after failing to pass a breathalyzer test.

- Fortunately, events such as this are rare on BV lakes, and in the past were somewhat ignored because of inadequate enforcement laws; however, now as a result of recent law changes DWI events on BV lakes can be better enforced. **Carlson:** The POA Boating rules, in short, state that alcoholic beverage usage on BV lakes isn't permitted
- Lake Ranger staff of eight are "on board", trained and ready for duty
- Lake rangers made 2913 member/guest contacts in May which was slightly lower than May of last year of 3049, primarily because of in-climate weather
- 112 boat hours during which time made 384 contacts
- London fish cleaning station water pressure issue has now been resolved
- POA dock deck boards are being replaced as needed
- Repairing and refinishing area picnic tables. This effort should have been started earlier; as a result, suggested alternating reviewers of picnic areas with the hopes of improving what needs to be done i.e., different set of eyes observe an area with a different need for improvement

- The Spring aquaculture by-in-large has been a success. 8000 Saugeye were move to Ann, 2000 Saugeye to Winsor. Plan to investigate why Crappie did not seemed to spawn. **Champagne:** what size are the released Saugeye? **Echols:** 1-1/2 " to Ann and 2" to Winsor
- The Lomond vegetation problem seems to be much better this year and under control. A good plankton bloom has provided shade which has helped control algae and rooted vegetables. Increased grass carp stocking has also helped
- Lakes fertilization has been minimal due to the runoff from abundant rain. Lake Rayburn and Norwood have been fertilized once and lake Ann twice. All other lakes are at the clarity we want
- The lakes and Fishery department personnel are participating in a project with the Audubon Society to certify that the Berksdale golf course is a good place for birds, other wild life as well as golf

POA Board Member Liaison Comments:

1) Tom Judson, General Manager-

- The "stump dump/Trafalgar Road fire" is "out"! The lingering smoke results from "trench burning" which should end soon. ADEQ representatives were onsite Monday 6/10 and seemed pleased with the event status. An official report is forthcoming.
- Significant info reported from Joan **Glubczynski**, Marina manager: \$12,000 month to date income from boat rentals and were sold out the last two Saturdays. Crickets and red worms are the top bait sellers and decent sales of minnows. Fishing kayak rentals were slow and need to be market better. Receive many positive comments about the recently renovated Marina. Now renting temporary slips to new boat owners. The Marina grand opening was recently held and was well attended.

Old Business:

- The members of the Lakes Committee volunteered 24 hours since the May meeting.
- **Turley:** Any improvement with vehicle/watercraft registrations? **Echols:** two shore examinations (?) have been done on each lake and recorded names and called suspected violators. Most have registered their watercraft but not applied the registrations stickers. **Turley:** lives on Lake Ann and recently observed vehicles/watercraft in the parking lot. About 50% didn't show a current year registration sticker.

New Business:

- **Champagne:** Introduced a new POA Board member Jerre Barron Jr. who stated he's glad to "be aboard" and plans to attend as many meetings as possible.
- Volunteer needed to help with the Fireflies and Tailgating event on June 15th from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 at Blowing Springs Park
- Jason Adams applied to fill the vacant position on the Lakes JAC. He is highly recommended by **Echols**. After a review of Jason's qualifications, a motion was made and seconded to recommend to the POA Board that he become a member of the Lakes

JAC

- A review of the “2019 Lake JAC Capital Budget Recommendations” and “wish list” (see below) was done in preparation for consideration of capital requests for year 2020.
- **Echols:** Much progress has been made on most of the ten “Must Do” items. Item #6, a summer internship, was moved to next year’s budget request, and #10, the addition of Avalon beach parking, was moved to a different department
- Capital intensive items such as the resurfacing of lake dam roadways await a future budget allocation, as well as other capital intensive projects e.g., resurfacing of car parking areas. However, Brittany’s dam roadway is in urgent need of resurfacing with Raymond’s next, with costs ranging from \$40,000 to \$60,000 each
- **Judson:** It will be a lean year for year 2020 POA department capital budgets
- **Echols:** The sealing of Granton parking area “seams” is planned to be done this year (\$850). All but three of the seven lakes have a resident lake ranger boat. A trailered one (most need of replacing) is used at the three smaller lakes.
- The top lakes capital budget request/need for 2020: replace an aging ranger boat and truck (about \$44,000) both of which are about 10 years old. The truck’s odometer shows close to 200,000 miles. Usually purchase a new truck but would consider one a year old with low mileage.
- **Champagne:** Efforts will continue to fine tune 2020 Capital Budget Recommendations and the lake JAC will present a final one to the POA Board before the deadline.

Open Forum:

- **Steve Curtis:** With regards to “trail heads” at lake boat ramps/access: at a previous meeting it was stated there would be none. **Judson:** Correct. The map produced in 2015 is *incorrect*. Present maps show trail heads in the correct locations. Trail heads on the west side of Lomond haven’t even been considered at this point in time. No bike trail heads on the east side boat ramps, parking areas or marinas.
- **Ed Limehouse:** The current president of the Bella Vista Fly Tyers (BVFT) attended to hear the discussion regarding the progress and completion of 2019 lakes capital projects. The BVFT have made contributions to past lake capital projects e.g., a fishing dock at the Marina; therefore, would like to consider helping the POA with lake capital budget projects for 2020. Upon the completion of the 2020 POA lakes budget, the BVFT would consider helping with one or more of the lakes top capital budget needs. **Echols:** such a list was provided earlier in the year and BVFT funds were allocated; however, no check has been written to date to help pay for a batch of catfish. No hurry, the stocking won’t occur until October.
- **Judson:** Point of clarification question: BVFT funds are issued for capital budget items only?
- **Champagne:** Thanks to the BVFT for considering help with the lake capital budget items!
- **Bill Ginger:** (479-883-0298) Lives on Lomond near Tyree (raceway) is distressed, as are his neighbors, by damage to swimming/boat docks and lake walls by watercraft wakes and suggests the follow:

1. Replace existing boating rules signs at each boat ramp of “wake” lakes and

Marinas with large lettering stating “Strictly enforced: no skiing, tubing, or wakes within 150 feet of private docks and lake walls

2. Consider adding a large derrick buoy with large signage at Tyree channel/neck entrance displaying anti-wake boating rules shown in item 1
3. Consider making all three of Lomond’s channels/necks wake free

- **Macedo:** The lakes JAC is well aware of the issues resulting from watercraft wakes and are working to ascertain ways to significantly reduce the problem. *He noted it’s a nationwide problem.*

Announcements and next meeting:

- The next Lakes' JAC meeting will be held at the Bella Vista Village Country Club Board Room at 2 pm Wednesday, July 10th, 2019.
- Lake JAC meetings are video recorded and can be viewed at:
<https://youtu.be/3MxGjJVePaM>

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:12pm.

Respectively submitted,
Paul Bickford, Secretary

See Below

7-18-18

2019 Lakes JAC – Capital Budget Recommendations

Must Do's (critical to maintain the Bella Vista Lakes)

1. Sufficient annual budget to maintain all lakes with a balanced mineral enhancement program when and where needed
2. Maximize enforcement of boundaries for water skiing and wake boarding on all wake lakes through continued presence of Lake Rangers and the use of information releases through lake bulletin boards, Lake Updates, press releases, etc.
3. Continue trout stocking program in Lake Brittany
4. Continue fish breeding programs in golf course ponds etc.
5. Continue fish stocking programs in all lakes (is there a need to do more?)
6. Fund part time internship program for college students majoring in Fish Biology or related field to help with Summer projects
7. Replace, repair or maintain all POA maintained docks and existing boat launches on an as needed basis
 1. Rayburn - boat ramp in need of maintenance/repair
 2. Treat all docks with perma-seal to ensure to protect docks long term
8. Provided needed maintenance on all POA Parks and facilities
9. Resurface/paving the drives and parking lots at the lakes areas:
 1. Resurface black top on all POA Lake Dams as needed and when budget permits
 2. Resurface parking and drives - priority is Tyree park area on Lomond, Brittany, and Ratburn
 3. Windsor all pavement needs replacing
10. Consider adding additional parking as needed at Lake Avalon to accommodate increased usage of the beach/swimming area.

Nice to Do's (needed to improve the Bella Vista Lakes)

1. Enclose all POA port-a-potties within lake visibility with a semi-permanent structure (much like city of Bentonville does – see picture) in reference to Lake Brittany Dam resident request. Re-locate current port-a-potty to ramp side of Dam on Lake Brittany



2. Replace the rental boat fleet at the Marina as needed – boats are aging
 3. Shore up area around the London boat ramp on Lake Windsor to prevent/minimize sediment deposits during heavy rains.
 4. Improve launch access on main Lake Windsor ramp. Pretty tight to pull in and back boat into water.
 5. Guard rail with boulders on the backside of Lake Brittany Dam
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