

**MINUTES
LAKES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HAINES CITY, FLORIDA**

March 13, 2018

4:00 PM

Commission Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Member Russ Yates called to order the Lakes Advisory Board Meeting on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 4:05 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers located at 620 E. Main St. Haines City, FL.

Board Members in attendance were: Chair- Kristen Aanerud-Smith, Russ Yates, Sheila Cotton, and Kurt Vahle.

Absent: Michael Weaver.

Staff in attendance were: Transportation Superintendent Ed Trail, Secretary Jill Cline, and Deputy City Clerk Erica Anderson.

Also in attendance: Commissioner Anne Huffman

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2.13.18

Board Member Cotton moved to approve the minutes from the 2.13.18 meeting. Board Member Vahle seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no members of the public to come forward and speak with the board.

4. OLD BUSINESS

4.A. LAKE TRACY UPDATE

Superintendent Trail informed the board that the county treats Lake Eva and Lake Tracy. In regards to the masterplan, the county does not have a masterplan, however the masterplan for the City of Haines City, staff informed the board that it has not been approved. [The masterplan doesn't directly affect the Lakes within Haines City]

Board Member Yates asked staff whether the city has acquired an air-boat, he stated if the city has acquired this, then spraying could be completed by the city. Staff has ordered parts for it but there are little things that must be fixed and are currently waiting on a radiator. It was also relayed that there is currently one employee on staff able to spray.

Board Member Cotton said she believed that it was previously stated that the city would complete the spraying and charge the county to re-coupe monies.

Discussion ensued amongst the board and staff concerning permitting, spraying and comparisons of the lakes within different cities receiving spraying by the county. Staff would like to have (2) teams but this is not feasible at the time.

The board inquired about the steps for a public records request.

4.B. LAKE EVA ALUM UPDATE

The Alum has gone out for bid, at the pre-bid meeting there were 4 contractors that attended the meeting and viewed the area at Lake Eva. Superintendent Trail went on to explain the bid process to the board.

Board member Cotton inquired about already used Alum at a discount and whether the Alum treatment affected the Lake Henry project. Staff informed the board it would not affect the Lake Henry project.

4.C. LAKE EVA - LAKE HENRY

Board Member Cotton asked if the Lake Henry project was still in the works. Superintendent Trail stated, to his knowledge, they have been granted access to the Morrison Ranch to conduct pre evaluation work.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.A. ADHOC LAKE SURVEY

Gay Sharpe, Natural Resources Director for Polk County spoke previously with staff and informed them there is no actual schedule for spraying.

Chair Aanerud-Smith asked if this was in relation to Bryan Finder and him stating he would be conducting a future survey. Mr. Finder previously stated, he didn't plan on spraying cattails and lily pads.

5.B. WATER SCHOOL

The water school is with UF IFAS and the Lake Education Action Drive for lake clean-up, water conservation and preservation. This is much like what Public Works does with the water wagon, on what happens to stormwater and how it is treated.

5.C. GREEN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (WINTER HAVEN)

Director Javed attended the Planning Division at the Winter Haven Chain of Lakes and submitted information for the board to review.

5.D. EARTH DAY APRIL 21, 2018

Earth Day is April 21st 2018. There will be a festival at the Lutheran Church of God in Haines City for the celebration of Earth Day. The Board was presented with a flyer for more information. Also, the Water Wagon will be in attendance and Public Works may have there own Earth Day at Lake Eva on the 22nd.

Commissioner Huffman asked if they will sponsor Earth Day. Staff stated that the particulars have not been articulated but it will consist of educating on lakes clean-up and being more involved in the community.

Board Member Yates asked about anglers with attitude, a private group who participated in lake clean up with kayaks and involved children, boy scouts and the public and if

anyone else has taken over this task. It was stated that to staff's knowledge, the group has been dissolved.

Chair Aanerud-Smith asked if possible to get with Tabitha on Lake Clean-up and how will it be promoted. Staff informed the board that advertising is being done with the Parks and Recreation department and Tabitha will be present.

Board Member Yates asked whether advertising on the water bills is still being done. Staff informed the board that hazardous waste clean-up was advertised on the water bill and spring clean-up, scheduled for the 24th of March is on the water bills as well. It was further stated that due to time constraints, it may not be possible to advertise on the water bill before the event.

Commissioner Huffman stated she has spoken with Finance Director Conner and there are two cycles for bills, so it is just a matter of finding out when the cycles are and getting information to her. She went on to say, she is more about action than talk and advised the board to get someone to say no and at that point, she could talk with the City Manager and ask him why this can't happen. Further, the board needs to let staff know they would like to advertise for the fountain on every water bill. She ended by encouraging the board to put forth action and informing them it doesn't cost the city anything to advertise these items on the water bills.

Board Members Aanerud-Smith and Yates stated they would like to see advertising for the fountain on facebook and the City Managers report.

Commissioner Huffman said that is a great opportunity for advertising.

Secretary Cline informed the board that the water bills go out on the 1st and the 15th of the month.

5.E. FOUNTAIN DONATIONS

The board is currently seeking donations and plans to attend the Cardboard Boat race on May 5th, 2018 with a booth for donations.

Secretary Cline reminded the board that all checks and monies are to be made out to the City of Haines City and needs to come to the City, LAB meetings, or to Secretary Cline.

5.F. ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

The Board stated they have been seeking board members. Commissioner Huffman asked what the qualifications were to join the board. Chair Aanerud-Smith stated the qualifications are to show up to meetings and actively participate.

5.G. BOARD COMMENTS

Board Member Vahle talked about informing the public using facebook and the water bills about the use of phosphates in their fertilizer when watering your grass. Superintendent Trail stated staff will be adding some fertilizer tips on the next City Managers report.

Chair Aanerud-Smith suggested this information be added to facebook, she said younger person's more so use facebook to get their information. Also, she will follow up on the check donation.

Board Member Yates suggested that it be noted, the information is advisable by the Haines City Lakes Advisory Board.

Superintendent Trail stated that the public may send samples of their soil to the University of Florida, as a free service, they will test it and tell you the specific fertilizer you need instead of buying and using the 10/10/10 fertilizers.

Commissioner Huffman stated she will forward the e-mail she received from the City Attorney concerning whether there would be a conflict of interest or an Ethics concern with a Commissioner asking a business for donations. She said she was advised not to directly solicit funds from anyone however, she stated she will give the board the contacts she has and she can attend meetings with the potential donors but she would not speak but only attend as a member of the Lakes Committee. She went on to say that she would sign the donation letter in help and support. She said it is as important to her to be a community partner as it is to be a business partner.

Board Member Yates questioned if there would be a violation of the sunshine law if two members met with potential donors. Commissioner Huffman briefly explained the sunshine law to the board.

Further discussion ensued concerning partnerships with member of the community and business owners.

Board Member Yates asked if staff is looking to obtain a permit for dredging. Staff informed him that staff must first identify funding. Member Yates suggested the board make it a priority and then try to get funding and next a permit.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Without any further business the Lakes Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

BY: _____

ATTEST:

Linda Bourgeois
City Clerk