

BLSG Meeting
20 August 2020
Approved Minutes

Please note: The August 20 BLSG meeting was cut short by Zoom limits. There will be a special meeting via Zoom on Thursday Sept. 3, starting at 7:00 pm, to complete the agenda. There will be a limited number of seats for the public at the Stephen Douglas House; members of the public who wish to participate remotely should contact the BLSG for the meeting ID and password.

Agenda—August 20

1. Call to order
2. Covid-19 and safety measures
3. Introduction of guests
4. Public comments
5. Approval of the June 18th 2020 BLSG meeting minutes(Steve B.)
6. Treasurers/Budget report
 1. District finances
 2. 2021 budget committee(Mike B)
7. Operations report(Will M.)
 - Past
 - Present
 - Future
8. PR
9. Other Business
 1. New
 2. Old
10. Adjournment

Minutes

The meeting was held on Zoom, hosted by Will Mathis, with some participants present at the Stephen Douglas House in Brandon.

Present:

Board Members: Doug Perkins, Jeff Schumann, Jeff Whiting, Mike Blaisdell, Richard Russ, Paul Vaczy, Steve Belcher

BLSG Staff: Will Mathis

Visitors: Wayne Rausenberger.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Doug Perkins was introduced as the replacement for Jim Bosman, representing Leicester.

2. The Chair reviewed Covid-19 measures and precautions. Staff of the BLSG are observing protocols, wearing masks and keeping a distance in all interactions with vendors and the public. When traveling together in a vehicle, masks are worn. Will Mathis noted that all mandated precautions are followed.

3. Public Comment

Wayne Rausenberger had a number of issues to put before the board, and did so. They were then taken up one by one.

a. He noted that there had been no Treasurer's report for the past meetings. Mike Blaisdell answered that the position of Treasurer was being reconsidered, but that reports of financial transactions had been provided to the Board. The latest report does not include a statement of the balances in the two accounts.

It was noted that the statement of expenses did not separate out income received (e.g. from Proctor) from costs. Jeff Whiting stated that he had reviewed the bills before the transaction report was sent out. On the question of an accountant, Eloise Crane will stay until Oct. 15 to complete the 3rd Quarter reports and payments due to the State. Jeff Whiting said that Brad Lawes has gotten a quote from the company he uses for payroll to cover the BLSG if the options aren't satisfactory.

b. The definition of Net Zero, a term used in the State grant for larviciding. Part of this question involved the invoices to the State; the Chair said they were being paid in a timely manner, and noted that the BLSG is switching to electronic invoices.

c. Notices of assessments sent to the town, requesting payment in 30 days. This runs against all previous practice and procedure. Mike Blaisdell answered that he had not written or signed the invoice. After discussion relating to the situation of the towns, whose tax deadlines have been delayed, it was suggested that a phone call to the various town could remove the pressure and reassure them that past practice was still in operation.

d. Meeting have not been properly warned. Mike Blaisdell noted that with the Covid-19 situation, the year has not been easy. Steve Belcher noted that he could include a notice of the next scheduled meeting, and the mechanics for participation, in the Unapproved minutes sent to Town Clerks soon after the meeting.

Zoom then noted that the meeting had 5 minutes left to run. Mike Blaisdell announced a special meeting for Sept. 3 to complete the agenda and gave a quick run-down on some of the agenda items.

4. The chair then called for a vote on approval of the minutes of the July meeting. On a motion by Jeff Whiting, seconded by Mike Blaisdell, there was a vote in the last Zoom seconds. There were three votes for, none against, and three abstentions (on the grounds of non-attendance). The Minutes were therefore approved, although in confusion the Chair said they had not been.

Respectfully submitted,
steve belcher