

Lake Quality Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2021
4-Island Lake and Zoom

Janet called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

A. Attendance – This meeting was in-person with zoom links

Committee Members – Kimberly Clow, Linda Flores, Rick Flores, Janet Fulks, John Glaze, Fred Hicks (virtual), and Alisha Loken

Staff - Debbie Papac, Recreation Manager and Butch Reyburn, BVSA Board Member

B. Approval of Agenda – A motion to approve the agenda was made by Kimberly, seconded by Linda, and approved by the committee.

C. Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the April meeting had previously been approved via email, posted, and sent to Anita (BVSA.)

D. New Items

1. We have a new committee member, Vicky Rausch and – although she couldn't attend today's meeting, Janet provided the committee with some background information about her. Vicky is a recently retired Environmental Engineer. Since retiring, she has taken on the role of Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District Outreach Coordinator. Vickie did attend the algae cleanup on Tuesday 5/11 with 6 other members (Janet, Linda, Rick, John, Alisha, Kimberly) and volunteer Keith Clow.

2. Ben (our SOLitude consultant) was in BVS the last weekend in April. Most of the committee members were able to meet with him at some point, and ask questions. He and Fred looked at all three lakes, and took sediment samples. Tests showed that there is no greater than 24" of sediment in the lakes, which is very good. Sediment samples were taken from each of the water bodies. Ben also followed up with a written report (attached Appendix 1). He indicated that something should be done regarding the Jamaica Dunes drainage ditch to avoid more algae buildup. Plans are on track for the scheduled Phoslock application.

3. Last week, Janet, Fred, Butch, and Wesley (BVSA GM) met with the CA Water Board regarding our upcoming Phoslock application plans. Someone from the BVS CSD alerted the waterboard, asking if a permit was required. Although the Water Board confirmed that no permit was required, they were still hesitant about giving BVS the 'green light' to go ahead with our Phoslock plans. They asked for a report with specific details, including our calculations, which Janet and Fred put together. It contained 60 pages of details about all of the bodies of water in BVS. (The document is on the LQAC Google drive for viewing https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yT6DxnoShHfGXX_f201dgiQzpXJiSK5x?usp=sharing).

Butch advised the committee that an emergency BVSA Board meeting was then held, in regards to the matter. The bottom line is that the Water Board couldn't provide us with a definitive answer, as far as the Phoslock application process. (The lakes in BVS are not considered U.S. waterways; therefore, there is no approval process.) Worst case scenario is that BVS could be fined (possibly \$10K/day) for each day of the application process. If it turns out that a permit *is* required, that could cost approximately \$6K. The BVSA Board, of course, does not want to encounter fines. However, a great deal of money has already been put into the lakes. If the Phoslock process is delayed, there could be serious repercussions as far as the lake quality. The BVSA Board voted unanimously to move ahead with the application, and will wait to see what the outcome is (it could take several months for the Water Board to respond.) *note update with CA Waterboard 5/14 indicated no permit needed for this application see summary appendix 2.

Fred and Janet reported that the Phoslock application is scheduled to begin on May 20th, with two crews operating simultaneously. All of the lakes will be treated for \$122K; extra product will be applied to 4-Island Lake. The completion time will be split in half, in an effort to minimize the dollar amount, in case we do get fined. The process will be completed before Memorial Day weekend. Residents can continue to use the lakes during the application, and lakefront properties will not need to be accessed by the workers. Janet will advise the committee if any help is required by the workers.

Fred is still looking into the feasibility of a discount, for participating in a long-term Phoslock post-application study.

4. There are currently no plans to recommunicate with the residents about the Phoslock treatment. Statements explaining the process were already posted on Facebook, NextDoor, eBuzz, and the website. Residents with questions will be directed to the website and advised to contact Wesley for additional information.

5. Fred reported that there is no large DO increase, which is good from an algae perspective. Overall, the current data looks better than last year; however, effluent watering on the golf course has not begun yet. John reported that the (Jamaica Dunes) drainage ditch, behind his house, also looks much better than last year.

The ditch has water in it as a result of CSD pipe leaks, underneath the bridge at Jamaica Dunes running water across on the golf course at hole 6. Although reported over a month ago, leaks have **not** been fixed. Fred will report them again, to the CSD.

Janet reported that they have found a much simpler and cheaper Coliform test, which is required anywhere that people swim; it distinguishes between E. coli and other fecal bacteria. It is used in conjunction with an egg incubator (which has been ordered,) and will allow us to do weekly testing of the lake. This will save us an enormous amount of time and money.

6. Rick reported that some of the lily tubers in the 7th Hole Pond appear to have gotten loose, so he and Linda will go over after the meeting, and replant them in baskets. He has put together one floating island prototype and is working on a second. He had previously sent emails out, asking for suggestions regarding which aquatic plants to use on it. There were a few responses, including one from Ben, and he will order the plants from Pro Ponds West Distributor (in Sun Valley) tomorrow. They should be in next week. A few committee members donated (or pledged) \$105 to be used toward the floating islands.

7. Janet reminded us that most information should be reported through the committee official channels if communicating with the public. Current public Phoslock communication is directed to Butch and Wes. Anything to be published is usually run by several committee members first. She submitted an article for the eBuzz on Monday, regarding removal of the algae from the Jamaica Dunes drainage ditch, which had been done earlier that day. Rick and Linda will write a short article on the floating islands for the July Bear Tracks by Rick and Linda for June Bear Tracks. Reports on the Lilies were submitted.

8. Update on easements/liability – Fred reported that Bob Hogue is getting ready to survey the area around 4-Island, within the next couple of weeks. The ECC would like the BVSA Board to move forward, as far as hiring Bob to survey the back corners of all the lots along the lake. Janet advised that most of the surveying issues would involve the recreation advisory committee (RAC) vs. lake quality (LQAC).

9. 4th of July Plans – LQAC will staff a booth at Cub Lake on Saturday and Sunday of that weekend. Debbie will reserve us a spot. Kimberly has the LQAC banner. Janet is putting together lake information for the table; Rick & Linda will provide her with some photos. Janet will also bring various microscopes. Fred will supply various types of fish tackle to display. Rick will ask Rick at Mountain Gardens Nursery if he still has a fish tank to loan us, to display some fish. Fred suggested that we hold another virtual catfish derby that weekend.

F. Follow-Up Items

1. Rick and Linda will write an article on the floating islands for the July Bear Tracks.
2. We will wait on word from the BVSA Board before publishing any other articles on the Phoslock application.
3. Janet will find out if there is a good time when Scott would be able to make meetings, maybe at least once a quarter.
4. Janet will send committee members electronic copies of the volunteer form.
5. Committee members will secure various items for the 4th of July booth.

Adjournment-The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 9th at 1:00 p.m., location TBD.

Minutes submitted by: Linda Flores

Minutes approved by: Janet Fulks

Appendix 1_ Ben Chen Summary of visit

Hi all,

Please see below for a list of recap and follow up items

Phoslock staging details once final dosing is completed.

TBD on results

Potential bid/cost for sealing the leak in Cub lake

Steve Lawler (cc'd) will be briefed on this and will reach out to you.

Applicable Enzyme application sites and costs

More info to come

Your interpretation of the core sampling

Core samples were taken using a septic tank sampler. The purpose was to determine the amount of muck within the lake and compare it to what the fish finder was reporting. It was found that these two measurements were similar enough and that the fish finder could be used to roughly estimate the depth of muck.

Possible study partnership

Ajay has indicated interest in partnering in a long-term study. The details still need to be done, but I'm thinking of using Algae ID, total phosphorous, orthophosphate and chlorophyll a to track over a period of time.

Jamaica dunes drainage area improvement recommendations.

It is recommended that the ditch be excavated further to improve water depth, improve fish spawning habitat, remove organic material, and reduce algae growth. Once the area has been excavated, apply Phoslock at a rate of 1 bag per 2,000 sq ft. and treat the areas of high organic build-up with MD pellets.

Ben Chen

Aquatic Project Manager

Appendix 2 – Second Waterboard meeting summary

Butch, Fred, Wes and I met with the Waterboard today. The waterboard explained that the negative thing was they wished we had submitted a wastewater discharge application. However, after they read our info and after Anthony from Solitude contacted them directly, they felt that we had done a lot of work, we had tested, recorded and planned. Anthony convinced the waterboard that Solitude, our consultants, were qualified, experienced with lots of applications and nationally known. So they are NOT going to tell us we cannot apply Phoslock. Of course, they could fine us if any catastrophic event happened, but they don't expect that. They asked us to follow some of the follow up tests

similar to Laguna Niguel and acknowledged that we already did most of those tests but would like us to follow up with a Lanthanum test pre, during and after application if possible. They also said that this process revealed a need for communication between waterboard departments (such as Harmful Algal Blooms and Wastewater), they also found that Clear Lake in our same water board division was applying it and wastewater had not heard of it. So we are good to go on Thursday.

In addition, the waterboard chair gave us some information on the current permit the CSD has applied for and Butch will be following up on it. Call me if you have specific questions.

Janet