**Jefferson-German Lake Association Board Minutes**

**February 18, 2014 Meeting**
**At the Home of Buster West**

**The meeting was called to order** by President Hass at 6:30 PM.

**Present**: Scott Hass, Arne Jessen , Larry Wasmund, Buster West, Steve Schulte and Guest, Aaron Wills. And Lake Assn Member, Wayne. Absent: Rick Conners, Bud Warmka

**Minutes** of the December Board Meeting (copy attached) were approved as distributed. M/s/c

**Treasurer’s Repor**t was presented (copy attached) discussed and approved. M/s/c

**Discussion of Le Sueur County Ordinance re JGLA Inspection of Sewage Treatment Systems:**

**Scott** raised about requesting a workshop with the commissioners and to talk about where we go from here now that the ordinance has passed. A meeting could be a good first step to get some movement and then at the meeting, once it is obvious that there's lots and lots of work to do, then you bring up the idea of an advisory/planning committee. That way you set the stage for the idea, you get some immediate feedback on it, and the opportunity to discuss it with everyone.

**Aaron Wills** made the following suggestions re some specific items to talk about at the meeting:

* Coming up with policies based on questions that are arising on how the ordinance will be implemented (what Buster and Wayne were talking about).
* A plan for continuing to get education and information out to lake residents, especially once the seasonal people return.
* Communicating with people what the county has for a plan at this point and the timeline: the feasibility studies and neighborhood meetings; what neighborhoods are receiving those and also who isn't. What services can be provided those who aren't in a neighborhood with a feasibility study being done.
* What role can the lake association play?

**Questions to be addressed to Planning & Zoning:**

1. BACKGROUND:  Since passage of the new septic ordinance, as it applies to lake shore districts of German & Jefferson Lakes, several high profile lots have sold and been recorded without septic upgrading and current certificates of compliance. Local realtors are marketing other lots that are non-compliant, informing sellers and prospects that disclosure of the current septic status is all that is required. Buyers accept the responsibility of upgrade passed on to them with the 2017 deadline to become compliant. IS THIS TRUE??? Is it the same for zoning requests?  (Build a garage, deck, driveway, etc.)

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1. BACKGROUND: Many small lots on German & Jefferson have no way to become compliant with the space requirements of drain field design. The “standard,” applied to holding tank options, has been repeated several ways as “allowed as a last resort”. It can easily be determined which lots will never have enough space for a drain field. If they have a good, non-leaking septic tank, these could easily be modified to just a holding tank at a much lower cost.

**Sewer Board Questions:**

1. Would a septic system tank, inspected and shown to not leak, be a way for a great number of these smaller lots to be compliant by 2017?
2. If the septic tank is good but the drain field is not, can the drain field be blocked off and the tank be considered a holding tank?
3. Does everyone have the amnesty to 2017 whether they volunteered or not?
4. There will be meetings for the 11 identified neighborhoods.  How about the rest of the lake?
5. If neighborhoods decide to do cluster systems, will there be a standard document for all of these “mini districts” within the sewer district?
6. If not, will there be minimum standards (such as allowances for persons who don’t go on the cluster right away to come on later, or penalties for abusing the mound with drained or flushed chemicals, or assessments for maintenance, etc)?
7. Will there be model agreements or legal help in drafting documents?
8. How will these “mini systems” and their officers be bonded and insured?

**Adjournment** – M/s/c to adjourn the meeting at 8:30.

**Next Meeting**: April 8, 2014 at Buster’s Home at 6:30 P.M.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Arne Jessen, Secretary