



BARNES LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Online via Zoom

Wednesday, November 10, 2021
6:00 PM

1. **Call to Order:**

Chair Gary Bodeutsch called the regular meeting of the Barnes Lake Management District Steering Committee to order at 6:05 PM.

2. **Roll Call:**

Gary Bodeutsch (Chair), Linnea Madison (Vice- Chair), Jody Keys, Dana Day, Tom Sparks, Kathy Peterson, Tom Oliva, Judith Loft, Dave Kangiser (Water Resources Specialist), Dan Smith (Water Resources and Sustainability Director)

The following Steering Committee Members were excused: Rusty Weaver, Lalani Shelton, Bob Gillette, Contractor Doug Dorling (Northwest Aquatic Eco-Systems)

3. **Approval of Minute:**

The September 8, 2021 Steering Committee minutes were reviewed. Member Peterson identified misspellings of Judith Loft and Doug Dorling. The minutes were approved as amended. Member Peterson motioned to accept, Member Sparks seconded the motion, the vote was unanimous.

4. **Public Comment:** Resident Tom Oliva provided public comment:

There are a few aquatic weeds that he didn't recognize and a few pink lilies that he hasn't seen in a while. The lake looks great. Resident Oliva referenced the 2015 low lake level in the 9-8-2021 meeting minutes. He remembers that 2001 seemed to be lower to where he could walk to an island in the middle of the lake. Based on the progress he has seen throughout the years of treatment, he supports an assessment increase. He thought it would be a good idea to send out agendas and minutes well before meeting dates. He would like to see the City Council renew LMD. He thanked the Steering Committee for their service.

5. **Member Comment:** See floating mats

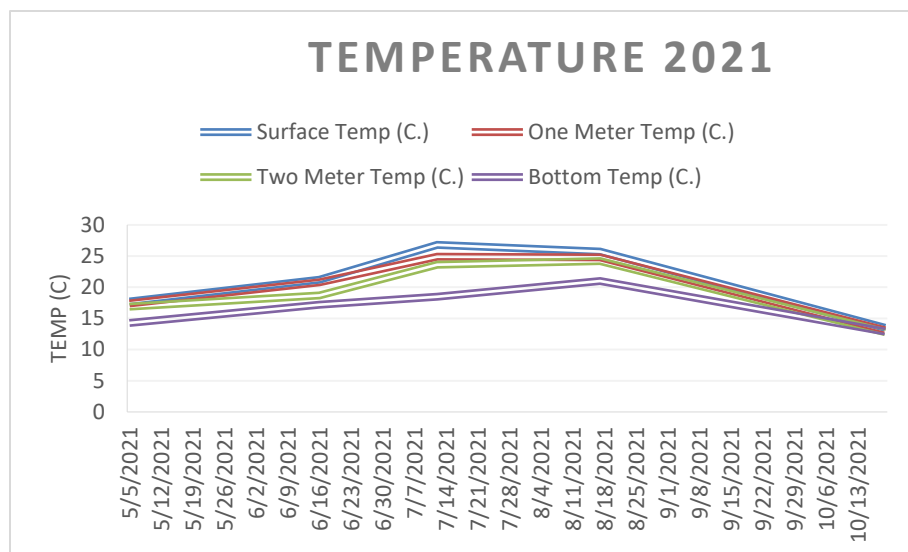
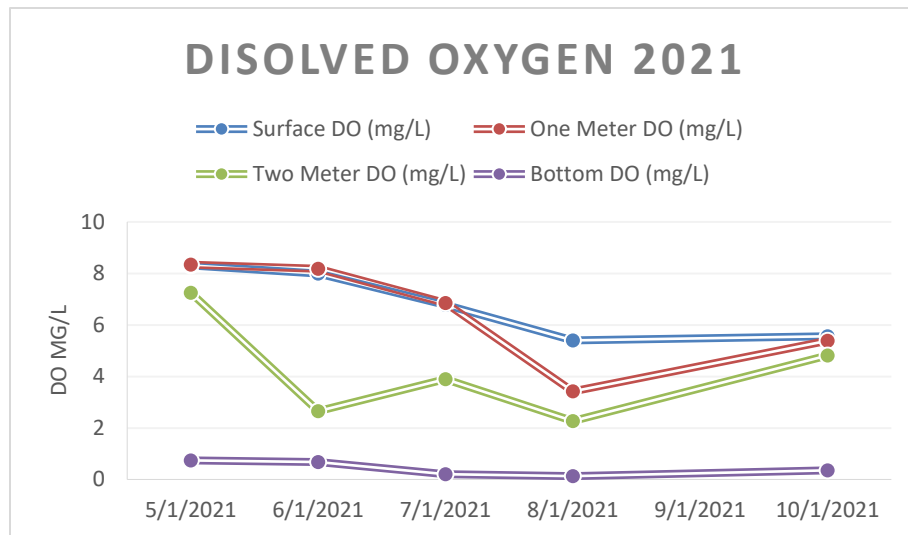
6. Lake Management:

a. 2021 Treatment Program Update (Dorling): Contractor Dorling with Northwest Aquatic Eco-Systems (NWAES) was excused from the meeting. There was no immediate update on the Treatment Program.

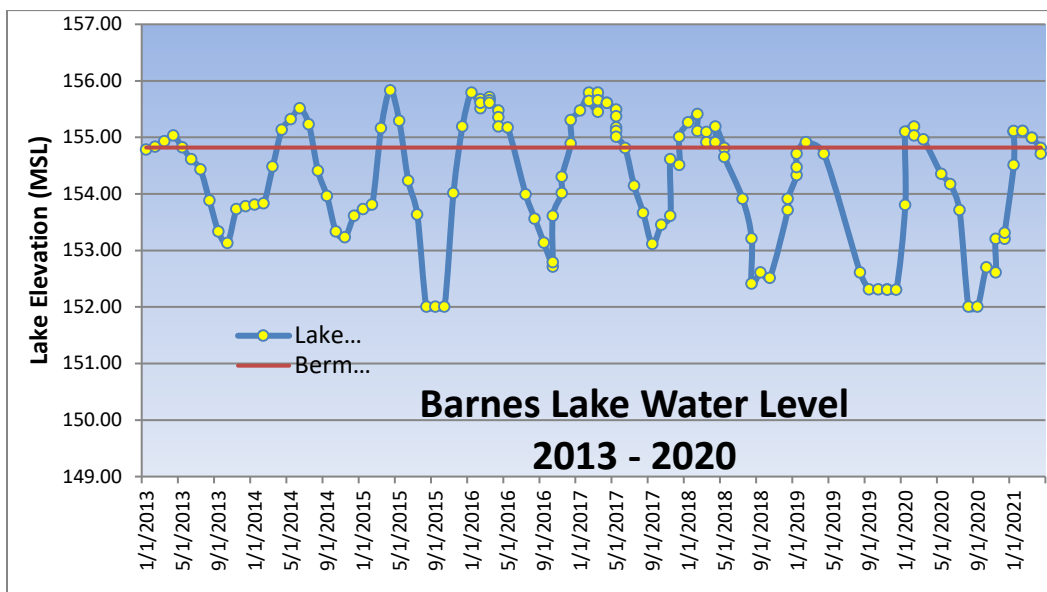
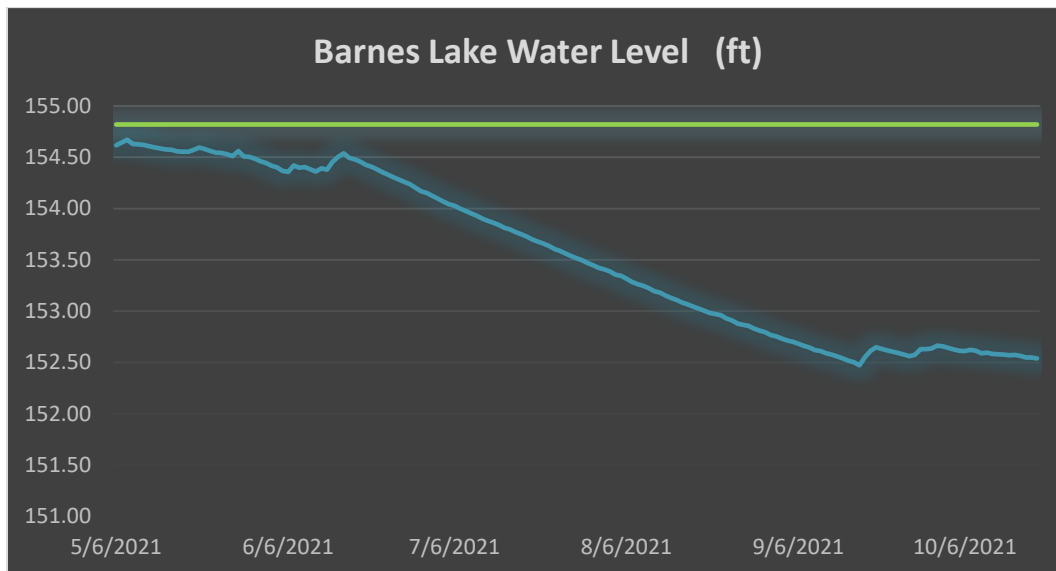
b. Lake Access Improvement Update (Dorling): Contractor Dorling was excused from the meeting. Member Day said that Contractor Dorling was supposed to coordinate contractors to notify Member Day when they would be coming to the lake access to formulate bids for the work. No contractors have contacted Member Day yet.

c. Lake Levels and Water Quality (Kangiser): Specialist Kangiser gave the water quality update. Laboratory analyses in 2021 were not very helpful. The results from all of the samples submitted for analysis came back as “Non-Detect” for Total Phosphorous and Total Nitrogen. There seems to be a shortage of staff at laboratories who conduct these analyses and the problems seem to be industry wide. Before next water quality sampling season, Specialist Kangiser will shop around for a new lab that is reliable.

Water temperatures and Dissolved Oxygen are becoming homogenized, which is typical of fall/winter characteristics of a shallow lake. No more sampling events are planned for 2021.



Water levels hit a low level of 152.5 ft. for 2021 before fall rains came to stabilize lake levels. The last water level reading was on October 19, 2021.



d. Floating Mats (added to agenda): There was a group discussion about floating mats. Several members dislike when mats move. There is a fear that some lake front residents could become land locked and unable to access the lake for recreation. The floating island that moved during the summer months to DOT Island is secured with rebar. Member Madison would like the floating islands managed to some degree. Several management questions came out of the discussion.

- What size of mat needs to be managed? Chair Bodeutsch cuts them up to manageable pieces and removes them from the water.
- Should this be something that is included in the NWAES contract?

The Steering Committee would like Contractor Dorling's input on what can be done to manage the floating mats. Discussions with Contractor Dorling would need to start early in the calendar year of 2022. Director Smith indicated that floating mats management should be included in the NWAES Contract if managed by Contractor Dorling.

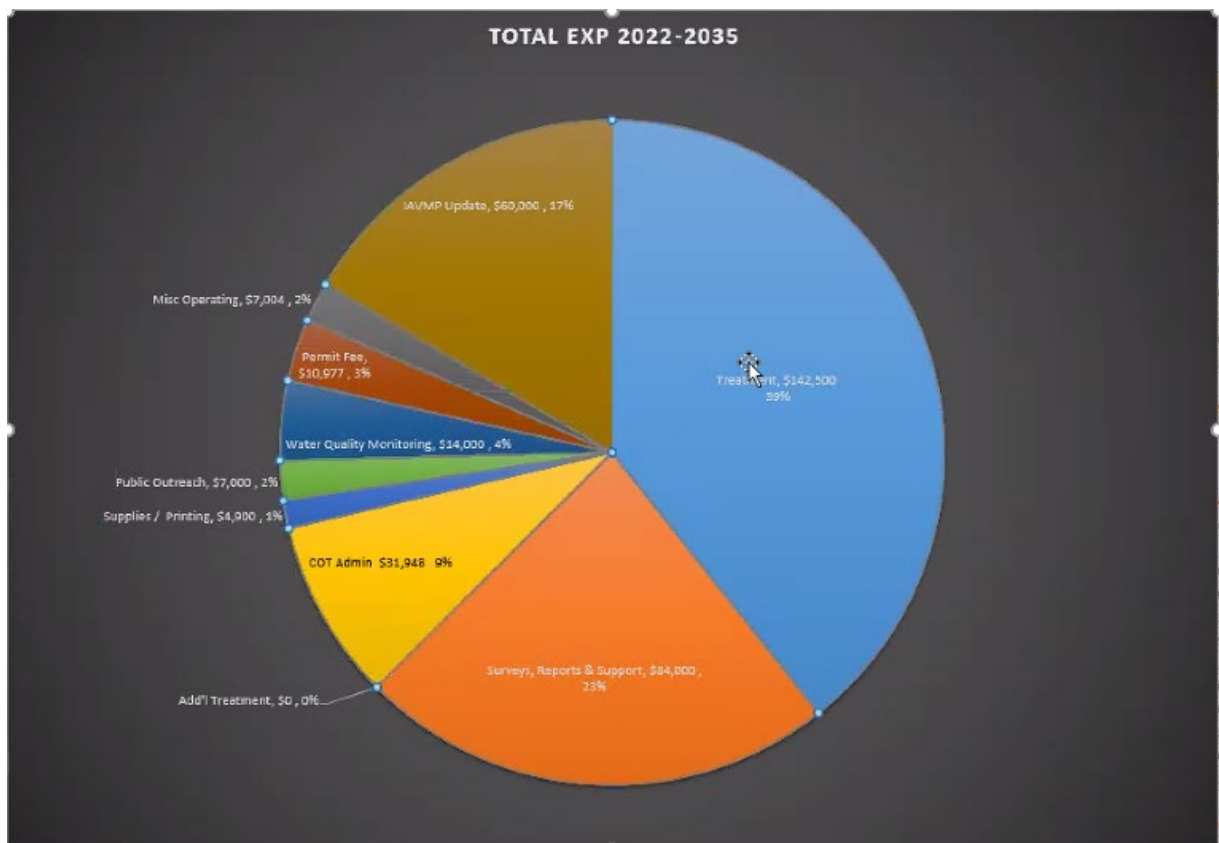
7. General Business

a. 2021 Budget, Assessment and Work Plan (Smith): Director Smith reviewed the budget. A few expenditures have not been realized (Ecology Permit, City of Tumwater administrative costs, and 2021 NWAES invoice). 2021 Assessment revenues are accurate and liens have been filed for non-payment. Assessments that are outstanding are only from last year and this year. The anticipated end balance for 2021 will be pretty close to zero this year.

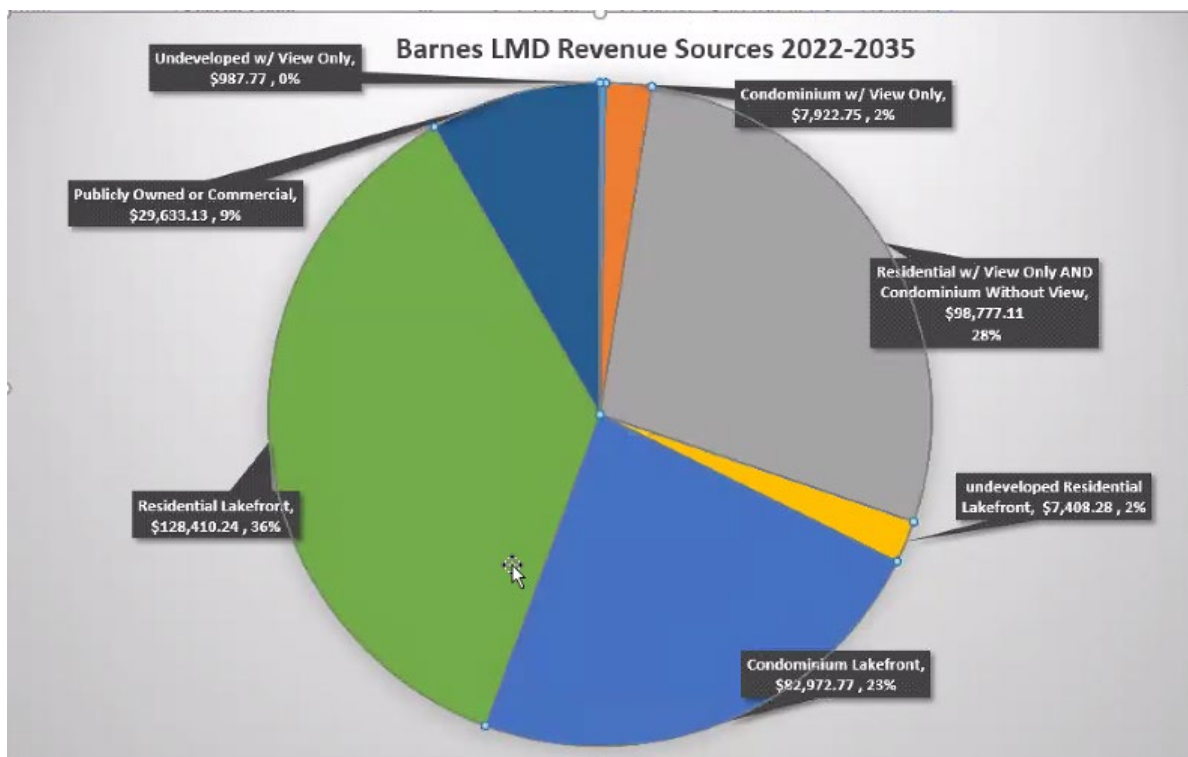
b. Work plan: Director Smith reviewed the 2021 work plan. Contractor Dorling scheduled aerial assessments for August and September; however, it is not clear whether the aerial assessments have been completed. The annual meeting had to be postponed in 2021 due to COVID restrictions.

c. Member Outreach Newsletter Assignment Updates (Assigned Committee Members): Member Peterson summarized an October 16 email to Steering Committee members about reaching out to their LMD neighbors regarding their thoughts relative to the status of the lake, and also to begin discussion about the need to discuss rate increases. Member Sparks explained some ideas for newsletter articles such as how the lake has improved by referencing the treatment reports. Another suggestion was to get some quotes from neighbors as well as solicit neighbors to see what they would like done with the lake such as private treatments or floating mats management. Vice-Chair Madison would like to focus on the assessment increases and encourage communication and feedback to the Steering Committee. Members Loft and Peterson volunteered to write articles about lake improvements and neighbor feedback as well as assessment increases.

d. Rate Increase Subcommittee Update (Peterson): Member Peterson shared that she has approached LMD members in her neighborhood regarding assessment increases and received positive feedback. She encouraged LMD members to sign up for notifications and updates through Constant Contact on the Barnes LMD Webpage. Director Smith noted that sufficient funds remained at the end of the financial forecast in 2033-2034 to prepare an update to the LMDs Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan that would consider lake management considerations for 2035 and beyond to identify any future lake management needs.



Director Smith shared a revenue breakdown:



Members discussed the usefulness of graphics to include in the newsletter. Director Smith will submit all visual data to Communications staff to for refinement. It was determined that a 98% increase in assessment revenue will be realized from beginning of the LMD to end of life of the LMD. State law caps the increase at 110% increase for the life of the LMD.

Director Smith shared the Fee Increase Adoption Process:

2022 Fee Increase Adoption Process

TASK	DUE DATE	LEAD
Plan Developed /Approved	November 10, 2021	Dave / Dan / Committee
Stakeholder Notification	January 13	
Informational Materials	January 13	Dave / Dan / Ann Cook
Committee Outreach	January - February	Kathy Peterson
E-News Update	January 31	Dave / Dan / Ann Cook
Steering Committee Listening Session	February 16	Gary
Public Works Committee Update	March 3	Dan
City Council Public Hearing	March 15	Dan /Gary
City Council Adoption	March 15	Dan / Gary

Additional Elements:

- Letter from Committee to LMD members signed by LMD Committee
- LMD increase limited to 110% of original assessment. 5% annual through 2031 is ~98%
- Periods of negative balance will be assessed a minimum interest charge from City

Applicable Laws:

- <https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=36.61.270>
 - This just states we have the authority to impose rates, and can be flexible downward (low-income provisions).
- <https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=36.61.180>
 - This requires a public hearing and notification. Objections can only be considered in writing.
- <https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=36.61.170>
 - This caps any amendment at 110%.

The February 16 Steering Committee Listening Session would be encouraged for public attendance.

Member Sparks asked if there is a way to count who is signed up for notifications. Director Smith answered that the City of Tumwater has metrics available through Constant Contact.

The Barnes Lake Condominium's Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 5. This timeline aligns with the assessment increase process to gain feedback and would be an opportunity to engage condominium residents to participate in the Steering Committee Listening Session.

Member Peterson motioned to move forward with the timeline for assessment increase. Member Loft seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

e. Service Provider Agreement for NWAES Renewal: The Steering Committee came to a consensus to continue moving forward with NWAES for lake treatment services. Steering Committee leadership will check with Contractor Dorling to see if NWAES services are available for contract renewal. The contract renewal shall include floating mats management and lake access improvement coordination.

f. South Neighborhood Committee Member Vacancy: Member Sparks will try to recruit a new Steering Committee member to fill the vacancy.

g. Update Committee Contact List: Director Smith will send out contact list for members to update.

h. Committee Positions: Member Peterson motioned to keep Committee Chair, Co-Chair, and Recorder the same for 2022. Member Loft seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

i. 2022 meeting dates: Steering Committee regular meeting dates for 2022 were identified as follows:

January 12

February 16 (Listening Session)

March 9

March 15 (City Council Assessment Review)

May 11

June 8

September 14

November 9

8. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- a. Floating Mats Management
- b. Assessment Update
- c. Newsletter Update
- d. Lake Level Update
- e. General Business

9. Adjourn

Chair Bodeutsch adjourned the meeting at 7:57 PM.

Barnes Lake Historical Map

Tumwater, Washington ca. 2014

